

BROWARD COUNTY FLEET TRUCKS GET PLUGGED IN



County Administrator Roger Desjarlais receives ceremonial keys from Ford Marketing Manager Mike McCabe Jr.

On April 17, representatives from the Ford Motor Company were in town to meet with Broward County Administrator, Roger Desjarlais, and present him with the ceremonial keys to one of the six recently purchased electric-powered trucks. Held at the electric vehicle recharge station on the first floor of the old parking garage, the event was part of Broward County's continuing efforts to promote the use of alternative fuel vehicles.

"These new Rangers represent a major improvement in electric vehicle performance," said Don Steigerwald, Alternative Fuel Vehicle Supervisor. "They handle like a dream and demonstrate impressive acceleration and can be driven almost twice as far on a single charge compared to the earlier model," he added. Another interesting fact is they were custom built as electric vehicles instead of the previous

practice of converting production gasoline-powered models. According to Steigerwald, these trucks were among the first off the assembly line and Broward County Commission is the first in the State of Florida to take delivery. Skip Brown, Alternative Fuel Vehicle Specialist adds, "The best thing about this purchase is it isn't costing the taxpayers a penny." He explained, "As poetic justice, the federal fines levied on companies who create oil spills are the source of the grant funding to purchase non-polluting transportation."

Also at the ceremony were representatives from Florida Power and Light, Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition and EV Ready Broward. With the addition of the new trucks, Broward County's electric fleet now totals 17 vehicles.

BUILDINGS TO SIGN-UP WITH ENERGY STAR

Energy Management Section is signing-up Broward County to become a partner with the US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ENERGY STAR Buildings program. As a follow-up to our successful participation in their GREEN LIGHTS program, ENERGY STAR involves a complete five-step building tune-up focusing on energy-efficiency using proven technologies. Our continuing participation will offer additional opportunities to promote our efforts in reducing energy use, lowering expenses, and preventing pollution. Beyond the promotional aspects, EPA will provide technical information, training, workshops, and analytical software tools to assist in achieving our goals. The ENERGY STAR logo is quickly becoming a nationally recognized symbol and can be found on qualifying electronic appliances including new computers. We hope that future visitors to county facilities will recognize the logo displayed within our lobbies as our commitment to energy efficiency and environmental protection.



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