



**Recap: September 11, 2014
Charlotte Green Team Meeting
Charlotte Convention Center**

“Alphabet Soup: Who’s Doing What for Sustainability in Charlotte?”

What was it Winston Churchill said, *“Never have so few done so much for so many.”* or something like that? Well, on September the 11th we found out that *“Never have so many been doing so much for all of us!”* right here in the region when it comes to green and sustainability initiatives. Organized by the Charlotte Green Team and hosted by the Charlotte Convention Center, more than 60 people gathered to hear a panel of presenters speak on their organizations and what they are doing in this arena and how they accomplish their work.

As we said going into the meeting, there are so many different organizations and groups in the region working on green initiatives and sustainability. Each of us knows a few; who they are, and what they do; but very few of us know all of them, or at a minimum all of what they do. That certainly proved to be the case. After the meeting, during the social time, almost everyone we spoke with said things like. *“Really enjoyed it; I learned something today; I didn’t know anything about that group and what they did...I’m going to contact them.”*

There’s not enough space here to recount even a synopsis of what all of the panelists said, even in the brief time period each had to present. But you’ll get a flavor of the information by the list of presenters:

- Amy Aussieker, Executive Director of Envision Charlotte
- Louise Bhavnani, Manager of the “Keep Charlotte Beautiful Program” and Neighborhood Resource Liaison for the City of Charlotte
- Shannon Binns, Executive Director, Sustain Charlotte
- Sandra Doherty, Executive Director, for the US Green Buildings Coalition, North Carolina Chapter
- Darcy Everett, Energy & Sustainability Fellow with the City of Charlotte
- Dale Gilmore, the Chair of Charlotte Chamber Greenworks
- Randy Lucas, Chair of the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association & Principal in Lucas Tax & Energy Consulting
- Ernie McLaney, Deputy Director of Clean Air Carolina
- Heather Moeller, Chair of “Keep Mecklenburg Beautiful” with Mecklenburg County
- Kim Reitterer (Rit-er-er), Board Member of Earthshare North Carolina; and
- Sid Smith, Executive Director of the Charlotte Green Team

Mary Tribble served as moderator and leader of the panel. After all of the presentations, she led an open discussion period in which attendees could ask questions from the floor. But she kicked off that portion of the meeting with the burning question that was there all along; *“How can we all coordinate and work more closely with each other?”*

While there was no immediate answer to that question, the panelists all agreed that we want to work together and maybe we need a point of coordination somewhere. They all said we need to discuss that in more detail. It was suggested that the Green Team, which put this meeting together, might contact all of the panel organizations again and organize a small group discussion on that question.

After the meeting, the Convention Center hosted a reception for everyone, which was just wonderful. Of course, that’s where a lot of conversations took place and attendees had a chance to speak one-on-one with the various presenters.

Stay tuned for announcements about the fourth quarter meeting of the Charlotte Green Team later this year.

The Charlotte Green Team is co-sponsored by the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority (CRVA) and the Charlotte Area Hotel Association (CAHA)

