

## *A Comprehensive Environmental Plan for our Community?*

An important new project has been launched by the Hot Springs/Garland County Beautification Commission, the Green Initiative Report. This project, "should have a significant impact on the future of Hot Springs," said the man behind the idea, Kent Myers, City Manager. However, his ideas go far beyond what the City is doing... "We need for the Commission to gather information on all the green programs currently underway including those involving school districts, city, county, private companies."

The project is not merely a data collection effort for the project is also an opportunity for direct input from the public regarding environmental programs that our community might be able to implement over the next several years. The commission is examining "Best Management Practices" from other communities all over America to help find guidance. Then a special committee including members from a wide variety of sectors of our community including tourism, industry, education, government, civic organizations, places of worship, etc. will put forward those ideas most suited to being implemented in our community.

Finally, the Commission will include both current programs and future plans in a comprehensive report that could be used to promote and publicize our efforts to become the green community of Arkansas. This report will be an ongoing project accessible via the web and will be of real value to those companies and organizations being listed for their environmentally responsible actions.

If your company, organization, school, place of worship, has a program in place that recycles, reduces waste, reduces energy consumption, or has any positive environmental impact please go to [www.hsgcbc.com](http://www.hsgcbc.com) and fill in the simple form, or if you prefer, call the office at (501) 623 7871 and the staff will do it for you. You may also make suggestions the same way or at the Earth Day Celebrations on May 18, 2008 at the Hot Springs Convention Center.