

Claire's on Cedros receives 'Green' certification

Claire's on Cedros eco-friendly bakery and café located at 246 North Cedros Avenue in Solana Beach, California, announced recently that it has received the 2 Star Certified Green Restaurant® designation by the Green Restaurant Association (GRA). The GRA provides a thorough method of rewarding points to restaurants, food service operations, new builds and events in each of the GRA's seven environmental categories: water efficiency; waste reduction and recycling; sustainable furnishings and building materials; sustainable food; energy; disposables and chemical and pollution reduction. Since 1990, the GRA has been focused on creating an environmentally sustainable restaurant industry, which accounts for 10 percent of the U.S. economy.

Certified Green Restaurants® must fulfill a variety of requirements in order to receive the designation. To reach the 2 Star level of certification, a restaurant must earn a total of 100 points with a minimum of 10 points each in 6 of the 7 environmental categories, have a full-scale recycling program, zero use of Polystyrene Foam (aka Styrofoam) and participation in annual education. Claire's on Cedros exceeded the minimal requirements, achieving 136 points in the seven-month process. Once achieved, the GRA certification is monitored with a mid-year spot check that demonstrates an on-going commitment to maintaining the designation.

According to business owners Terrie

Boley and Claire Allison, "The interesting thing about this procedure was that the GRA was very helpful to us in establishing our ongoing green processes. They had great recommendations for cleaning supplies, pest control, and recyclable

packaging materials. The GRA was a great complement to the suggestions we got from LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) during our construction." Claire's on Cedros serves a variety of breakfast and lunch dishes that incorporate fresh herbs, greens and fruit from their on-site garden with a menu that changes seasonally to take advantage of locally grown, in-season ingredients. The restaurant is open weekdays from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekends and closed every Tuesday. In honor of Valentine's Day, the restaurant will offer two meals for the price of one and will "buy your sweetheart breakfast" from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m. Feb. 8, 10, and 11, 2010. Additional information may be located at www.clairesoncedros.com or by calling (858) 259-8597.

