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### **EcoWorks Names Four Sustainable Communities Champions for 2015**

**Detroit, Mich. – September 9, 2015** – Four of the region’s leaders in green and sustainable practices have been selected as this year’s EcoWorks Sustainable Communities Champions:

- Malik Yakini - Executive Director, Detroit Black Community Food Security Network
- Soulardarity
- John Viera - Director, Sustainability and Vehicle Environmental Matters, Ford Motor Company
- Jim Newman - Managing Partner of Newman Consulting Group

The awardees represent the diversity of approaches to advancing sustainability in Detroit and Southeast Michigan, from community and neighborhood initiatives to greening industries operating at a regional or global scale. As individuals, they have demonstrated a deep commitment to modeling sustainable solutions and perhaps more importantly, encouraging others to adopt sustainable practices as well.

EcoWorks is proud to honor this distinguished group during the Annual Breakfast on Sept. 18 from 7:30-10:00 am at The Detroit Yacht Club, 1 Riverbank Drive, on Belle Isle.

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The Annual Breakfast also features keynote speaker, Jennifer Granholm. The former two-time Michigan Governor is touted as one of the nation’s leading authorities on the green economy and pioneered several clean energy policies during her tenure in Michigan. She is currently a distinguished adjunct professor at UC Berkeley and a senior research fellow at the UC Berkeley Energy and Climate Institute (BECI).

building energy solutions

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The breakfast is sponsored by MASCO Corporation Foundation, O’Brien Construction Company, Comerica ,Griffin, Smalley & Wilkerson, Pepper Hamilton LLP ,Plunkett & Cooney, PNC, Public Service Consultants, Alliance for the Great Lakes, AKT Peerless, CLEAResult, ICF International, Nexient , Ron Rose Milagro, WDET 101.9 FM, HOUR Detroit and Greening Detroit.com. Breakfast registration is at [EcoWorksDetroit.org](http://EcoWorksDetroit.org).

For information about the event or EcoWorks, contact Alicia Miller at (313) 894-1030 ext 122 or [amiller@ecoworksdetroit.org](mailto:amiller@ecoworksdetroit.org).





**EcoWorks** (formerly WARM Training Center) is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization located in Detroit, Michigan. Established in 1981, EcoWorks has been at the forefront of sustainable development in Michigan for 34 years. Our mission is to create opportunities to learn and practice the sustainable use of energy and natural resources through innovative education, job training, consulting, social business, and advocacy.