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For Immediate Release:

Falmouth's Peak Dental Health, Maine's only Gold Certified Green Dental Practice, receives eco-Excellence Business Award

Awards Honor Individuals, Organizations or Businesses Who Demonstrated Commitment to Environmental Sustainability in 2015

PORTLAND, MAINE – (March 24, 2016) Peak Dental Health of Falmouth, the only dental practice in Maine to have achieved Gold Certification as a Green Dental Practice by the Eco Dentistry Association, has received a 2016 ecomaine eco-Excellence Business Award in recognition of its sustainable business practices.

Through a number of innovations with eye toward reducing their carbon footprint and reusing as many materials as possible, Peak Dental Health uses 10% the water of an average dental practice, 50% of the electricity, and produces only 25% of the waste as compared to other dentist offices. It is not only the only dental office in Maine to receive Gold Certification as a Green Dental Practice, Peak Dental Health is also only the ninth in the nation to receive such a certification.

"Peak Dental Health employees deploy the waste hierarchy in every decision they make, from the 100% mercury capture device to the smallest recycling detail," said ecomaine Chief Executive Officer Kevin Roche.

Among reduce, reuse and recycle measures in place at Peak Dental are handmade washable dental bibs (made by hand by Peak Dental's own Stefanie Barker) and purchased reusable, cloth sterilization envelopes for the dental tools. The practice got its commercial waste hauler to replace its corrugated cardboard recycling container with a single-sort container. And they compost through Garbage to Garden and take great pleasure in putting out very little trash.

"From recycled office supplies to water efficiency measures, the list of innovations go on and on," said Erik Street, chair of ecomaine's recycling committee and Public Works Director for the town of Yarmouth, during an awards luncheon at ecomaine's headquarters here March 23. "For their bold and innovative measures to put the waste hierarchy to work in everything they do, we are proud to award Stefan Andren and the Peak Dental Health team with a 2016 eco-Excellence Award."

Peak Dental Health also offer patients a \$10 discount when they walk, ride a bike or take public transportation to their appointment.

The eco-Excellence Award winners are selected based on effectiveness, increasing awareness, community impact and ease of replication of their initiatives or programs. Other criteria include:

- Each municipality may have an award winner in both the community and business categories.
- Any person or organization may submit multiple entries; self-nomination is encouraged.
- All effort or activities in support of sustainability are eligible for award, regardless of size or scope.
- Award recipients may be individuals, organizations or businesses.
- There is no age limit.
- The nominated activity must have occurred during 2015 or be ongoing to be eligible.
- Nominees must live, work or be located in the municipality for which the award will be given; that municipality must be one of the 55 ecomaine communities.

Photo caption:

Dr. Stefan Andren, center left, and Stefanie Baker, center right, received their 2016 ecomaine eco-Excellence Award from Erik Street, Chairman of ecomaine's Recycling Committee and Public Works Director for the town of Yarmouth, left, and ecomaine Chief Executive Officer Kevin Roche, right, during the awards luncheon March 23 at ecomaine's headquarters.



ecomaine is the nonprofit, recycling and waste-to-energy operation that serves 25 percent of the state's population; it is owned by 20 communities and is located in Portland, Maine. Learn more at ecomaine.org.

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