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**Three Midcoast Smart Growth Awards**

[DAMARISCOTTA]: A Waldoboro business, a Camden woman and a Boothbay project received Smart Growth Awards at the Friends of Midcoast Maine Annual Meeting on Wednesday at the Round Top Barn in Damariscotta.

The Little Sunshine Market in downtown Waldoboro was selected because it located in a walkable downtown neighborhood provides a needed service to the community, renovated an older building, serves as an example of sustainable building practices by generating electricity from solar panels, and contributes to the renovation of the downtown. Accepting the award was owner Aimee Pearson who noted she is dedicated to her business and sustainable building practices.

Meg Sideris of Camden accepted the second Smart Growth Award for her renovation of a former church and farmers union and gas station into a mixed use building at the head of downtown. In doing so she respected and reclaimed the historic features of the building, respected its relationship to the street, the neighborhood and the downtown, developed a mixed use community space and reinvested in downtown Camden. In accepting the award Meg noted that “the building cried out for loving care” and she was willing to accept the challenge.

The Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens received the final smart growth award for 2008 for its innovative reuse of a site offering creative site planning, buffered parking areas separated into pods, sensitive siting of infrastructure that enhances the landscape and for serving as an example of the redevelopment of a rural housing subdivision into an open space attraction for the town and region. Executive Director Maureen Heffernan accepted the award and noted she “was honored to have been recognized by Friends of Midcoast Maine for this important award.”

Friends of Midcoast Maine is a regional smart growth organization that works with citizens and communities from Brunswick to Bucksport on growth and development issues and helps them prepare for a sustainable future while protecting the places that are cherished. For more information visit [www.friendsmidcoast.org](http://www.friendsmidcoast.org) or call (207) 236-1077.