

HORIZON COUNCIL COLUMN

The Lee County Horizon Council is a 62-member, public-private board that advises Lee County Commissioners on economic issues. It works to improve Lee County's business environment, retain and encourage expansion of existing businesses and attract new and diversified employment.

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Save Time and Money with Business Resources through the Economic Development Office of Lee County

The Economic Development Office (EDO) offers local businesses valuable resources FREE of charge. One of the useful tools for local businesses is the Lee County Business Directory, a resource for locating business-to-business services and suppliers.

The directory is a database of business to business resources that makes it easy to forge valuable new partnerships which help boost Lee County's economy and tax base. The directory can be found at the EDO website at www.LeeCountyBusiness.com. The information contained in the online directory was provided by approximately 850 local businesses and is divided into two sections:

- ❑ NAICS Code Index by Product/Company-Organized numerically by the North American Industry Classification System. Companies may be located by product or services.
- ❑ Alphabetical Company Index

The Economic Development Office of Lee County (EDO) works to encourage expansion of existing businesses and to improve the overall business environment in Lee County. Assistance and referrals provided by the EDO include:

- ❑ Permitting, licensing, zoning changes and other government matters (ombudsman services)
- ❑ Federal, state and local business assistance programs
- ❑ Demographic and economic data
- ❑ Employee training and recruiting
- ❑ International business assistance
- ❑ New facility site location
- ❑ State and local incentive programs

From demographic data to business start-up guides, the Lee County EDO offers a number of resources for local businesses. Start by exploring the Web site, where you can download many of our publications, or call us to request printed materials.

For more information on the services of the Economic Development Office call (239) 338-3161 or visit www.LeeCountyBusiness.com.

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