

Village of Glencoe – Sustainability Study

Appendix III

National Leaders in Sustainability

Ames, Iowa
Burlington Vermont
Corvallis, Oregon
Grand Forks, North Dakota
LaCrosse, Wisconsin
Lansing, Michigan
Missoula, Montana
Santa Monica, California
Wenatchee, Washington
Country Home Magazine Article

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AMES, IOWA

Data on the city (population, location, etc)

- Located 30 miles north of Des Moines on Interstate 35 and U.S. Route 30 and 69
- Home of Iowa State University
- 2004 population 52,319, of which approximately 27,000 are students
- Total area of municipality is 21.6 square miles
- Population density of 2,352.3 people per square mile

Is there a sustainable strategic plan in place?

No, but there is a concerted focus on energy conservation whereby 11+ energy-saving programs are part of the **Smart Energy Initiative**. The programs are aimed at improving comfort, reducing bills, and contributing to the reliability of the electric system. The programs focus on demand-side energy management, utility load management, alternative energy resources, and education.

Is there a director of Sustainability? What are the responsibilities of the position?

No, however there is an Energy Coordinator who oversees the programs of the Smart Energy Initiative.

Are requirements mandatory? How are they enforced?

Voluntary

Is the program based on incentives? Or is it punitive in nature?

Incentives available through rebate program.

What is the nature of the review process?

Application form and supporting materials reviewed and processed by staff.

Is program based on LEED standards or other green guidelines?

No

What is the nature of public awareness initiatives?

Information is available as part of utility installation and billing, website, and word of mouth through new home builders.

Is equal emphasis placed on the following broad areas: water management, land usage, energy efficiency/generation, carbon footprint, material use (recycling etc)?

Focus is mainly energy efficiency/generation.

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Additional Information:

- Citizens of Ames have enjoyed the benefits of municipally-owned and operated electric, water, and water pollution control utility systems for over 100 years.
- **Resource Recovery Plant** was the first municipally operated waste-to-energy facility in the nation built in 1975. Recyclable materials and metals are removed from garbage stream and the remainder is shredded by machines and falls into two categories:
 - The burnable portion of the garbage becomes Refuse Derived Fuel, or RDF, which is piped to the City's power plant. It is used as a renewable, supplemental fuel in the coal boilers to generate electricity; and
 - The non-burnable material is sent to a landfill. Since it is shredded, it takes up much less volume in the landfill than it would if it were buried whole.
- **Ames Municipal Electric System (A.M.E.S.)** is a community-owned public power system. A.M.E.S does not exist to maximize profits, but instead to provide an essential service to residential, industrial, and commercial customers; there has not been an electric rate increase since 1979.
- **Ames Electric Department** administers a suite of 11+ energy-saving programs as part of its **Smart Energy Initiative**, including:
 - **Residential/Commercial Efficient Appliance Rebate Program** – rebates ranging from \$25 - \$100 are issued for qualifying purchase of new EnergyStar® appliances (refrigerator, freezer, dishwasher, & washing machine);
 - **Residential Efficient Construction Rebate** – rebate of \$500 is available for EnergyStar® rated newly constructed homes that receive an HERS audit score of 85 or less;
 - **Residential High-Efficiency (HE) Lighting Rebate** – rebate not to exceed \$2,000 per residence per year for qualifying expenses related to conversion to high efficiency lighting for single and multi-family housing;
 - **Commercial Audit** - free audit identifies how much energy is consumed and what can be done to become more efficient;
 - **Power Factor Correction Rebate** - rebate for installation of correction equipment for commercial customers;
 - **Prime Time Power** - Air conditioner load management program that lowers the demand for electricity during peak times. A \$5 credit on each of the four summer electric bills (July, August, September, and October) is applied for those that participate in this program that cycles central air conditioners off for 7.5 minutes out of every 30 minutes when the demand for electricity is at its highest;

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- **Power Watch** - An energy information and call-to-action program that informs residents of recommended action steps to help reduce energy use that subsequently help lower the overall demand for electricity;
- **Green Choices** - Ames residents can contribute to the development of additional alternate green energy resources through voluntary contribution check off available to each customer via their monthly bill in the amounts of \$2, \$5, \$10, or a designated amount, per month;
- **Efficiency Air Conditioner Rebate** – rebates ranging from \$25 to \$500 for the purchase of programmable thermostats, EnergyStar® room air conditioners, central air conditioners, and air/ground source heat pumps;
- **Residential Energy Audit** - Free audit identifies how much energy homes consume and what homeowners can do to make their homes more efficient; and
- **Commercial Efficient Lighting** - rebate not to exceed \$2,000 for general commercial and \$5,000 for large commercial/industrial businesses that buy and install efficient lighting.

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BURLINGTON, Vermont

Located on Lake Champlain in western part of state. Population 39000, (3700 people/sm), home to university of Vermont. City has authored several impressive papers involving energy in 06 and open space. It has a strong bent for local energy self sufficiency and owns its own electric utility – Burlington electric. The energy plan focuses on four main areas

1. Transition to renewable energy (currently 46%)
2. Optimizing energy efficiency
3. Cogeneration/district heating, cooling
4. Education.

The city leverages the benefit of utility ownership which utilizes woodchips as fuel, is investigating thermal energy and the use of methane gas from its landfill. They are also utilizing hydro power and are looking into wind. District heating and cooling leverages waste heat from woodchip fueled electricity and from the use of water being on the lake. Burlington is part of the Cities for Climate Protection which is organized by the ICLEI (international council for local environmental initiatives).

The open space paper makes a convincing argument for why this is a necessary element of any green/sustainable plan; it is no longer considered a frill but has economic, cultural, safety and health benefits – all sustainable components. The university environment contributes as a catalyst to many of these efforts. Glencoe can learn from Burlington as it is also in the utility business and values open community space.

CORVALLIS, Oregon

Located 80 miles south of Portland. Population 55000, (3600 people/sm), home to Oregon State university. It is the largest voluntary community purchaser of renewable energy in the country as listed on epa's list of green power communities. Corvallis began tracking sustainability in the early 2000's primarily in reducing solid waste and saving energy. In 03 the city council adopted goals of sustainability to heighten awareness, in 04 the council adopted a policy focusing on the following: purchasing, building practices, solid waste management, land use planning, gas emissions and toxins. The policy also called for annual reporting to the council and marketing of the efforts to the population. In 05, To enhance its organizational efforts to meet goals, Corvallis hired a consultant who issued a 2 part report assessing current city efforts and making recommendations for sustainable management over 1,5 and 10 year periods. Corvallis has a sustainable coordinator as does the university. The university is a major catalyst for sustainable programs as it purchases 2/3 of Corvallis' renewable energy (13% of total city needs) – wind, solar, geothermal, biogas, biomass, and low impact hydro. Students at OSU pushed the agenda by setting up a green energy fee – which I assume they pay. There is no mandatory green program for residents but the city does help with educational measures, tax rebates, tax credits etc. Related organizations include the Corvallis sustainable coalition representing a cross section of government, education, cultural and business interests.

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GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA

Information from John Schlossman

On the other hand, Grand Forks North Dakota, and its approach to sustainability, is far different from that of Missoula. Grand Forks is the third largest city in the state, with a population of 51,740, and a metropolitan pop. of 97,691. It is located about 50 miles north of Fargo, at the state's easternmost boundary, and is separated from Minnesota by the Red River. At 843 feet above sea level, it is flat and prone to flooding. In fact, you'll probably recall the National Disaster flooding of most of Grand Forks a few years ago which destroyed most of the town, including the library and art museum. The University of North Dakota is here, with its Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC), an internationally recognized leader in clean energy research and design.

Grand Forks is considered one of the best green cities in the country, and was ranked number 52 by Country Home magazine. Green3 Grand Forks focuses on Cleaning our Environment, Increasing Efficiency, and Saving Money. The Green3 Resource Committee contact is Melanie Parvey-Biby at (701) 746-2570. Her title is Environmental Compliance Manager and her background is in environmental geology. Directorship is through the mayor's office, and she has a paid intern working with her, who has a Masters Degree in environmental management from the University of North Dakota. Also involved are volunteer staff and various committee members.

Mandatory requirements are through building codes and are enforced in an informal way through the engineering department and building inspectors. But mostly, local builders are providing sustainability because buyers are asking for efficient buildings, and so they sell cost effectiveness. The city does not provide incentives, but local utility companies do, and offer free energy audits to homeowners.

The Grand Forks program is not based on LEED standards, but they do have a green certified professional on staff. (Perhaps Glencoe should consider having one or more staff green certified, if we haven't already). Public awareness seems to abound in this program, and is emphasized at public events and the city's annual home show. There are nine G3 Subcommittees and the emphasis is across the board as well as sophisticated. In a word of encouragement to us, Melanie added that where Glencoe is now, is where they were a year and a half ago. She also e-mailed (a.) the AIA Sustainability Discussion Group 50/50 program, (b.) an excellent presentation a local architect gave on Architects and the Environment, and why sustainability makes good sense, and (c.) a copy of Grand Forks G3 Action Plan. I will e-mail forward these to you and think you'll find them very helpful as we move ahead.

Finally, Melanie referred me to a website you should definitely visit, if you're not already familiar with it, ICLEI local governments for sustainability. It appears to be a very valuable asset to which they subscribe, and apparently it's not expensive, however I've yet to determine what the acronym stands for.

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La Crosse, WI

GDRC Questions:

Statistics/Demographics

- Population of 51,818 (median age 30 years)
- 12th Largest city in Wisconsin by population
- 21,110 Households
- Average household size 2.23 (average family size (2.93)
- Location: Wisconsin, Minnesota border on the Mississippi River

Is there a sustainable strategic plan in place?

- Draft Plan (Feb 2009),

Is there a director of sustainability?

- No. Commission members (County Chair, County Supervisor, Mayor's Council Member, Four citizen members.

What are the responsibilities of the position?

- Commission duties - review progress of implementation of the Strategic Plan for Sustainability, Review the plan on a 2 to 5 years cycle, Funding recommendations for sustainable initiatives, Policy recommendations for sustainability efforts, Network with community members, business, private citizens, governmental entities, non-profits, etc; coordinate educational opportunities for community at large; Contribute to the expansion and public awareness of the website; Reports to the Planning, Resources and Development Committee..

Are requirements mandatory? How are they enforced?

- Effective on May 22, 2008 is the New Green Building Ordinance. Requirements affect all new construction including single-family dwellings.

Is the program based on incentives? Or is it punitive in nature?

- Building Code has no mention of any sustainability concepts

What is the nature of the review process?

Is program based on LEED standards or other green guidelines?

- Yes

What is the nature of public awareness initiatives?

Is equal emphasis placed on the following broad areas: water management, land usage, energy efficiency/generation, carbon footprint, material use (recycling etc)?

- Yes

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Additional Information:

Sustainability Plan:

- Plan calls for a Sustainability Code which will “save money”, ie. lightbulb replacement.
- A Sustainability Coordinator needs to be hired.
- Plan calls for greater energy efficiency
- Use of cleaner energy and practices that don't harm the environment.
- Calls for community education.
- Increased mass transit,
- Shared-car program (similar to Madison, WI)

A website was created by the University of Wisconsin for the public to submit questions or provide comments regarding the Sustainability Plan by the Joint Committee on Environmental Sustainability.

A city ordinance was created to form a special commission of La Crosse County to be known as the Sustainable La Crosse Commission to take over from where the ad-hoc City/County Joint Oversight Committee on Sustainability left off. There will be 9 members.

City and County of La Crosse created the **Sustainable La Crosse website**.

- What is Sustainability
- Oversight Committee
- Business Resources
- Community/Citizens
- News
- Events
- Newsletters

Action Plan for Sustainability calls for:

- The Building & Inspection Department to:
- Learn more about green building materials (1-3 years)
- Improve the quality of multi-family Housing (ongoing)
- Engineering, Planning and Housing Rehab Departments to:
- Complete LEED analysis for new projects and major renovations
- Utilize recycled construction materials
- Participate in County's shingle recycling program

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LANSING, MICHIGAN

(Spoke to Bill Rieske 517-483-4791) in Dept of Planning and Neighborhood)

1. Data on City

Population 115,000

Located in south central of lower peninsula of the state

Grand River, largest in state flow through the city

4 important factors –

Capital of Michigan

State trunk line for roads – local roads are “M” highway roads

General Motors with 2 plants

East Lansing has Michigan State U

2. No sustainable Strategic Plan but moving on it

Updating City master Plan – “green” will be part of it

Mayor’s Executive Order 2007 established Renewable Portfolio Standard

(RPS For City of Lansing

(10% renewable energy by 2010; 15% by 2015; 20% by 2020)

3. No Director of Sustainability

Strong mayor – appoints most department heads who turn draft administration budget

Consortium of efforts –Mayor meets with department heads every Monday AM

4. Sustainability – “Green” efforts

a. Master Plan in another 18 mos.

b. Mayor’s “Go Green/Go Lansing” initiative

not just inform but enlist people to support, add names

c. Block Bike – non-motorized greenways

d. Streetscape – low impact design in urbanized area

e. Combined water/sewer overflow project upgrade = cleaner water

f. City’s rain gardens (between road and sidewalks)

controversial = who will maintain. Mosquitoes

g. Built light field solar collector on top of reservoir

h. People who issue parking tickets ride scooters

5. LEEDS

Developers are encouraging LEEDS = want to attract people

Renovation of The Christman Co – 1st platinum project in state

6. Public awareness efforts Go Green

Mayor Virgil Bernaro’s environmental advisory team

Established to promote “green ethic”/raise awareness

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MISSOULA, MONTANA

Information from John Schlossman

Missoula, elevation 3,209 ft., with a 93.5 white population of 57,000, is located in the west part of Montana, 3 hours south of Glacier National Park and 3 1/2 hours west of Yellowstone. It is the second largest metropolitan area in the state and is situated in a deep valley through which runs the Clark River, joined by the Bitterroot and Blackfoot Rivers, as in "A River Runs Through It", where the book and movie were based. The city's traditional industry, logging and sawmills, has given way to tourism and outdoor sports, and significant pollution due to that industry has now diminished, although the valley nevertheless remains a trap for fog, smoke and other pollutants.

Missoula impresses one as an informal, friendly city. In fact, when one phones the main city hall number (406 552-6000), Mayor John Engen's warm voice directs you to the appropriate department. (How novel, try it!)

From this, you can probably guess that, while environmentally conscious, there is no formal strategic plan or director of sustainability, and while they have discussed such, in these economic times a budget for this is not available. They are however doing what they can without expenditure, and Jackie Corday at Missoula Parks and Recreation heads up the City Green Team, which has just produced a 25 item Green Policy for all city employees. I am mailing that, plus a more extensive Draft from which the list was culled, to Nathan for distribution. Enclosed with it is a Missoula Green Map, which is something Glencoe might find of interest.

Beside what the City is doing, there are various other entities in Missoula involved with sustainability which we may wish to explore in greater detail:

- * The Sustainable Business Council
- * Montana AERO, or Alternative Energy Resource Organization
- * NCAT, the National Center for Appropriate Technology, which has a grant to tackle energy needs of low-income, senior, minority and other disadvantaged groups by providing hands-on support to those struggling with energy costs, through improving energy efficiency in households at greatest risk from energy cost burdens.
- * University of Montana College of Technology offers a two year Associate of Applied Science degree in energy technology
- * the University of Montana, Missoula, Conservation Calendar is virtually endless in meetings, events, etc. Their Environmental Studies Program offers an interdisciplinary approach which integrates the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities in both classroom and experiential learning
- * The Montana Pollution Program (Bozeman), helps small businesses and local governments use strategies to increase productivity while safeguarding natural resources. They have professional staff and provide no-cost technical assistance.

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TO: ALL City, OPG, & Health Department employees
FROM: Mayor John Engen
Date: February 2009
RE: **New Green Policy for all City of Missoula, OPG, and Health Department employees**

Dear City, OPG, and Health Department Employees,

As most of you know, a City Green Team was formed last November to look at ways we can reduce energy and product use without expending any money (or very little). The 26 member team consisted of staff from almost every City department, one City Council member, and also included staff from the joint City/County Health and Planning Departments. The Green Team has identified 25 specific things that most, if not all, employees can do to help save money on utility bills, gasoline, and office supplies.

I fully support this effort to become more efficient, save money, and do what we can to reduce the City's carbon footprint, and thus I ask that every employee review the list below and begin immediately to implement each applicable item. I also request each City Department Director/Manager to help implement the green policy by supporting and facilitating employee efforts to carry out the policy. Additionally, each new employee needs to be informed of this policy by their manager.

Green Team Lists of Ways to Reduce Energy, Fuel, & Product Use

1. Turn off computer monitors & copiers each night.
2. Turn off office lights when not in use - including when leaving your office for 15 minutes or more.
3. Install motion detectors for lights in bathrooms – or put small sign right by light switch "please turn light off." Also other public areas like hallways and waiting areas as practical.
4. Encourage culture of all staff noticing when something is left on, and to turn it off even if they were not the person who turned it on.
5. Reduce lighting in areas that are over-lit – try taking out 1/3 to 1/2 of the light bulbs and replace burnt-out bulbs with energy efficient light bulbs, such as low mercury fluorescent bulbs. (This is almost completed in City Hall)
6. All new appliances, office machines, and vending machines must be star energy efficient.
7. Print double-sided all multi-page documents whenever possible (set double sided as DEFAULT on all printers which have this ability).

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8. Print single-page documents to used-once paper (i.e. keep one printer in the office loaded with paper that has already been printed on one side).
9. Reset margins to wider on all four sides as policy for documents, reduces number of sheets used.
10. Re-use all envelopes, manila envelopes, folders etc. as many times as possible.
11. Email everything possible instead of hard copies, including City newsletters. Help staff to understand creating email folders so they are not tempted to print emails unnecessarily.
12. Set policy that all subdivision/zoning etc packets submitted to OPG and other departments are double sided (not only saves paper, but also saves filing space).
13. Ask for large documents/reports on CDs instead of multiple hard copies if possible.
14. Use rechargeable batteries whenever possible.
15. "Kick the plastic bottle habit, hit the tap" water instead is a Mountain Water program that replaced City Council plastic water bottles with aluminum bottles– this could be promoted through-out the City.
16. Employees should walk, riding a bike, or take a bus to meetings less than one mile away whenever possible. For meetings over 1 mile away, biking or busing is encouraged whenever possible.
17. Promote use of telephone or video conferencing as much as possible.
18. Employees should car-pool to meetings, conferences etc. whenever possible.
19. No idling of engines – if you're stopping for more than 15 seconds, turn off engine.
20. Reduce speed on highways 5-10 mph (i.e. 65mph instead of 75 mph).
21. Job efficiency policy – As part of job training, managers should coach employees on being efficient, including things like carrying all the needed tools & materials in the truck to get the job done the 1st time, doing the job right so you don't have to go back again, choosing the most efficient route to the work site.
22. Match the vehicle to the job – don't take out a huge truck/SUV when a sedan will work.
23. Regularly check tires for proper inflation.
24. Get any unnecessary excess weight out of the vehicles (i.e. equipment that is not being used).
25. Recycle office paper, newspaper, magazines, cans, plastic bottles, cardboard, phone books etc. as outlined in the City Recycling Guidelines.

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IDEAS FOR REDUCING ENERGY AND PRODUCT WASTE IN CITY OF MISSOULA DEPARTMENTS (that cost nothing or very little to do) 3rd DRAFT 12-15-08

Saving Electricity/natural gas

1. Unplug machines that are not used daily.
2. Turn off computers & copiers each night. (We will check with IS on how this can be done so as not to interfere with updates and virus scans)
3. Set computers to go to sleep after 20 minutes of no use (see above)
4. Turn off office lights when not in use - including when leaving your office for 15 minutes or more.
5. Install motion detectors for lights in bathrooms – or put small sign right by light switch "please turn light off." Also other public areas like hallways and waiting areas as practical
6. Closed door closet lights often get left on, consider timer switches
7. Reduce lighting in areas that are over-lit – try taking out 1/3 to 1/2 of the lightbulbs
8. Temp settings – consider 74 in summer; 66 in winter.
9. Replace all lighting w/ energy efficient light bulbs, consider low mercury fluorescent bulbs.
10. Limit use of personal heating & cooling elements – for hot water, personal coffee pots & frigs, desk heaters etc.
11. Encourage culture of all staff noticing when something is left on, and to turn it off even if they were not the person who turned it on
12. Set vending machines to go into sleep mode at night or when not in use and ask vendor if lighting can be reduced when in use
13. Change exit signs to LED lighting as possible
14. Adopt policy that all new appliances and office machines must be star energy efficient
15. Check doors in each building to make sure they close properly
16. Reduce heat loss from windows – need research on how to best do this.

Reducing use of paper & plastic products

1. Print double-sided all multi-page documents whenever possible (set double sided as DEFAULT on all printers which have this ability). Also, if available on printer, use "draft" setting that uses less ink for draft documents
2. Print single-page documents to used-once paper (i.e. keep one printer in the office loaded with paper that has already been printed on one side and put in the recycle bin).
3. Set policy that all subdivision/zoning etc packets submitted to OPG and other departments are double sided (not only saves paper, but also saves filing space).
4. Reset margins to wider on all four sides as policy for documents, reduces number of sheets used
5. Re-use all manila envelopes, folders etc. as many times as possible.
6. Email everything possible instead of hard copies.
7. Help staff to understand creating email folders so they are not tempted to print emails unnecessarily
8. Eliminate or reduce use of paper towels in bathrooms and office kitchens by using hand dryers, sponges, cloth towels.
9. Whenever possible, use washable utensils, plates & cups instead of disposable products.
10. Place signs by paper towel dispensers etc that say "Please help us to conserve resources: use only what you need."
11. Switch to 100% recycled content paper
12. Establish annual goals for paper use reduction (5%, then 10%, etc)
13. If a newsletter or document is needed to inform all dept employees, email it instead of sending out 400+ hard copies.
14. If a document is for "in-house" use, print drafts w/o use of color ink
15. Ask for large documents/reports on CDs instead of multiple hard copies if possible
16. Use rechargeable batteries whenever possible
17. For depts. that receive laundry service (such as Fire Dept), use cloth towels for cleaning instead of paper towels.
18. "Kick the plastic bottle habit, hit the tap" water instead is a Mountain Water program that will replace City Council water bottles w/ aluminum bottles soon – this could be promoted through-out the City.

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19. On-line bill paying should be encouraged for any City bills

Reducing water usage

1. Reduce time of flow in auto-run sinks (I noticed they run way past time needed to wash hands or come on when not intended at Council Chambers bathroom).
2. Parks Dept – only clean sidewalks at Currents w/ water when absolutely necessary.
3. Parks Dept – old splash decks – don't turn water on when weather will be below 80 degrees.
4. Are we using non-potable water only for irrigation? Is this possible?
5. Fire Engines – policy that they get washed every time they are used once – could change that policy to when they actually need to be washed.

Reducing use of gasoline

1. Consider adopting policy of walking or riding a bike to meetings less than one mile
2. Provide department bikes at City Hall for staff use (get bikes for free from bike auction). *Phil Smith mentioned that some depts. (OPG, Public Works) have bikes available for staff use, but it is not a promoted "policy."* Depts could adopt a policy about using them, e.g. must wear helmets
3. Promote use of telephone or video conferencing as much as possible.
4. Adopt policy of car-pooling to meetings, conferences etc.
5. No idling of engines – if you're stopping for more than 15 seconds, turn off engine.
6. Reduce speed on highways 5-10 mph (i.e. 65mph instead of 75 mph)
7. Job efficiency policy – As part of job training, coach employees on being efficient, including things like carrying all the needed tools & materials in the truck to get the job done the 1st time, doing the job right so you don't have to go back again, choosing the most efficient route to the work site.
8. Match the vehicle to the job – don't take out a huge truck/SUV when a sedan will work.
9. Can certain depts. that incur a lot of vehicle miles per year (Police, Building Inspection, Parks, Parking Commission etc.) find ways to use bikes more often or combine or reduce trips?
10. Consider allowing some employees to work 4 ten hours days or 4 nine hour days with the remaining 4 hrs at home.
11. When replacing dept sedans, consider having 1 Smart Car (or some other high-mileage vehicle) for each large dept for in-town errands.
12. Review policy with goal of reducing on-call take home vehicles.
13. Establish commuter club to support non single passenger vehicle commuting (bike, walk, bus, carpool). Align with Missoula in Motion, but offer more incentives?
14. Try and work toward a City of Missoula Carbon Neutral Day (spring or summer when people can bike or walk and leave some lights off)
15. Adopt mileage standards for city fleet
16. Regularly check tires for proper inflation
17. Get any unnecessary excess weight out of the vehicles (i.e. equipment that is not being used)

Green Purchasing

- a. Adopt procurement policies that give preference to recycled materials. e.g. Health Dept. purchases paper w/ 30% post consumer waste.
- b. Preference to lesser packaging & fewer toxins & less distance traveled

Recycling

- a. Make recycling of white office paper, color paper, magazines, newspaper, plastics, bottles, cans etc. as easy as possible so that people are more likely to do it – e.g. place recycle containers in lunch break room, by trash cans, by bathrooms . . .
- b. Recycle all toner cartridges, computers, and other office supplies as much as possible.

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VII. Reduce Toxins

- a. Green Cleaning: Change to less toxic cleaning supplies in offices and public places. Green Seal approved products are a good place to start
- b. Review Hazardous waste policy: is waste properly segregated? Are toxins that are not regulated (eg fluorescent lights) being kept out of the waste stream?
- c. Get rid of any unnecessary mercury, replace with non-mercury alternatives

VIII. General

- a. Begin newsletter (electronic) to share ideas, build community, receive ideas and suggestions.
- b. Begin to track efforts (narrative list) and accomplishments (table recording pounds recycled, gallons of gas not used, money saved, money spent, etc).
- c. Post information about efforts on city website - Share this information about what the City's doing with the community – citizens and businesses can also benefit from these ideas plus it's good for folks to know City's efforts.

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Santa Monica, CA

GDRC Questions:

Statistics/Demographics

- 84,084 (median age 39 years)
- 47,863 Housing Units
- Average household size 2.24
- Location: 14 miles outside Los Angeles

Is there a sustainable strategic plan in place?

- Yes (30 pages)

Is there a director of sustainability?

- Yes. Director of Sustainability & Greening Operations

What are the responsibilities of the position?

- Responsible for managing the operations for the sustainability and greening plan.

Are requirements mandatory? How are they enforced?

- Effective on May 22, 2008 is the New Green Building Ordinance. Requirements affect all new construction including single-family dwellings.

Is the program based on incentives? Or is it punitive in nature?

- Neither.

What is the nature of the review process?

Is program based on LEED standards or other green guidelines?

- Yes

What is the nature of public awareness initiatives?

- (See below)

Is equal emphasis placed on the following broad areas: water management, land usage, energy efficiency/generation, carbon footprint, material use (recycling etc)?

- Yes

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Website for the Office of Sustainability and the Environment

- Featured News and Information (Home)
- Programs for Residents
- Programs for Business
- Calendar of Events
- Sustainable Santa Monica
- Our Local Environment
- Environmental Education
- Public Library Materials
- Environmental Links
- Printed Materials
- Task Force on the Environment
- Sustainable City Task Force
- About the OSE
- Site Map

Residential Sustainability (from website)

This section is intended to network residents with the numerous services and resources available in the community. Many environmentally preferable actions and services are easy to achieve or access. You need help? Let Sustainable Works do a lot of the work for you.

Other Related Links:

- Sustainable City Plan
- Refuse & Recycling
- Environmental Links

Santa Monica Green Building Program:

The City of Santa Monica has a commitment to protecting the environment, improving quality of life, and promoting sustainability. In order to fulfill this commitment, the City has adopted a set of requirements and recommendations to encourage the development of "green" buildings without forcing excessive costs or other burdens upon developers, building owners or occupants. The City has also developed Green Building Guidelines to explain possible ways of achieving green building goals.

This site contains information both on what you must do and what you might consider doing in order to achieve Santa Monica's standards of excellence in green building design and construction.

For information on green techniques in general, and strategies for both Required and Suggested practices, see the Green Building Design and Construction Guidelines link. The Introduction to the Guidelines contains background information on Santa Monica's Green Building Program, as well as explanations of the green building design process.

Village of Glencoe – Sustainability Study

In September 1994 Santa Monica's City Council adopted the Santa Monica Sustainable City Program. This program was developed by the city's Task Force on the Environment as a way to create the basis for a more sustainable way of life -- one that safeguards and enhances local resources, prevents harm to the natural environment and human health, and strengthens the community and local economy - for the sake of current and future generations.

Conventional design and construction methods produce buildings that can negatively impact the environment as well as occupant health and productivity. These buildings are expensive to operate and contribute to excessive resource consumption, waste generation, and pollution. To help reduce these impacts and meet the goals of the Sustainable City Program, the Task Force recommended that the City adopt a set of guidelines to facilitate the development of "green" buildings in Santa Monica without forcing excessive costs or other burdens upon developers, building owners or occupants.

The Green Building Design and Construction Guidelines were developed over a three-year period by City staff and Sheltair Scientific Ltd., a sustainable design consultant team, with extensive input from the local design, construction and development community. The Guidelines include required and recommended practices that are intended to reduce life-cycle environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of both commercial and municipal developments and major remodel projects in Santa Monica. They provide specific "green" design and construction strategies in the following topic areas: Building Site and Form, Landscaping, Transportation, Building Envelope and Space Planning, Building Materials, Water Systems, Electrical Systems, HVAC Systems, Control Systems, Construction Management, and Commissioning.

The Guidelines were developed for, and specifically apply to, the following building types:

- Institutional and Commercial Offices
- Light Industrial Buildings
- Commercial Retail Buildings
- Multi-Family Residences
- Hotels and Motels

They are not intended to address development of single-family residential dwellings and duplexes, high rise buildings, or occupancies with special process demands (heavy industrial operations, car washes, service garages, etc.), however many of the recommended practices presented in the Guidelines are relevant to these building types as well.

Green Building Program Requirements:

Santa Monica's Green Building Program was developed in order to raise the bar of excellence for building practices in the City. Santa Monica has been at the forefront of the municipal green building movement, setting a trend for cities nationwide.

Village of Glencoe – Sustainability Study

Santa Monica's green building requirements were designed to increase sustainability without putting excessive burdens on builders or developers. Many of the measures have some associated initial cost, though others can actually reduce first costs and operating costs, and all of them increase the overall value of the building.

The basis for the green building requirements lies in two different City Ordinances, as well as in the Municipal Code. Both the Ordinances and the Code can be accessed directly using the links to the left. Most green building requirements apply to all commercial construction and major renovation projects, as well as to all multi-family residential projects with more than 3 units. There are also a number of requirements that apply only to specific types of projects.

The best place to start to determine which practices are required and recommended for your particular project type is the downloadable Design Advisor. This tool will help you determine what you must do, what you should consider doing, and some strategies for approaching these practices. All of the green building practices will be most successful (and most easily and economically achievable) when integrated into the initial design phases of the project.

City Ordinances:

Green Building Ordinance: This City Ordinance establishes requirements for energy efficiency, recycled-content materials, and other green building standards on new construction projects. It also establishes a priority plan check incentive for certain buildings that pursue LEED certification.

Construction and Demolition Waste Recycling Ordinance: This City Ordinance establishes requirement for reduction of solid waste from construction-related activities. It specifies the creation of a Waste Management Plan for activities that require a construction or demolition permit.

##

Village of Glencoe – Sustainability Study

WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON

(Spoke with Allison Williams – Area Service Director)

1. Data on City

- Population 28,060
- Apple capital of the world
- Middle of the state – confined between Columbia River and the foothills of the Cascade Mountains
- Only one road in and out of town

2. Is there a sustainable strategic plan in place?

- The State has a growth management act Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)
- Communities' plan for growth/environment – built environment
- Top down approach; sustainable guidelines at state level then mandated at municipal level –
- Based on this Wenatchee City Council has adopted
 - Urban Comprehensive Plan
overall comprehensive plan from houses to parks – open space
 - Subdivision Ordinance
 - Shoreline Master Plan
 - Landscape and screening Ordinance
- Land conservation is the theme in Wenatchee
 - more compact development
 - preserve agricultural lands
 - more parks, green spaces, trails Zoning Ordinance

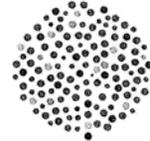
3. There is no Director of Sustainability

- Each city department is responsible of different components of the Urban Comprehensive Plan
- Director of Community Development looks at each department for sustainability - green

4. There are no LEED standards but there are state standards exempts minor new construction and residential up to 20 dwellings

5. There are no mandates – just suggested behavior

living green



CountryHome
2008 Best Green Places

25 best greencities in AMERICA

Thank goodness the **grass roots are getting greener**. All across the country, people are looking for more ways to shrink their proverbial footprint. And along with that push to live a little closer to the three-R mantra (reduce, reuse, and recycle), Americans are asking their cities and towns to think green, too. That prompted our second annual Best Green Cities report, which analyzed hundreds of cities on key points such as official energy policies, green power, green buildings, and even the availability of fresh, locally grown food. To see if your city made the grade, check out our Top 25 list along with more winners in specific categories. For complete results, go to countryhome.com.

Tell us about your city

THOUGH OUR LISTS
DETAIL A REFLECTION
OF AMERICAN CITIES'
commitment to changing the
way we live, we know that
there are thousands of unsung
towns and small cities all
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also encouraging homeowners
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living green

TOP 25 PLACES TO LIVE

OUR LIST COMES FROM A FORMULA THAT WEIGHS A VARIETY OF FACTORS KEY TO LIVING A MORE ECO-FRIENDLY LIFE.

1. Corvallis, OR
2. Portland metro, OR
3. Bellingham, WA
4. Santa Rosa/Petaluma, CA
5. Boulder, CO
6. Eugene/Springfield, OR
7. Santa Cruz/Watsonville, CA
8. Minneapolis metro, MN
9. Bend, OR
10. Santa Barbara metro, CA
11. San Francisco metro, CA
12. La Crosse, WI
13. Seattle metro, WA
14. Fort Collins/Loveland, CO
15. St. Cloud, MN
16. Salem, OR
17. Madison, WI
18. Iowa City, IA
19. Ames, IA
20. San Luis Obispo metro, CA
21. Salinas, CA
22. Bremerton/Silverdale, WA
23. Duluth, MN
24. Pittsfield, MA
25. Medford, OR



SPOTLIGHT

CORVALLIS, OREGON,

IS COUNTRY HOME'S PICK for the 2008 Best Green City in America. Located in the Willamette Valley about 90 miles south of Portland—which happens to be next in line on our Top 25 list—Corvallis has a population of approximately 81,000 and is the site of Oregon State University.

Corvallis came out at the top of our list thanks, in part, to long-term planning by city officials, who began working on energy issues in the 1990s. Initially intended mostly as energy-reduction measures, the city's goals have changed over time to a focus on achieving long-term sustainability. Solid-waste management, land use, water conservation, greenhouse-gas emissions, recycling, and green building practices are some of the areas where city leaders have focused.

Green power also played a key role in the city's top spot. Last year, Corvallis received utility provider Pacific Power's certificate of environmental stewardship for its part in the energy company's Blue Sky program, which

supplies electricity from wind and geothermal sources. The city purchases 15 percent of its power from renewable sources and, in 2006, was named a Green Power Community by the EPA for its use of renewable energy. Business leaders have embraced the city's vision as well. Hewlett-Packard and FedEx Kinko's and local small businesses have adopted green practices, too.

"We're working very hard at this," says Corvallis Mayor Charles Tomlinson, "because community engagement is so important. People are taking the time to sign up to pay a little bit more to know they are supporting renewable energy. They're speaking with their pocketbooks and making a commitment." The mayor notes that local groups working together are also helping to keep the city on the cutting edge. The Corvallis Sustainability Coalition, for example, is working with the Energy Trust of Oregon on a community home energy audit program designed to promote conservation.

For more information, go to ci.corvallis.or.us, visitcorvallis.com, energytrust.org, and sustainablecorvallis.org.

Corvallis is home to covered bridges, bike paths, quaint shops, sidewalk cafés, local farmers markets, and eco-friendly residents and businesses.



My Style



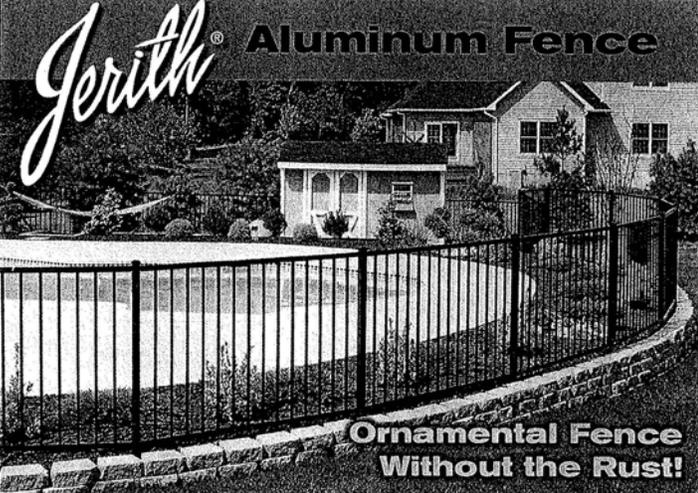
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living green

TOP 10 ORGANIC FOOD SUPPLY

THESE CITIES RANK HIGHEST IN NUMBER OF FARMERS MARKETS, LOCALLY GROWN FOOD OUTLETS, AND EVEN BIG ECO-RETAILERS SUCH AS WHOLE FOODS.

1. Boulder, CO
2. Charlottesville, VA
3. Madison, WI
4. Springfield, MA
5. Fort Collins, CO
6. Santa Rosa/Petaluma, CA
7. Ann Arbor, MI
8. San Francisco metro, CA
9. Hartford, CT
10. Bethesda, MD

TOP 10 WIND POWER

THESE CITIES MAKE THE BEST USE OF ABUNDANT, EMISSIONLESS WIND-POWERED ENERGY.

1. Fargo, ND
2. Grand Forks, ND
3. Bismarck, ND
4. Sioux City, IA
5. Casper, WY
6. Cheyenne, WY
7. Davenport, IA
8. Omaha, NE
9. Ames, IA
10. Cedar Rapids, IA

TOP 10 SMALL CITIES

THESE CITIES WITH
POPULATIONS OF 150,000 OR
LESS RANK THE HIGHEST.

1. Corvallis, OR
2. La Crosse, WI
3. Wenatchee, WA
4. Pittsfield, MA
5. Iowa City, IA
6. Ames, IA
7. Napa, CA
8. Missoula, MT
9. Mount Vernon/
Anacortes, WA
10. Grand Forks, ND

Did you know?

The smallest
small city to
make our list,
at #278, is
Carson City,
NV, population
56,878.

The largest big
city to make
our list, at #42,
is Los Angeles,
CA, population
10,164,031.

TOP 10 LARGE CITIES

THESE CITIES WITH
POPULATIONS OF 500,000 OR
MORE RANK THE HIGHEST.

1. Portland metro, OR
2. Minneapolis metro, MN
3. San Francisco metro, CA
4. Seattle metro, WA
5. Oakland metro, CA
6. Sacramento metro, CA
7. San Diego metro, CA
8. Denver metro, CO
9. Madison, WI
10. Austin metro, TX ®

SOURCE: BERT SPERLING, SPERLING'S BEST
PLACES; BESTPLACES.NET.

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