



**Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission
Notice of Regular Meeting
January 8, 2020**

The Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission will convene on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 in the **Council Room at the Village Hall, 510 Green Bay, Winnetka, Illinois**, at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda

Call to Order

- | | | |
|-----------|---|-------------------|
| 1) | Introduction & Chair's Remarks | Presenter Varca |
| 2) | Public Comment | |
| 3) | Review and Approval of Minutes | |
| | a. Approval of the December 11, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes | Presenter Varca |
| 4) | New Business/Old Business Updates | |
| | a. Review of GRC2 Primary Goals for 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update | Presenter Varca |
| | b. Review Of Documents For Comprehensive Plan To Share With The Lakota Group at the February 12, 2020 EFC Meeting | Presenter Varca |
| | ▪ Short Term GRC Objectives | |
| | ▪ Long Term Goals | |
| | ▪ Example of Single Sustainability Chapter | |
| | c. Additional Thoughts for Meeting with the Lakota Group at the February 12, 2020 EFC Meeting | Presenter Varca |
| 5) | Communications | |
| | a. Discussion of January Communication Items | Presenter Mendoza |
| | b. Review of February Communication Items | Presenter Mendoza |
| 6) | Committee/Staff Reports | |
| 7) | Open Forum | |
| 8) | Adjournment | |

Posted Time and Date

NOTICE

All agenda materials are available at villageofwinnetka.org (***Government > Council Information > Agenda Packets & Minutes***); the ***Reference Desk at the Winnetka Library; or in the Manager's Office at Village Hall (2nd floor)***.

The Village of Winnetka, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests that all persons with disabilities who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting or have questions about the accessibility of the meeting or facilities, contact the Village ADA Coordinator, at 510 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, Illinois 60093, 847-716-3543; T.D.D. 847-501-6041.

WINNETKA ENVIRONMENTAL AND FORESTRY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
December 11, 2019

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Environmental and Forestry Commission of the Village of Winnetka, which was held in the Council Chambers at Village Hall, 510 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, Illinois, Wednesday, December 11, 2019, at 7:00 pm.

Call to Order:

Chairperson Dowding called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.; Voting Members present: Chairperson Chuck Dowding, Liz Kunkle, Mike Nielsen, David Varca and, Chris Foley. Voting Members absent: Barry Sylvester, and Rosann Park-Jones. A quorum of presently appointed members was present. Ex-officio Members present: none. Village Council Representative absent: Anne Wedner. Student Representative present: Marcus Buccellato. Staff Representative present: Brendon Mendoza, Public Works Analyst. Public present: Two representatives of the public; Kate Elli, a student at New Trier High School and Ivy Sundell, a resident of Winnetka.

1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks:

Chairperson Dowding called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and welcomed all Commission members and the public.

2) Public Comment:

Kate, a student from New Trier High School was in attendance because she was interested in creating an infographic to provide to Winnetka Residents regarding composting collection.

Mrs. Sundell, a Winnetka resident was interested in helping by conducting research or work to help with environmental issues. She stated she was interested in volunteering.

3) Review and Approval of Minutes:

a) Approval of the November 13, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Kunkle stated to change (shown in red) the language under 6) *Commission/Staff Reports* in the November 13, 2019 Meeting Minutes to read as follows;

“Staff Representative Mendoza mentioned that the Village’s **Annual Pumpkin Collection event led to approximately 670 pumpkins being diverted from landfill and composted.** Commissioner Kunkle stated a good idea may be to have the Park District add a **collection event in addition to the standing Village collection event, which** would allow additional options for residents to compost pumpkins if they are not able to attend the Village’s one day annual pumpkin composting **event and additional programming options for the Park District.**”

Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to approve the November 13, 2019 minutes, which was moved by Commissioner Foley and seconded by Commissioner Nielson.

4) New Business, Old Business/Updates:

a) Review of GRC2 Primary Goals for 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update:

Commissioner Foley stated that there was not substantial discussion at the November 20, 2019 Planning Meeting regarding the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, but the Plan Commission will be meeting with the Village's comprehensive plan consultant at their January Meeting.

The Commission discussed ideas for the Village's 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The Commission also discussed potential opportunities for sustainability within different aspects of the Village's policies. An example is the Village's Design Guidelines document.

Chairperson Dowding presented to the group a document (included in the agenda packet) regarding the Village's 2020 Comprehensive Plan and its relation to the EFC. The Commission discussed the document and wondered if it is a current document, and if it is, that it needs to be updated. Chairperson Dowding will look into the document further.

Commissioner Foley discussed a draft document (attached) that he created for the long term (or moonshot) goals recommended for inclusion in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. "Minimize or Eliminate Beach Closures due to Bacteria and other Contaminants", "Begin Planning for Extension or Transition Regarding Winnetka's Local Electric Power Plant", and "Consider Impacts of the Limited Remaining Lifespan of our SWANCC Waste Landfills".

Commissioner Varca discussed a draft document (attached) that he created for the long term (or moonshot) goals recommended for inclusion in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. "Redevelop Landfill", "Redevelop Underutilize or Contaminated Properties", and "Manage Water Infrastructure".

Chairperson Dowding asked the group to review the draft long-term recommendations and those discussed earlier and provide edits to Staff Representative Mendoza to make changes.

Commissioner Kunkle followed-up with Evanston's Climate Action and Resilience Plan ("CARP") (attached). Commissioner Kunkle stated that she talked to Evanston's sustainability coordinator, Kumar Jensen about Evanston's CARP. Commissioner Kunkle

stated that CARP was developed by the residents of Evanston and they developed their own goals and objectives. She discussed how it is a model that could be used by the Commission for a possible format for recommendations for the 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

Chairperson Dowding asked Staff Representative Mendoza if Village staff was able to review the GRC2 Recommendation List and provide comments. Staff Representative Mendoza stated that Village staff was able to review the GRC2 Recommendation List, and that there was no feedback regarding recommendations that were not feasible. Staff Representative Mendoza mentioned that an idea would be to consider safety infrastructure for bicycle trails under the mobility section and consider the Village's Electrical Plant for energy goals.

Staff Representative Mendoza mentioned that the Community Development Department is currently collecting information for the Village's consultant to include for ideas for the new comprehensive plan and asked if it would be acceptable to share documents prepared for consideration in preparation of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Chairperson Dowding stated that he would like to meet with the Village's consultant and Community Development Staff to provide context when the documents are provided.

b) RainReady Update:

Commissioner Kunkle stated that RainReady staff were scheduled to present at the December EFC meeting, but will be rescheduled as it would make more sense for the Village's storm water IGAs to be completed prior meeting with RainReady.

5) **Communications:**

a) Review November Communications Items:

The Commission was satisfied with the November Communication items. The Commission stated that it would be beneficial to review communications of future months instead of reviewing the previous month's communication items. Staff Representative Mendoza will make this change moving forward. Commissioner Nielson stated that a pre-spring clean-up article would be good for March and April and could be included in the spring Winnetka Report.

b) Discussion of December Communications Items:

The group reviewed the December Communication items and mentioned minor edits. Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to approve the December Communications Items, which was moved by Commissioner Kunkle and seconded by Commissioner Varca.

6) **Commission/Staff Reports:** None.

7) **Student Representation Update:** None.

8) **Open Forum:**

Commissioner Kunkle mentioned that the Park District may host a pumpkin collection event in 2020. Commissioner Kunkle also mentioned that there is a local student who has agreed to collect pumpkins next fall and bring them to the composting events. Commissioner Kunkle hopes the Village's fall communications items will include information on the Park District event and pick-up opportunity, in addition to the Public Works Annual Pumpkin Collection.

Commissioner Kunkle mentioned a useful Zero Waste Event guide created by local Go Green Groups. Commissioner Kunkle mentioned the document is a great guideline for those trying to host a zero waste event. Commissioner Kunkle asked to place this document on the Village website. Staff Representative Mendoza stated he will include it on the Village website.

Chairperson Dowding asked for a volunteer to be Chair in his absence at the January 8, 2020 EFC Meeting. Commissioner Varca volunteered.

9) **Adjournment:**

There being no further business, Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to adjourn which was moved by Commissioner Foley and seconded by Commissioner Kunkle. The motion passed, the meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

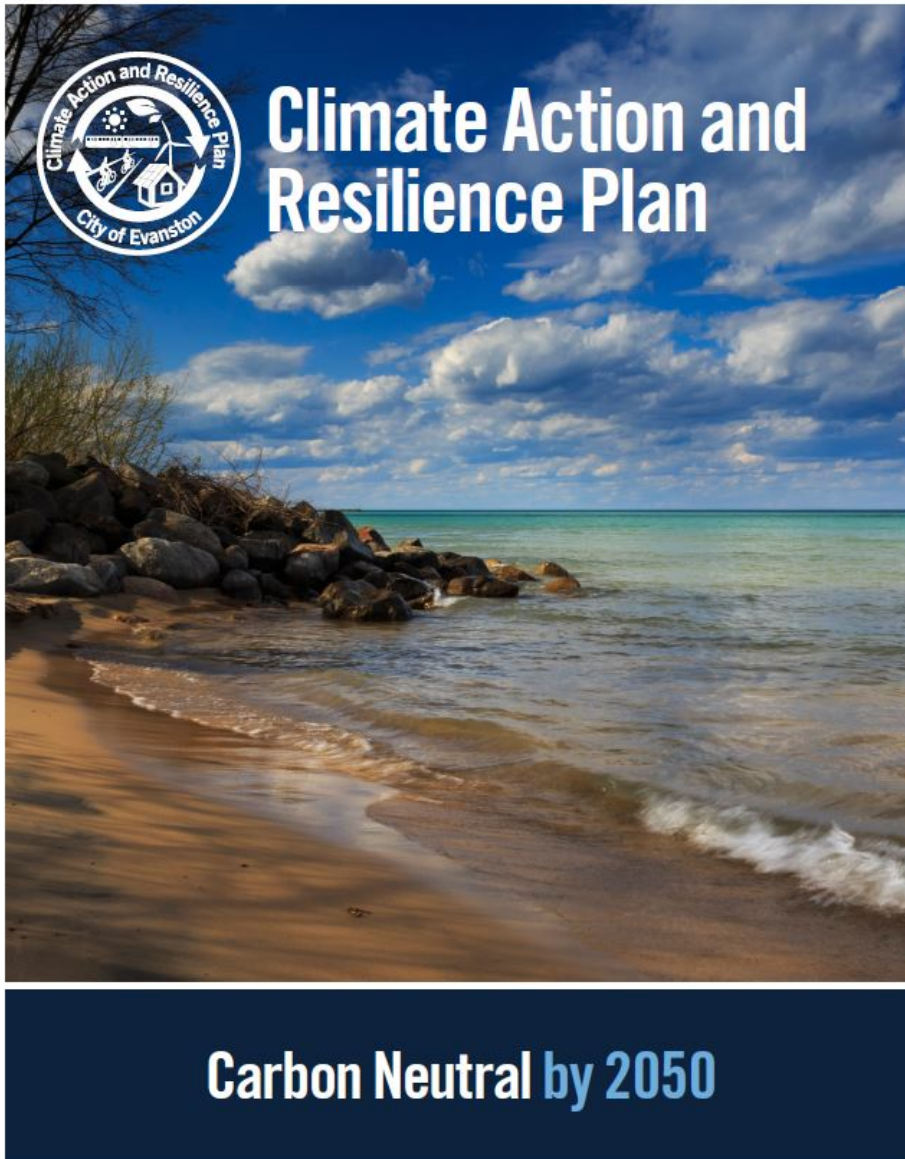


CITY OF EVANSTON

CLIMATE ACTION AND RESILIENCE PLAN/BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

Hal Sprague, President, Citizens' Greener Evanston

November 12, 2019



Climate Action and Resilience Plan

Approved by Evanston City Council December 2018

Mayoral Task Force:
worked on plan from Nov 2017 to Nov 2018

Focus Areas	Goals
Building Efficiency	Reduce building energy consumption by 35% by 2035 (from 2005 levels).
Renewable Energy	Achieve 100% renewable electricity supply for all Evanston accounts by 2030.
Zero Waste	Increase the community waste diversion rate to 50% by 2025, 75% by 2035 and Zero Waste by 2050 (from 2017 levels).
Transportation and Mobility	Reduce vehicle miles traveled; increase trips made by walking, bicycling and transit.
	Increase use of electric vehicles; decrease carbon emissions from vehicles and equipment.
Urban Canopy and Green Space	Preserve and restore Evanston's urban canopy, natural areas, native vegetation and green space to maintain and increase carbon sequestration, improve stormwater runoff detention, improve air quality, energy efficiency and livability and reduce adverse urban impacts on humans and key species such as birds and pollinators.
Outreach, Education and Behavior Change	Educate, motivate and empower Evanston residents, institutions and businesses to take meaningful action to fight climate change and improve community resilience.

Mitigation Focus Areas and Goals

- Reduce energy consumption 35% by 2035
- 100% renewable electricity by 2030
- Zero Waste by 2050
- Reduce VMT 35% by 2035; increase sustainable mobility
- Increase use of electric vehicles; decrease emissions
- Preserve, protect, expand urban canopy and natural areas
- Educate, motivate, empower all to be part of the solution

Climate Resilience Focus Areas

Green Infrastructure

Health Impacts of Extreme Heat

Resilience Regulations

Community Networks and Education

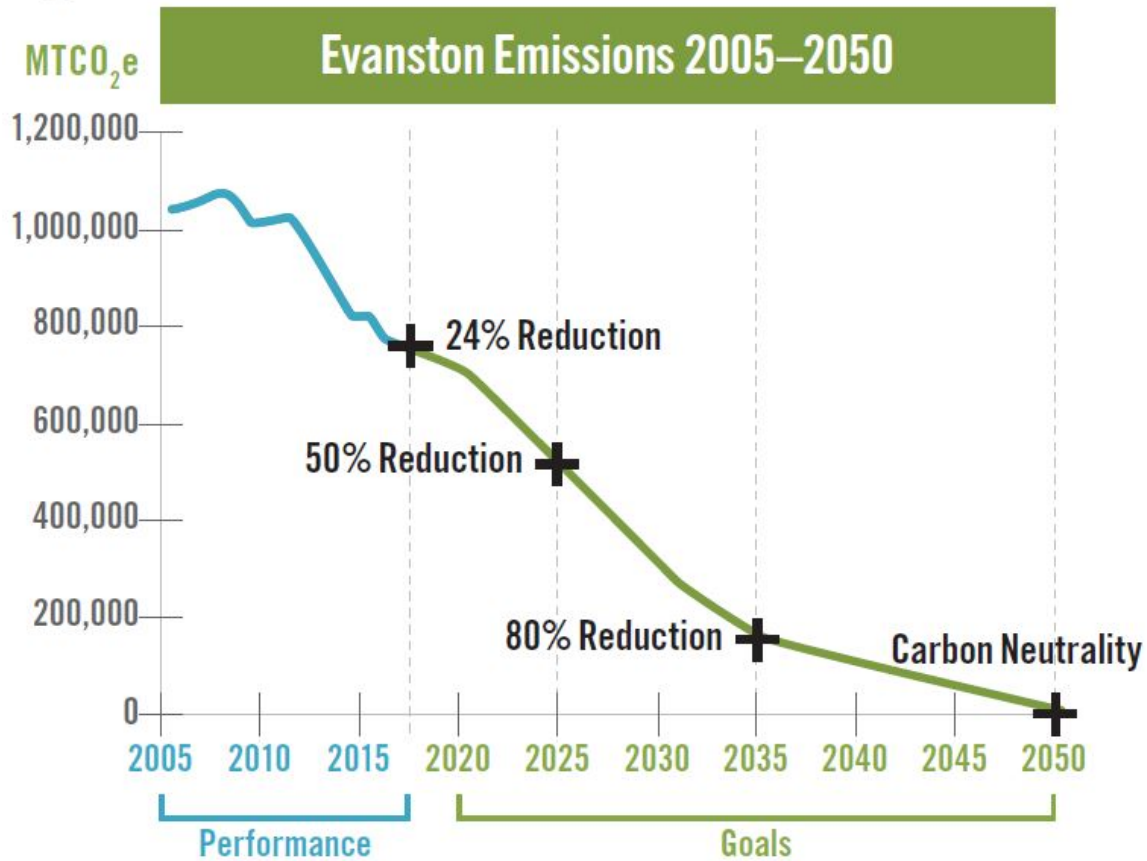
Emergency Preparedness and Management

Vulnerable Populations

Resilience Focus Areas

Increase Evanston's climate resilience through improvements in infrastructure, policy, education, outreach and emergency preparedness.

Figure 1



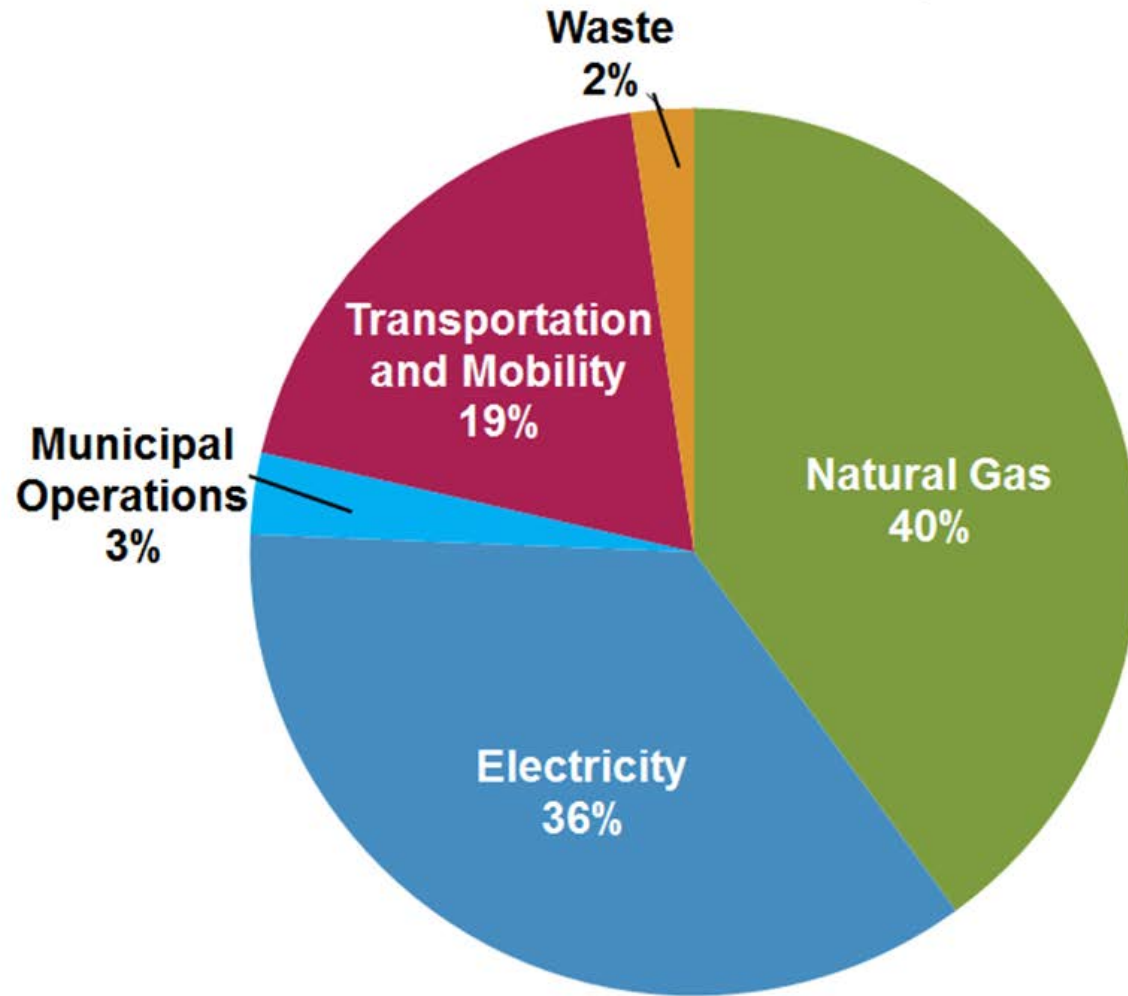
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets

2025 — 50% reduction

2035 — 80% reduction

2050 — Carbon Neutrality

2017 GHG Emissions by Source



Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Source

Electricity – 36%

Natural Gas – 40%

Transportation – 19%

Waste – 2%

Municipal Operations – 3%

Business Engagement



Sustain
Evanston
2019

Sustain Evanston was created by the City to educate Evanston businesses on CARP and support and recognize them for their work in sustainability.

Assists City in reaching CARP goals.

Helps businesses that are established environmental leaders or just getting started.

SE businesses help protect the environment, save money, and show customers there are measurable actions behind their commitments.



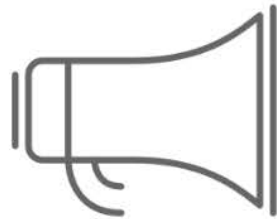
[Home](#) [Get Recognized](#) [Find a Business](#) [Resources](#) [Contact Us](#)

Sustain Evanston incentivizes businesses to voluntarily reduce their environmental impact and create a healthier community.

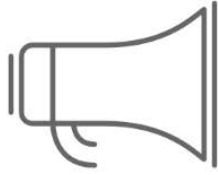
Whether you're an established sustainable business or just getting started, Sustain Evanston can provide the resources and tools for you.

[Get Recognized](#)

Be Part of a Solution



BENEFITS



Gain a competitive edge to attract new customers



Identify operational cost savings that reduce your environmental impact



Receive recognition for your dedication to the community and environmental stewardship



Receive \$250 for completion of the recognition





Sustain
Evanston
2019

Restaurant Checklist

In order to gain recognition, you must complete the required actions* and 8 additional actions for a total of 10 completed actions. For information about the required documentation for each action, please visit www.sustainevanston.com/restaurant.

Required

- ☐ 1. *Provide clear sorting for recycling and achieve a 50% recycling diversion rate.
- ☐ 2. *Implement a composting program.

Energy

- ☐ 3. Get a free, on-site facility assessment for your business from ComEd, Nicor Gas, or a third party and implement at least one recommended action.
- ☐ 4. Purchase renewable energy certificates or carbon offsets from your utility.
- ☐ 5. Replace 50% lighting with LED light bulbs.
- ☐ 6. Install lighting controls, such as occupancy sensors in spaces of variable occupancy, daylighting controls, or time clocks.
- ☐ 7. Make a policy requiring the purchase of ENERGY STAR, EPEAT, and WaterSense qualified equipment and appliances.

Water

- ☐ 8. Replace all pre-rinse spray valves with low flow ones.
- ☐ 9. Install low flow faucet aerators on all restroom sinks.
- ☐ 10. Utilize green infrastructure to decrease total volume of stormwater runoff.
- ☐ 11. Switch all-purpose cleaning products to low toxic cleaning products.

Resources

- ☐ 12. Identify one disposable item to be eliminated, switched to a reusable option, or provided only upon request.

Sustain Evanston – 2019 Businesses (17)

- jewelry, accessories, home & beauty products
- independent, community coffee shop
- florist & gift boutique
- video, event, & interactive production services
- bicycle shop
- architecture & planning
- contract manufacturing
- merchant processing
- reclaimed materials warehouse
- energy consulting
- pet store
- bellydance & fitness studio
- clothing
- wellness products & services

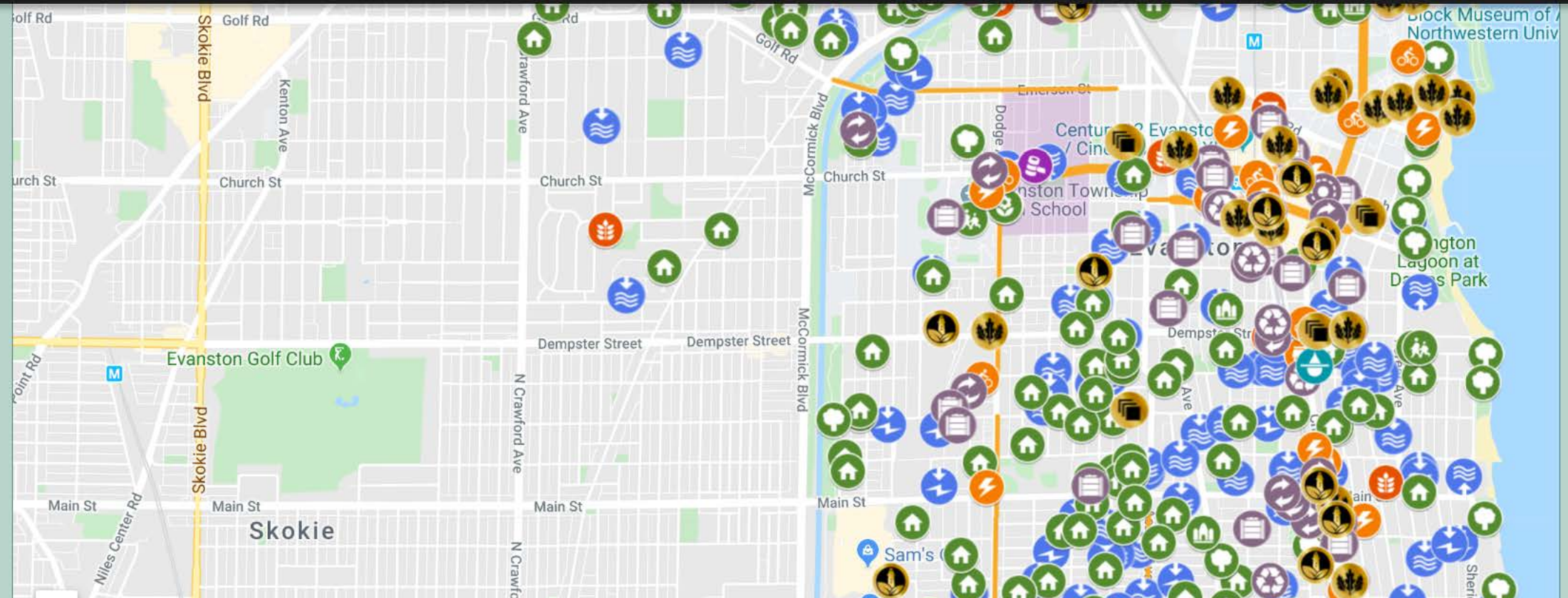
Other Evanston CARP Business Activities

- Chamber of Commerce issued a survey to its members regarding how CARP waste reduction policies and rules might affect them.
- Office of Sustainability attends Chamber member group meetings and presents on CARP.
- City canvassing businesses not affiliated with Chamber to get more information on waste reduction question.
- City conducted CARP Mini-grants program – businesses and orgs could receive \$1,000 for waste reduction and environmental justice projects. Some non-profits applied and received funding.
- Sustain Evanston was one of City's first efforts to help businesses be more sustainable and plans to grow the program next year.
- Large businesses – some made commitments during CARP development process; More to come.

Citizens' Greener Evanston – ecohub.greenerevanston.org

EcoHUB CITIZENS
GREENER
EVANSTON

[Map](#) [Key wins so far](#) [Get involved!](#) [Calendar](#)



QUESTIONS?

Suggestions?

Proposed Consensus Recommendation from the GRC2 Framework

PO: Council proposes ordinance, or other Council-level action

DS: Council directs Staff to undertake

EFC: Council directs EFC to undertake

Climate: undertake efforts to reduce GHGs, develop resiliency to climate change impacts, and engage the Village community in climate change mitigation and adaptation

1. Measure emissions from Village operations to develop a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions reduction target for those operations, followed by monitoring to validate success or propose further efforts to reduce GHGs **(DS)**
2. Engage the Village community in climate change mitigation and adaptation by educating the public about climate change, its effects, and opportunities for the community to meaningfully respond **(EFC)**

Energy: adopt policies that promote energy efficiency, reduced energy usage and renewables, and engage the Village community in clean energy practices

1. Audit, benchmark, and track energy usage in Village facilities, and promote energy audits and retro-commissioning studies of residential and commercial entities, and other governmental units, in the Village **(DS)**
2. Where feasible and economic, adopt energy efficiency measures, procure from or install renewable energy resources for Village facilities, and develop renewable energy resources on underutilized Village properties (i.e. brownfields, rooftops, etc.) **(PO, DS)**
3. Support the adoption of renewable energy technologies, particularly those that expand economic development opportunities in the Village or access to alternative energy options for residents (i.e., community solar) **(DS, EFC)**

Land: encourage strategic development that incorporates sustainability principles, conserve, restore and enhance natural features and ecosystems, and ensure accessibility to and use of parks and other outdoor space

1. Redevelop underutilized or contaminated properties **(PO)**
2. Prioritize redevelopment and infrastructure projects, and public-private partnerships, that support public transit-oriented locations and uses **(PO, DS)**
3. Adopt guidelines for future development that encourage management and conservation of natural resources, existing topography, views, drainage patterns, existing ecosystems (including vegetation and biodiversity), and historic or cultural assets **(PO, DS)**
4. Continue to maximize the amount of public spaces and parks accessible to residents **(PO)**
5. Where practical, replace turf with sustainable landscaping alternatives **(DS)**
6. Enact and enforce land use policies that protect valuable natural assets, support resiliency, and increase the quality and amount of sustainable landscaping in the community **(PO, DS)**
7. Enact and enforce land-use policies that preserve open space **(PO, DS)**

Leadership: collaborate to achieve a more sustainable Village and region

1. Partner with federal, regional, state, other local governments, and other entities to undertake initiatives that promote energy efficiency and sustainability (EFC)

Mobility: support diverse, safe, and efficient transportation that uses resources wisely

1. Review existing bicycle and pedestrian plans, then propose recommendations for implementation by the Village (EFC)
2. Incorporate sustainable roadways into capital improvement planning, and proactively plan for major transportation infrastructure improvements (DS)
3. Collaborate to provide alternative fuel infrastructure at public sites, and to support a network of alternate fueling infrastructure elsewhere (DS, EFC)

Municipal Operations: set the example by demonstrating sustainable values and practices, operate a safe and efficient fleet, and collect and manage data to advance sustainability

1. Ensure municipal finance practices and purchasing policies are consistent with sustainability and re-invest cost savings into sustainability initiatives (PO, DS)
2. Evaluate opportunities to migrate fleet to alternate fuel vehicles (DS)
3. Track, analyze, and manage data to advance sustainability (DS)

Sustainable Communities: cultivate community values and principles that are welcoming, inclusive and equitable, and that promote a sustainable identity for the Village

1. Cultivate and preserve a welcoming and inclusive community character (PO, DS, EFC)
2. Promote third party certification for sustainable private facilities (EFC)
3. Establish or strengthen an inter- and intra-entity Green Team (EFC)

Waste & Recycling: support policies and actions that contribute to sustainable material management and increased recycling

1. Adopt a Pay-As-You-Throw program (PO)
2. Make public events Zero Waste (DS)
3. Support and incentivize expansion of existing services to include food scrap composting, commercial & multi-family recycling, and discouraging the use of unrecyclable products (e.g., plastic bags) (DS, EFC)

Water: use and distribute water efficiently and sustainably, protect and improve water quality, and optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater

1. Reduce community water consumption by implementing water efficiency measures in Village operations and encouraging residents and businesses to identify and mitigate water losses (DS, EFC)
2. Protect surface and groundwater from runoff and contamination, support post-development runoff reduction and mitigation, and encourage residents and businesses to address flood risks on their property (DS)

3. Support regional and state initiatives to protect water supplies and support stewardship of Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River (EFC)
4. Comprehensively and sustainably manage water infrastructure (DS)
5. Collaborate to enhance wetlands for improved ecosystem services (DS)
6. Adopt codes that enable rainwater harvesting for non-potable uses (PO)
7. Review and adopt codes to eliminate barriers to green infrastructure BMPs including cisterns, green roofs, bioswales, and permeable paving (PO, DS)

Water Conservation

Goal:

Reduce Winnetka's consumption of water by 10%

Reason:

Winnetka may be required to share water to the collar counties within the next two or three decades. The demand for water in the collar counties, who already in 2020 have begun to run out of water, will require use of Lake Michigan water, which is limited by international treaty with Canada. Thus sending water to collar counties will result in less water for those already drawing LM water.

WEFC Water summary

The overall objective is to reduce pollution of the water in and near to Winnetka. One of the most valuable resources to Winnetka is Lake Michigan, which we drink and in which we recreate. Water shed by Winnetka as waste or storm water runoff will become increasingly scrutinized and regulated to reduce pollution and increase sustainability of the region. Given the increasing need for clean drinking water, it is important to reduce consumption and reduce pollution of the storm water. Winnetka benefits from separate sanitary and storm water sewer systems which reduces the complexity of pollution reduction. While the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District both treats the sanitary waste and regulates encroachment of the flood plain to control flooding, Winnetka may enforce stricter storm water regulations.

GRC2 Water Goals

- Use and distribute water efficiently
- Protect and improve and water quality
- Manage water system assets sustainably
- Optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater
- Practice stewardship of water resources
- Enact policies to protect water resources
- Engage the community in water stewardship

Increasing Sustainable Mobility

Goal

Develop safe, east-west bikeway(s) to connect to downtown areas, GB trail, rail stations and educational institutions

Reason:

Increasing pedestrian oriented transportation will enhance Winnetka's ability to address greater restrictions of the use of automobile transport. It will also allow for a more healthy, walkable/bikeable village oriented life style.

WEFC Mobility Summary

The Village supports safe and effective transportation through a diverse and efficient transportation network. The Village offers various public transportation methods including three train stations, intersecting bus routes and an interstate highway less than one mile west of the Village. The Village also features a segment of the bike-friendly Green Bay Trail and supports bicycle use throughout the Village. The Village maintains its own roadways and regularly collaborates with IDOT and Cook County.

GRC2 Mobility Goals

- Support safe and effective active transportation
- Maintain a diverse, safe, and efficient transportation network
- Support efficient transportation that uses resources wisely
- Integrate sustainability into transportation policies, programs, and regulations
- Promote public and sustainable transportation choices

Sustain “Lakeshore-Village” brand

Goal

Stabilize bluffs and beaches and increase enjoyment of Lake Michigan

Reason:

Planned bluff and beach stabilization by the Winnetka Park District and riparian residents (and the not unexpected legal entanglements) present an opportunity for a village-wide sustainable solution. Costs of stabilization can be reduced through coordination of efforts by Village, Park District and riparian residents. It may be possible to justify additional Village funding in addition to that from the Park District by increasing enjoyment of Lake Michigan between Village and Park access points.

WEFC Land Summary

This category pertains to the preservation of the land use patterns and natural environment that provide the Village-like ambiance of Winnetka. Land use patterns are defined by the transitions between types and densities of occupation which are controlled by zoning. However the natural environment is defined some form of ecologically balanced, publically accessible open space, green and blue, will provide the foundation for sustainable activity. These built and natural considerations overlap with Economic Development, Sustainable Communities, and Water.

GRC2 Land Goals

- Encourage strategic development that upholds sustainability principles
- Conserve, restore and enhance natural features and ecosystems
- Support networks of accessible well-used and enjoyable parks
- Sustain a robust urban forest canopy
- Sustain beautiful landscapes that provide ecosystem services
- Achieve greater livability through sustainable land use and housing policies
- Cultivate a conservation ethic in the community

Sustain “Lakeshore-Village” brand

Goal

Reduce to zero beach closures because of pollution

At one time Winnetka was listed as having the most polluted beaches in the nation by counts of closures. After efforts by the “Village” to uncover cross connections between sanitary and storm sewers, beach closures have been reduced but not to zero. Given that all storm water east of Green Bay Rd flows to Lake Michigan, the source of our drinking water, such beach closures potentially have more serious consequences than preventing swimming. This issue is also a poster child for the need for greater integration of the operations of the Park and Village boards. Parks takes the hit for beach closures, the Village is responsible for outfalls to the lake, and Winnetka’s brand is besmirched.

WEFC Water summary

The overall objective is to reduce pollution of the water in and near to Winnetka. One of the most valuable resources to Winnetka is Lake Michigan, which we drink and in which we recreate. Water shed by Winnetka as waste or storm water runoff will become increasingly scrutinized and regulated to reduce pollution and increase sustainability of the region. Given the increasing need for clean drinking water, it is important to reduce consumption and reduce pollution of the storm water. Winnetka benefits from separate sanitary and storm water sewer systems which reduces the complexity of pollution reduction. While the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District both treats the sanitary waste and regulates encroachment of the flood plain to control flooding, Winnetka may enforce stricter storm water regulations.

GRC2 Water Goals

- Use and distribute water efficiently
- Protect and improve and water quality
- Manage water system assets sustainably
- Optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater
- Practice stewardship of water resources
- Enact policies to protect water resources, Engage the community in water stewardship

Goal

Minimize or eliminate beach closures due to bacteria and other contaminants

Reason:

Winnetka beaches routinely land at or near the top of the Natural Resources Defense Council's most-contaminated list of Illinois beaches, posting dozens of closure days every year. One likely cause for heightened bacteria levels is likely the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) lock system in Wilmette Harbor, opened during major rainstorms to release sewer overflow into Lake Michigan. But another is leaks and cross-contamination between the Village's separated storm and sanitary sewers. While Winnetka has little control over MWRD, the 2040 Plan should encourage the Village to increase efforts to investigate possible cross connections that allow domestic sewage to enter the storm sewers that outfall into Lake Michigan, as well as consider new storm water outlets and improvements near beaches to filter sediments and solid materials, as well as bacteria.

More sophisticated water testing and analysis should also be encouraged. Most towns north of Chicago, including Winnetka, monitor their beaches along Lake Michigan for E. coli and other harmful bacteria. That monitoring ranges from traditional water measurements (with results received up to 24 hours later, or longer) to real time monitoring to predictive modeling. Depending on the results, swim advisories and bans are issued if the bacteria levels exceed acceptable levels. Beaches in Winnetka are monitored every day during the summer swimming season using traditional sampling. Instead of Winnetka relying on the 24-hour bacteria sampling test, use of a predictive method to provide relatively accurate and up-to-date E. coli estimates would help better identify sources of contamination and help keep clean beaches open.

WEFC Water Summary

The overall objective is to reduce pollution of the water in and near to Winnetka. One of the most valuable resources to Winnetka is Lake Michigan, which we drink and in which we recreate. Water shed by Winnetka as waste or storm water runoff will become increasingly scrutinized and regulated to reduce pollution and increase sustainability of the region. Given the increasing need for clean drinking water, it is important to reduce consumption and reduce pollution of the storm water. Winnetka benefits from separate sanitary and storm water sewer systems which reduces the complexity of pollution reduction. While the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District both treats the sanitary waste and regulates encroachment of the flood plain to control flooding, Winnetka may enforce more strict storm water regulations.

GRC2 Water Goals

- Use and distribute water efficiently
- Protect and improve and water quality
- Manage water system assets sustainably
- Optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater
- Practice stewardship of water resources
- Enact policies to protect water resources
- Engage the community in water stewardship

Goal

Begin planning for extension or transition regarding Winnetka's local electric power plant

Reason:

Unique among many municipalities, Winnetka generates its own electric power plant. To complement this capability, since 1991 Winnetka's power and energy requirements continue to be ensured pursuant to contracts between the Village and the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency (IMEA). On the Village's behalf, IMEA acquires power and energy by: generating it at an IMEA-owned plant; purchasing it from other entities; and utilizing the capabilities of the Village's electric plant or of other members' plants. This blend of resources is designed to ensure an economical cost of wholesale power. Therefore, by contract, the output capacity of the Village's electric plant is dedicated to IMEA. Upon request by IMEA, the Village will generate electricity that is used by IMEA to meet electrical demand or offset the cost of higher priced wholesale power from another source. In return for IMEA's right to use our plant's capacity, the Village receives a credit on its wholesale power bill.

Winnetka's current IMEA contract extends through 2035. Even though the Village buys all its electricity from IMEA, it is contractually obligated to own and operate the electric plant through 2035 or secure comparable replacement power. [note: this is an assumption that needs to be verified]. By 2035, and likely well before then, plans will need to be in place to continue or discontinue operation of the electric power plant, a timeline that falls well within the window of our developing 2040 Plan. These decisions are not to be undertaken lightly – the benefits and costs that must be analyzed and weighed in coming to a decision about the future of the electric power plant are material to the Village. It is in the best interests of the Village, and its residential and business electric customers, to begin planning now for an eventual extension or transition regarding Winnetka's local electric power plant. Such a process will necessitate Village leadership, Staff, and the public coming together to carefully and comprehensively consider issues including, but not limited to, available alternatives for sourcing energy, economics and rate impacts, environmental considerations, the potential for alternative site uses, and of course the effects on the quality of life in the Village.

WEFC Municipal Operations Summary

Village municipal services are divided into Village, Schools, Park, and Library boards and functions. The Village board provides life safety, transportation, water, and waste infrastructure. Winnetka also provides electrical power to the Village through the Illinois Municipal Energy Agency. A Village lifestyle is provided through a high performing municipal operation governed by a Village Manager and elected Trustees. Sustainable life styles are encouraged through ordinance, pricing, education, and expenditure of Village funds to facilitate stewardship and conservation. The Village has a standing Environmental and Forestry Commission with a dedicated staff liaison. The Village operates a safe, clean and efficient fleet through its in-house fleet services division and has in place an anti-idling policy for Village-owned vehicles.

GRC2 Municipal Operations Goals

- Lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices
- Integrate sustainability into all municipal operations
- Operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet
- Collect and manage data to advance sustainability

Goal

Consider impacts of the limited remaining lifespan of our SWANCC waste landfills

Reason:

The Village provides refuse collection services which includes weekly back-door residential garbage collection, weekly commercial refuse collection, twice-a-week residential yard waste collection, and special refuse collections. Collected refuse is transferred for disposal under a contractual arrangement with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC). SWANCC, in turn, utilizes privately owned regional landfills for disposal capacity.

SWANCC member communities rely on a number of facilities to manage their waste. The majority of waste collected within SWANCC member communities is delivered to transfer stations prior to being hauled to more distant regional landfills for disposal. Waste from Winnetka, via the Glenview Transfer Station, is currently hauled to the Winnebago Landfill in Rockford, IL for disposal.[note: need to confirm] A number of additional landfills in northern Illinois, as well as southern Wisconsin, northwestern Indiana, and southwestern Michigan are unavailable to receive waste because of limited remaining capacity (in some cases combined with restrictions on their service areas, primarily accepting special wastes (not municipal wastes), or not being economically accessible due to an increase in state-imposed fees).

Consequently, in addition to promoting continuing conservation, recycling, and composting programs for the Village that reduce landfill disposal quantities at the source, the 2040 Plan should propose a set of goals that produce a framework for addressing the eventual inevitable limitations on available disposal facilities for Winnetka and the other regional municipalities served by SWANCC. As this is a regional issue, the Plan should recommend that the Village work cooperatively with SWANCC and other regional planning agencies and area counties where appropriate to evaluate and implement solid waste management programs and services.

WEFC Waste and Recycling Goals

Sustainable activity must include reduction, reuse and recycling of materials. So far the Village has focused principally on recycling through its contract with Lakeshore Recycling Systems and its partnership with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County. While recycling refers to all materials, it is helpful to separate solid waste from water. Water recycling is controlled by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District through its treatment of waste water and regulation of water that may be returned to Lake Michigan or the North Branch of the Chicago River. Reduction of solid waste within Winnetka is facilitated through separate collection of recycled materials from solid waste. Separation and collection of food waste is becoming of increasing interest. Recycling is encouraged through ordinance, pricing, education, and expenditure of Village funds. The Village operates its own in-house refuse collection services, in which operations are regularly assessed. The Village also hosts a weekly electronics recycling drop-off program for residents and offers special recycling programs for materials such as Styrofoam, CFL bulbs and batteries.

GRC2 Waste and Recycling Goals

- Support sustainable material management
- Recycle materials across all sectors
- Divert waste from landfills
- Enact policies that cause sustainable material management
- Engage the community in waste reduction and recycling

WEFC Additional Goals For Village Comprehensive Plan

- Redevelop Landfill

Goal:

Develop landfill into property that can be utilized by the Village.

Reason:

The landfill represents space that can be utilized by the Village for other purposes. The property might be able to be used in its current form as a solar or wind farm or the site would have to be completely remediated for other uses.

WEFC Land Summary:

This category pertains to the preservation of the land use patterns and natural environment that provide the Village-like ambiance of Winnetka. Land use patterns are defined by the transitions between types and densities of occupation which are controlled by zoning. However, the natural environment is defined by some form of ecologically balanced, publically accessible open space, green and blue, will provide the foundation for sustainable activity. These built and natural considerations overlap with Economic Development, Sustainable Communities, and Water.

GRC2 Land Goals:

- Redevelop underutilized or contaminated properties.

- Manage Water Infrastructure

Goal:

Manage water infrastructure to ensure water quality and efficiency.

Reason:

The Village's sewer system will need to be replaced in the future. The Village has and continues to maintain the system. A long term, comprehensive plan has been created to continue to maintain the sewer system. At some point, the sewer system is going to have to be replaced to ensure water quality and efficiency.

WEFC Water Summary:

The overall objective to reduce pollution of the water in and near to Winnetka. One of the most valuable resources to Winnetka is Lake Michigan, which we drink and in which we recreate. Water shed by Winnetka as waste or storm water runoff will become increasingly scrutinized and regulated to reduce pollution and increase sustainability of the region. Given the increasing need for clean drinking water, it is important to reduce consumption and reduce pollution of the storm water. Winnetka benefits from separate sanitary and storm water sewer systems, which reduces the complexity of pollution reduction. While the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District both treats the sanitary waste and regulates encroachment of the flood plain to control flooding, Winnetka may enforce more strict storm water regulations.

GRC2 Water Goals:

- Operate an efficient water utility that delivers clean, healthful, water.
 - Comprehensively and sustainably manage water infrastructure.
-

Target Years

Achieving the goals put forward in this plan requires immediate and ambitious action by the City and everyone who lives, works, and plays in Evanston. The target years of 2025, 2030, 2035 and 2050 provide specific milestones for action and achievements. The measure of success between now and 2050 may shift considerably as metrics evolve, and as new technologies and trends emerge. For this reason, the 2050 targets indicated in the plan are limited by current knowledge, but align with the vision for Evanston in that year.

Some of the goals outlined in this section are straight-forward outcomes of policies and programs that start at the City government level. Others require innovative partnerships, broad-reaching education programs, incentives, creative funding strategies and a culture shift in how we live, work, travel and consume today. Staying on track to meet our 2025, 2030, 2035 and 2050 targets will require adapting, adjusting and innovating future iterations of this plan and its metrics. Therefore, the plan will be regularly updated to ensure it is relevant and at the cutting-edge of technology, innovation and environmental and social justice.

The Climate Mitigation section of the plan is split into six Focus Areas with corresponding Goals, Actions and Performance Metrics.

Focus Areas	Goals
Building Efficiency	Reduce building energy consumption by 35% by 2035 (from 2005 levels).
Renewable Energy	Achieve 100% renewable electricity supply for all Evanston accounts by 2030.
Zero Waste	Increase the community waste diversion rate to 50% by 2025, 75% by 2035 and Zero Waste by 2050 (from 2017 levels).
Transportation and Mobility	Reduce vehicle miles traveled; increase trips made by walking, bicycling and transit.
	Increase use of electric vehicles; decrease carbon emissions from vehicles and equipment.
Urban Canopy and Green Space	Preserve and restore Evanston's urban canopy, natural areas, native vegetation and green space to maintain and increase carbon sequestration, improve stormwater runoff detention, improve air quality, energy efficiency and livability and reduce adverse urban impacts on humans and key species such as birds and pollinators.
Outreach, Education and Behavior Change	Educate, motivate and empower Evanston residents, institutions and businesses to take meaningful action to fight climate change and improve community resilience.

Electricity Aggregation:

Since 2012, the City has provided 100% renewable energy to participating residents in the City's electricity aggregation program. This program has resulted in a reduction of 445,154 MTCO₂e of emissions, which is equivalent to 95,322 passenger vehicles driven for one year.

2020 EFC Communications Plan

EFC Communication Process for Monthly Postings

1. EFC and Staff work together to draft and finalized monthly topics and supporting text.
2. Topics and supporting text are discussed and approved by the EFC at monthly meetings.
3. Topics and supporting text are sent to Village Manager's Office each month to be published in the appropriate communication channel (Weekly email newsletter, Winnetka Report, etc).

January

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- EFC Green Awards Application Reminder
- Reduce - Consider how to reduce energy use and costs in your home and business
- Reduce - Switch from incandescent bulbs to LED bulbs (and put incandescent into garbage/landfill and recycle LED bulbs in the lobby of the Winnetka Public Works)

February

Spring Winnetka Report Submission Deadline – February 17

EFC Green Awards Application Deadline – February 28

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Reduce – Think before you buy
- Reduce - Think before you pack

March

Winnetka Report Articles:

- Coal Tar Sealant Reminder
- Paper Shredding Event
- Electronics Recycling Program Resuming
- Clean-Up Week

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Electronics Recycling Program Resuming
- Reduce - Use your car less
- Reduce - No Idling
- Composting - Backyard

April

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Compost available at Village Yards
- Paper Shredding Event
- Phosphorus Ordinance
- Earth Day – April 22nd, 2019 and Arbor Day – April 27th, 2019

- Clean-Up Week

May

Summer Winnetka Report Submission Deadline – May 15

Winnetka Report Articles:

- Green Award Recipients

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- EFC BMP Guide – Summary & link to document
- Recycling - Break down all boxes
- Recycling - Leave lids on plastic containers

June

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Coal Tar Sealant Reminder
- Ban on Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers from June 1 through Oct. 1.
- Recycling - Make sure all containers are free of liquid and food residue
- Recycling - Plastic bags & film
- Forestry - Remove buckthorn and other invasive species

July

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Shredding Event
- Recycling - Plastic silverware
- Recycling – Styrofoam
- Forestry - Look into landscaping solutions as stormwater solutions

August

Fall Winnetka Report Submission Deadline – August 14

Winnetka Report Articles:

- Pumpkin Composting Event
- Curbside Leaf Collection

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Recycling - Paper napkins, towels, and tissues

September

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Recycling - #3 plastics
- Recycling - Pizza boxes
- Recycling - Lids from glass bottles

October

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Pumpkin Composting Event
- Recycling – Leaf Collection

November

Winter Winnetka Report Submission Deadline – November 13

Winnetka Report Articles:

- Holiday Lights Recycling

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- America Recycles Day (11/15)
- Composting - Leaf collection
- Battery Recycling
- Plastic bag, film and wrap recycling
- Recycling – Textiles
- Use of natural light during winter

December

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Christmas Tree Pick-Up
- EFC Green Awards Application Reminder
- Holiday Lights Recycling
- Commercial District Business Lighting
- Use of natural light during winter

January 2020 EFC Communications Content

1. EFC Green Awards Application Reminder

E-blast Newsletter

The Village of Winnetka's Environmental and Forestry Commission invites nominations for the third-annual Green Awards Program. The purpose of the program is to recognize properties and households within Winnetka that demonstrate exceptional commitment to sustainable and environmentally-friendly practices. Residents, businesses and other organizations are encouraged to nominate their house, property, building or project that has been completed within the past five years. The award categories include: Green Building, Recycling/Waste Reduction, Land, Air, Water/Stormwater, Energy, and Innovation/Other.

If you believe your recent project has helped make Winnetka a more environmentally-friendly or sustainable community, the Commission asks that you consider applying. Applications are available through the Public Works Department at 1390 Willow Road, or by clicking here (<http://www.villageofwinnetka.org/government/boards-and-commissions/environmental-and-forestry-commission/>). The application deadline is February 28, 2020. Category winners will be announced on Earth Day (April 22, 2020). If you have any questions about the program, contact Brendon Mendoza at 847-716-3568 or bmendoza@winnetka.org.

2. Reduce Energy Use and Costs in your Home and Business

E-blast Newsletter

During the winter months, there are some easy adjustments you can make in your home to increase energy efficiency and reduce costs. Below are several tips to reduce energy consumption and maintain comfortable temperatures in your home this winter:

- Properly maintain your furnace to keep it clean and running efficiently.
- Open curtains on winter days to allow natural sunlight to help heat your home.
- Put on an extra sweater or layer of clothing instead of turning up the heat.
- Only heat rooms you regularly use and close off vents to guest rooms or storage areas.
- Invest in proper insulation to prevent heat from escaping.
- Decorate with LED holiday lights that use less energy and last longer than incandescent bulbs.

3. Make the Switch from Incandescent Bulbs to LED

E-blast Newsletter

Switching from incandescent to LED bulbs will not only save on electric costs but will reduce your overall energy consumption. For example, the energy consumption to use a 60-watt incandescent bulb would cost about \$90 over the course of 10 years. For a 5-watt LED bulb, running over the course of 10 years the actual cost would be only \$18 to operate. LED bulbs also use less wattage while producing the equivalent amount of light of an incandescent bulb. Additionally, CFL bulbs can be recycled at the Municipal Yards Facility at 1390 Willow Road during normal business hours.

February 2020 EFC Communications Content

1. EFC Green Awards Application Reminder

E-blast Newsletter

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2. Environmental and Forestry Commission Green Tip: Think Before You Buy

Weekly E-Newsletter

Our normal shopping habits may be adversely impacting our environment, and we may not even know it. You can make a big change by being environmentally conscious when shopping. For instance, we can implement the following waste reduction principles while shopping:

- Prepare a shopping list before buying so as to avoid purchasing more than needed.
- Family-sized product has less packaging and costs less.
- Buy products with minimal packaging that can reduce wasting resources.
- Reuse the packaging materials, such as plastic bag, paper bag, plastic box, paper, ribbon, etc.
- When buying, remember to bring your own shopping bag.
- Only buy items that are actually needed.

3. Environmental and Forestry Commission Green Tip: Think Before You Pack

Weekly E-Newsletter

Travel, as much fun it is, can also make your eco footprint on this world a few sizes larger than it would be if you just stayed at home. There are a lot of small changes you can make to become a greener traveler. Below are a few tips to keep in mind when travel to help you leave a smaller footprint:

- Pack what you will actually need
- Take reusable items
- Invest in quality
- Use chemical-free toiletries
- Bring a reusable water bottle