



SUSTAINABILITY RESOURCES FOR MUNICIPALITIES

Sustainability (General)

ICLEI- Local Governments for Sustainability

www.iclei-usa.org

ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) is a membership association of local governments committed to advancing climate protection and sustainable development. At ICLEI USA the mission is to build, serve, and drive a movement of local governments to advance deep reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and achieve tangible improvements in local sustainability.

Sustainable Communities Network

www.sustainable.org/

Identifies and disseminates resources on sustainability. Web site contains information resources including case studies on community initiatives toward sustainability, organized by the following themes: creating community, smart growth, growing a sustainable economy, protecting natural resources, governing sustainability and living sustainably.

Center for Resilient Cities

<http://sub.resilientcities.org/content/Home/tabid/36/Default.aspx>

Works to help residents and public servants create healthy, high-quality environments. We build the capacity of urban communities to create and preserve green infrastructure networks that improve the natural environment, citizen health, and economic opportunities.

A Green Playbook for Local Governments

www.greenplaybook.org/

US EPA- Green Communities

www.epa.gov/greenkit/

Offers tools and information on the best strategies, programs and policies to reduce your environmental footprint. A 5-step environmental planning framework leads you to a greener, sustainable future.

STAR Community Index

<http://www.iclei-usa.org/programs/sustainability/star-community-index>

The STAR Community Index is a national, consensus-based framework for gauging the sustainability and livability of U.S. communities. STAR is currently being developed through a partnership between ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), and the Center for American Progress (CAP), and will be launched by 2010. Much as **LEED**[™] transformed the building industry, STAR will transform the way local governments set priorities and implement policies and practices to improve their sustainability performance. It will become the definitive means by which local governments measure and “certify” their achievements.

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency

Clean Air Cool Planet- Community Toolkit

http://www.cleanair-coolplanet.org/for_communities/toolkit_home.php

Toolkit to assist communities in implementing sustainable policies and projects. This Web-based how-to guide for municipal staff and elected or appointed representatives provides:

- Step-by-step project guides
- Important contacts
- Financing mechanisms
- Cost implications
- Model ordinances

Sierra Club- Cool Cities Program

<http://www.coolcities.us/>

Cities that have made a commitment to curb global warming by signing the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement. Begun in 2005, the Cool Cities campaign empowers city residents and local leaders to join and encourage their cities to implement smart energy solutions to save money and build a cleaner, safer future.

Climate Action Handbook/U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

<http://www.usmayors.org/climateprotection/>

<http://www.icleiusa.org/action-center/planning/climate-action-handbook/view?searchterm=mayors>

The Climate Action Handbook offers examples of actions that local governments can take to reduce global warming emissions and implement the commitments for climate protection called out in the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement (MCPA). The Handbook demonstrates that climate protection does not necessitate entirely new government operations. It is a matter of streamlining and making modifications and improvements to many of the systems and operations a community already has in place.

The Climate Registry

<http://www.theclimateregistry.org/index.html>

A nonprofit organization that provides meaningful information to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Climate Registry establishes consistent, transparent standards throughout North America for businesses and governments to calculate, verify and publicly report their carbon footprints in a single, unified registry. There are currently 299 member organizations.

The Center for Climate Strategies

<http://www.climatestrategies.us/>

CCS is a nonpartisan, nonprofit partnership organization that helps public officials, private stakeholders, and technical experts develop and implement strategies to reduce greenhouse gas pollution and adapt to a changing climate. See the "Policies that Work" section of their Web site for examples of municipal actions and policies related to transportation and land use, energy efficiency and conservation, forest and farm conservation, etc

Pennsylvania Clean Energy Communities Campaign

<http://communities.trfund.com/>

Assists communities in the purchase and support of clean energy.

Energy Star (U.S. EPA)

Energy Star for Local Governments

http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=government.bus_government_local

Through ENERGY STAR, EPA provides a platform that can be leveraged to promote energy efficiency throughout any community. Local governments, membership organizations, and others can use the process to employ ENERGY STAR tools and resources in their energy improvement efforts.

Energy Star Certification

http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=business.bus_bldgs

Energy Star certification is available for commercial and industrial buildings that rank in the top 25% nationally for energy performance.

ENERGY STAR Challenge for Communities

www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=challenge_community.showIntroduction

Portfolio Manager

http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=evaluate_performance.bus_portfoliomanager

Portfolio Manager is an interactive energy management tool that allows you to track and assess energy and water consumption across your entire portfolio of buildings in a secure online environment. Whether you own, manage, or hold properties for investment, Portfolio Manager can help you set investment priorities, identify under-performing buildings, verify efficiency improvements, and receive EPA recognition for superior energy performance.

The U.S. Department of Energy database of incentives for renewable energy and efficiency has detailed information on state and local incentives and funding programs.

www.dsireusa.org/

U.S. Department of Energy Funding for Energy Efficiency

www.eere.energy.gov/financing/

The U.S. Department of Energy's Technical Assistance Program offers expert consultation to local governments on renewable energy and energy efficiency.

www.eere.energy.gov/wip/tap.cfm

Renewable Energy

The American Wind Energy Association (AWEA)

<http://www.awea.org/smallwind/>

Information on small wind turbines that can produce power for individual homes, farms, and small businesses.

American Solar Energy Society (ASES)

<http://www.ases.org/>

National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

<http://www.nrel.gov/>

Basic information on renewable energy technologies including wind, solar, and geothermal.

Green Building and Procurement

U.S. Green Building Council- LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)

<http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CategoryID=19>

LEED is a Green Building Rating System developed by the US Green Building Council that provides a suite of standards for environmentally sustainable construction. Both new construction and renovation/retrofit projects can apply to become LEED-certified by an independent third-party LEED-accredited professional. Currently, LEED standards have been established for:

- New construction
- Existing buildings: operation & maintenance
- Commercial interiors
- Core and shell
- Schools
- Homes
- Retail (in progress)
- Healthcare (in progress)
- Neighborhood development (in progress)

GreenSpec®-listed green building products

www.buildinggreen.com/menus/index.cfm

Building Materials Reuse Association National Directory

www.buildingreuse.org/

EPA Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines material supplier database

http://cpg.epa.tms.icfi.com/user/cpg_search.cfm

Green Building Pages, an online resources and green product locator

www.greenbuildingpages.com/

Forest Stewardship Council sustainable forest products/green building Web site

www.fscus.org/green_building/

The ENERGY STAR qualified products directory lists energy efficient building technologies (e.g., heating, cooling, electrical, insulation and windows).

www.energystar.gov

Greenguard Environmental Institute's Greenguard Product Guide

www.greenguard.org/Default.aspx?tabid=12

Green Seal's lists of environmentally certified products (windows and doors)

www.greenseal.org/findaproduct/index.cfm

Land Use

Smart Growth Principles

www.smartgrowth.org/

Sustainable Community Development Code

<http://www.law.du.edu/index.php/rmlui/sustainable-community-development-code>

Examples of specific actions local governments can take through their land use planning and policies to work towards community sustainability.

Sustainable Sites Initiative

<http://www.sustainablesites.org/>

The Sustainable Sites Initiative is an interdisciplinary effort of multiple national non-profit organizations to create voluntary national guidelines and performance benchmarks for sustainable land design, construction and maintenance practices. The Sustainable Sites Initiative was created to promote sustainable land development and management practices that can apply to sites with and without buildings.

LEED-ND

<http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CMSPageID=148>

New version of the LEED green building rating system that goes beyond the individual structure level and rates entire neighborhoods/developments.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development offers incentives for redevelopment via its Home Ownership Zones.

www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/affordablehousing/programs/hoz/

Transportation

The U.S. Department of Transportation offers several programs to assist rural areas and small communities, such as the Transportation Toolbox for Rural Areas and Small Communities and Urban Partnership Agreements.

<http://ntl.bts.gov/ruraltransport/toolbox/>

www.upa.dot.gov/

The U.S. Department of Transportation has information on how to get funding for bicycle and pedestrian projects.

www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/bp-broch.htm#funding

Complete Streets

<http://www.completestreets.org/index.html>

Complete streets are designed and operated to enable safe access for all users. Instituting a complete streets policy ensures that transportation agencies routinely design and operate the entire right-of-way to enable safe access for all users. Places with complete streets policies are making sure that their streets and roads work for drivers, transit users, pedestrians and bicyclists, as well as for older people, children and people with disabilities.

Water Resources

Stormwater PA

<http://www.stormwaterpa.org/>

StormwaterPA is a collaborative effort that highlights stormwater management innovations. Content is derived from experts working throughout the Commonwealth and provides a new way of looking at solutions that are at work in the field.

Center for Watershed Protection

<http://www.cwp.org/>

The Center for Watershed Protection works to protect, restore, and enhance our streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands and bays. They create viable solutions and partnerships for responsible land and water management so that every community has clean water and healthy natural resources to sustain diverse life.

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

<http://www.nrdc.org/water/default.asp>

Waste Management and Recycling

RecycleBank

<https://www.recyclebank.com/>

Members of the RecycleBank program can earn Points by curbside recycling and recycling e-waste. In the curbside program, your RecycleBank cart will be weighed each week upon pick-up. The weight will then be translated to RecycleBank Points. The more you recycle the more your household can earn. In a few select communities, households earn rewards based on their equal share of the total amount that their entire community recycles.

The waste section of EPA's Web site offers information on all types of waste opportunities, educational resources and programs to dispose of, reduce, reuse and recycle things found in the waste stream.

www.epa.gov/epawaste/index.htm

EPA Waste Assessment Web site offers information on evaluating what is thrown away and what is recycled in your community.

www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/conserves/onthego/program/assess.htm

Decision Makers' Guide to Solid Waste Management aims to provide cost-effective solutions to solid waste management that protect quality of life and the environment.

www.epa.gov/osw/nonhaz/municipal/dmg2.htm

EPA's "Pay As You Throw (PAYT)" program offers several resources for local officials looking to implement a PAYT program. www.epa.gov/payt/intro.htm

www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserves/tools/payt/states/index.htm