



# Peoria County Sustainability

# Progress Report



2015





Key:

Exceeded Goal



Met Goal



Have Not Met Goal



Peoria County integrates sustainability, stewardship, and resource conservation into our operations and services. We continue to make decisions to improve the long-term quality and regenerative capacity of the environmental, social, and economic systems that support our organization. We engage in pollution prevention activities and develop and promote practices that maximize beneficial - while minimizing harmful - effects on the environment. We develop and implement performance measures to assess the environmental impacts of our operations, activities, and services.

## Buildings and Construction



Peoria County builds, owns, maintains, and operates a variety of buildings and facilities, including a museum, courthouse, jail, detention center, nursing home, health department, and office space. A sustainable building is designed, built, renovated, operated, or reused in an ecological and resource-efficient manner.

- Courthouse lowrise roof replaced with more efficient material
- Courthouse HVAC upgrades: ongoing
- Juvenile Detention Center lighting upgrades: ongoing
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- Jail exterior lighting - 2012 and 2013; ongoing
- Highway Department North Station lighting upgrades: 2013
- Energy mizers installed on vending machines: 2013
- Heddington Oaks opened 2013; LEED Gold certification: 2014
- Peoria Riverfront Museum opened 2012; LEED Gold certification: 2013
- Roofing material recycled from Highway Department building: 2013
- Jail installed Photovoltaic solar panels: 2014
- Repurposed Bel-Wood building for Highway Department: 2014

# Sustainability

## Operations



Day-to-day activities significantly impact the amount of resources consumed by an organization. Facility management and best practices can improve building and fleet performance by reducing the negative impact on building occupants and the environment.

- Integrated Civil Criminal Justice System software upgrade: 2013 - 2015
  - Jail, JDC, and Courts greatly reduce paper on intake and throughout processing
- Reduction of paper usage at County facilities: ongoing
- Public records scanned by Recorder of Deeds and County Clerk: ongoing
- Beet juice used as pre-brine on slick winter roadways: beginning in 2010
- Roadway salt use minimized: ongoing
- Participated in the Illinois Sustainable Tech Center's Green Office Challenge - 5th place overall: beginning 2015

## Land use



Landscape design and maintenance of open spaces should take into consideration alternative approaches to reduce mowing and its associated emissions and fuel usage. Proper care and maintenance of County-owned land will reduce possible pollution and storm water runoff.

- Juvenile Detention Center installed native plantings: 2012 & 2013
- Specific right-of-way trimmings composted
- Reduced roadside mowing program: beginning in 2014, expanded in 2015

## Purchasing



Sustainable purchasing reduces use of natural resources and hazardous materials, and conserves financial resources by lowering replacement and disposal costs.

- Cooperative purchasing power pursued with various governmental agencies
- Purchasing policy updated to include sustainable construction and demolition: 2013
- Contract management system installed: 2015
- Pilot program for use of remanufactured toner cartridges: 2015

## Employees



The daily activities and choices employees make have a significant impact on the amount of resources an organization uses. Educating employees and soliciting feedback from them is critical to the success of this plan.

- Employee Green CREW forms - **C**onserving **R**esources and **E**ducating **W**orkers: 2011
- Employee engagement in battery and CFL recycling: ongoing
- Annual holiday light recycling
- Sustainability presented at new employee orientation monthly
- Employee fluorescent tube collection event: 2015
- County FreeCycle established: 2013
- Courthouse farmer's market: beginning 2013, expanded 2015

## Solid Waste



The benefits of using resources wisely and reducing waste go beyond preserving the environment. Reducing waste also cuts costs and improves efficiency.

- Highway Department roof recycled: 2013
- Comingled recycling programs at Highway Department and Bel-Wood (continuing at Heddington Oaks): beginning 2012
- Reuse and recycling of construction and demolition materials at Peoria Riverfront Museum: 2011
- Reuse and recycling of construction and demolition materials at Heddington Oaks: 2013 - 2014
- Reuse and recycling of deconstruction and demolition materials at Bel-Wood: 2015
- Consolidated paper recycling program at Courthouse: 2015