



Remote Earth Day 2021

SHOWCASE OF IDEAS & RESOURCES FOR MUNICIPALITIES

Sustainability Ideas and Resources



Suggested actions are intended for municipalities to promote to their residents



Encourage Residents act on their own:

- To benefit themselves – personal health, cost savings
- For enjoyment and education
- Demonstrate & measure results



Connect residents to existing programs and resources



Demonstrate ongoing commitment to sustainability



Engage the community in climate change

Inform about air pollution action days

Good 0-50	Air quality is considered satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk.
Moderate 51-100	Air quality is acceptable; however, for some pollutants there may be a moderate health concern for a very small number of people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups 101-150	Members of sensitive groups* may experience health effects. The general public is not likely to be affected.
Unhealthy 151-200	Everyone may begin to experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects.

- Why?
 - protect personal health
 - Raise awareness of air pollution
- Who? IEPA & USEPA
- How?
 - Promote Enviro Flash Sign up
 - <http://www.illinois.enviroflash.info/>
- Subscribers get air quality alerts

Promote local goods and services
Promote the economic prosperity of the community



Economic Development
ED8, ED11

Shop Local

- Each household received four \$10 coupons to be spent at:
 - Local businesses
 - On residents' water bills



- Why?
 - Spur local spending & relieve household burden
- Who?
 - Wood Dale City Council thought of the idea.
 - 24 restaurants participated →
- How?
 - CARES Act funding





Collaborate to educate the community about clean energy options

Host a virtual utility bill clinic


- Why?
 - Help residents to:
 - Save money
 - Become more aware of energy efficiency and energy assistance programs
 - Reduce carbon footprint
- Who?
 - Citizens Utility Board (CUB)
- How?
 - Contact Outreach Coordinator Joe Giamberdino at jgiamberdino@citizensutilityboard.org to set up a clinic in your community.
 - CUB will manage the event (e.g., registrations, designing a promotional flyer, running the event on Zoom, etc.). Communities can help promote the event.





Collaborate to educate the community about clean energy options

Host a virtual utility bill clinic – flyer examples





One-on-One Bill Consultation

Monday, October 12th
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

To register, visit the link below:
<https://tinyurl.com/y4annyhq>

Join Citizens Utility Board (CUB) and State Senator David Koehler for a free one-on-one utility bill consultation!

During the event, you will receive individualized recommendations to reduce your energy costs, and make your home more comfortable.





One-on-One Utility Bill Consultation

Join Citizens Utility Board and Representative Anna Moeller for a virtual bill clinic about reducing your utility costs!

Monday, February 1st
5:00PM - 7:00PM

To register, visit:
<https://tinyurl.com/yd2ekv9v>





Collaborate to educate the community about clean energy options

Share energy saving info with residents

- Why?
 - Easy way to help residents save energy and money
 - Communications materials at our website, which means minimal work for municipalities
- Who?
 - Metropolitan Mayors Caucus
- How?
 - Go to:
<https://mayorscaucus.org/residential-energy-efficiency-assistance-programs/>
 - Share info with residents
 - Contact me if you'd like to join the email list: cscott@mayorscaucus.org

ONGOING PROGRAMS

ComEd Free Home Energy Assessments

ComEd offers free in-person or virtual **home energy assessments** for single-family homes, two-flats, condos, and townhomes. Renters in these building types are eligible, with permission from their landlord. ComEd also offers **multi-family building energy assessments** for landlords or property managers.

The assessment includes a free inspection to determine energy-saving opportunities, a personalized assessment report, and free energy-saving products. The free products ComEd offers are LED bulbs, energy-efficient showerheads and aerators, hot water pipe insulation, and programmable thermostats. Smart thermostats are available for purchase at a discount. ComEd energy advisors will install the products at no cost during in-home assessments and will send the customer products during virtual assessments.

For more details, go to the **ComEd Energy Assessments** webpage. To schedule an assessment, call 855-433-2700.

Communications materials:

[Sample Social Media Posts](#)

[Sample Social Media Image](#)



ComEd Hourly Pricing

Enroll in ComEd's **Hourly Pricing** program to pay a rate based on hourly market prices for electricity rather than a fixed electric rate. This program can be particularly good for those who pay more than \$50 for their monthly electric bill, heat their homes with electricity, charge their electric vehicle at home, or are able to shift their electricity use to off-peak times. Hourly pricing also helps decrease a household's carbon footprint and reduces stress on the power distribution system during peak times. Additionally, the program offers a personalized online account to track energy savings.

For more details, visit ComEd's **Hourly Pricing** webpage. To enroll, apply **online** or call 1-888-202-7787 to speak with a rate specialist.

Communications materials:

[Graphic](#) – for use in newsletter or social media

[Sample Newsletter Articles](#)

[Sample Social Media Posts](#)

[Sample Water Bill Messages](#)



Energy E2

Collaborate to educate the community about clean energy options



Home energy assessments

- Why?
 - Help residents save energy and money
 - Free energy-saving products installed (or mailed, if virtual assessment)
- Who?
 - ComEd and natural gas utilities
- How?
 - Go to:
<https://mayorscaucus.org/residential-energy-efficiency-assistance-programs/>
 - Share info about in-home energy assessments with residents
 - To schedule assessment: Call ComEd at 855-433-2700.

Your energy-saving products

You're already on your way to saving energy. Here are the free and discounted energy-saving products we installed to help you lower your monthly bill.

Free Products	Qty.	Item	Annual Savings*
	0	WaterSense® Certified Aerators	-
	1	WaterSense® Certified Showerhead	\$8.07
	0	Discounted Smart Thermostat	-
	6	Pipe Insulation	\$1.83
	0	Programmable Thermostat	-
	26	ENERGY STAR® Certified Specialty LEDs	\$83.10
	0	ENERGY STAR® Certified Standard LEDs	-

Discounted Products	Qty.	Item	Annual Savings*
	0	Discounted Smart Thermostat	-
	0	Advanced Power Strip	-

Annual ComEd savings
777 kWh (kilowatt hours)
Annual Nicor Gas savings
27 therms
Annual water savings
1,750 gallons

**Total estimated
annual energy
savings:**

\$107

*Individual cost savings are not guaranteed and may vary based on weather, energy and utility charges and usage habits.



Sustain beautiful landscapes that also provide ecosystem services

Encourage planting & registering of pollinator gardens



- Why?
 - Document and measure action
- Who?
 - Pollinator Partnership
- How?
 - Register personal or public garden online <https://www.pollinator.org/mpgcmmap/register#form>



Sustain beautiful landscapes that also provide ecosystem services

Encourage planting & registering of pollinator gardens



GETTING CERTIFIED

Landowners that practice good environmental stewardship and conservation of local resources are the heart of Conservation@Home and Conservation@Work. We award each Conservation@Home and Conservation@Work property a sign, identifying its certification as a wildlife haven and environmentally friendly landscape. Whether it's creating a butterfly or rain garden with native plants, using organic fertilizers

- Why?
 - Reflect well on your community
- Who?
 - The Conservation Foundation regional partners
- How?
 - Apply for certification
Conservation@home
Conservation@work
<https://www.theconservationfoundation.org/conservation-home/getting-certified/>



Promote sustainable transportation choices

Encourage residents to walk and bike



Vlg of Glen Ellyn
@VillageofGE

There is still time to join Village President Diane McGinley in #MoveWithTheMayor which kicked off Sept 1. Glen Ellyn has joined this virtual challenge with other DuPage Co municipalities including West Chicago, Bartlett, Glendale Heights & Hanover Park. bit.ly/2Zr4ANI



1:37 PM · Sep 10, 2020 · Sprout Social

- When?
 - Challenge runs in August to October
- Who?
 - The National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention
 - 2020 Participating Cities: Bartlett, Bloomingdale, Glen Ellyn, Hanover Park, West Chicago
- How?
 - Make the social media pledge and confirm participation via email
 - Mayors encourage their communities to be more physically active
- Why?
 - Lower chances of heart disease
 - Encourage residents to get outside and be active



Sustainable
Communities SC37

Cultivate community values based on principles of sustainability

One Earth Film Fest



- When?
 - March 5-14, 2021
 - Earth Week Mini Film Fest in April
- Why?
 - Films on sustainability:
 - Educate the public
 - Inspire/emotional appeal
 - Positive films overall, with actions people can take
 - After-film programs urge patrons to act
- Who?
 - One Earth Film Fest, a nonprofit
 - Municipalities, park districts, libraries or other jurisdictions can promote the events.
- How?
 - Promote the virtual fest in general or specific films relevant to your organization.



Fantastic Fungi

Louie Schwartzberg/2019/81 min/Wildlife, Conservation, Food & Agriculture, Waste

Sunday, March 14, 6:30 p.m.



Gather: The Fight to Revitalize Our Native Foodways

Sanjay Rawal/2020/83 min/Food & Agriculture, Historical Perspectives, People & Cultures, Social Justice

Saturday, March 6, 3 p.m.



The Great Green Wall

Jared P. Scott/2019/92 min/Climate Change, Health, Social Justice, People & Cultures

Tuesday, March 9, 6:30 p.m.



Together We Cycle

Arne Gielen and Gertjan Hulster/2020/70 min/Transportation, Climate Change, Social Justice, People & Cultures

Sunday, March 7, 11 a.m.



Engage the community in waste reduction and recycling

Waste less food

PARTNER KIT

ALL THE RESOURCES YOU NEED TO SEND
OUR MESSAGE AND HELP #SAVETHEFOOD.



SMART SHOPPING GUIDELINES

40% of food in the U.S. is never eaten. Careful shopping is the easiest way to way to save more food and dollars in your budget.



- Why?
 - Reduce waste stream
 - Save money
 - Help recover food
- Who?
 - NRDC & EPA
- How?
 - Partner Toolkit – digital resources

<https://savethefood.com/partner-kit/>

Engage the community in waste reduction and recycling

Recycle Right



Waste

DIRECTRICES PARA EL RECICLAJE

METAL
Envases de acero/aluminio y papel de aluminio

PAPEL
Cartón (aplanado), papel de oficina, periódico, revistas

VIDRIO
Botellas y frascos solamente

PLÁSTICO
Botellas, jarras, y recipientes de plástico solamente

ENVASES DE CARTÓN DE COMIDA Y BEBIDAS

¡SÍ!
Limpio y vacío
DEJE LAS TAPADERAS Y LOS TAPONES PUESTOS

No bolsas ni envolturas de plástico
(Limpie y regrese estas al comerciante donde las obtuvo)

No artículos grandes
(Electrónicos, madera, tanques de propano, deshecho metálico, o uniceil - Para otras opciones de reciclaje, visite a swalco.org y consulte a nuestra guía en línea "Where Do I Recycle This?" (¿Dónde reciclo esto?)

No artículos de ropa, textiles ni zapatos
(Visite a swalco.org para una lista de los sitios de colección de ropa, textiles, o sitios de colección de zapatos para reutilización)

No comida, líquidos, pañales, baterías ni agujas/jeringas

No coloque los reciclables en bolsas

YUCK

¡NO!

Para conocer más acerca del reciclaje en el Condado de Lake, Illinois, o informarse sobre qué hacer con los artículos que no pueden ser depositados en su contenedor de reciclaje (incluyendo otros programas de reciclaje y de reutilización), visite a swalco.org, o póngase en contacto con SWALCO al número 847-377-4950.

January 2019



- Why?
 - Reduce recycling contamination
- Who?
 - Solid Waste Agencies, IEPA, EPA
- How?
 - Share recycle right guide (bi-lingual)
<http://dataservices.epa.illinois.gov/recycle/curbside-bin-recycling-guide.html>
 - Virtual municipal recycling facility tour
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zgLW9CSvpRw>

MWRD Virtual Tour



Water W56



- Who?
 - Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD)
- What?
 - Find out how MWRD reversed the Chicago River and developed wastewater treatment technology.
 - Go behind the scenes and under water to see how MWRD transforms water.
 - Descend 300 feet into the deep tunnel system.
- When?
 - 1.25-hr tours on 2/19, 3/16, 4/14
- Why?
 - Free, educational, interesting
- How?
 - Sign up at: <https://mwrld.org/events>

Other ideas?

- Let us know in the chat and/or email us at cscott@mayorscaucus.org.
- We will put all ideas into a toolkit for communities.

