

SUSTAINABLE SAINT PAUL

INTRODUCTION

With approximately three-quarters of US residents living in cities, our nation's future relies on the well-being of our cities. In turn, the well-being of our cities depends on making them sustainable, liveable, viable, and vital. To this end, development must be balanced with the long-term health of the environment. Saint Paul is a leader and innovator in the field of environmental preservation and sustainable development.



INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS

TRANSIT / TRANSPORTATION

Saint Paul continues to develop transit policies and practices that emphasize public transit, car/van pooling, walking, biking, and over the automobile

- ◆ [Central Corridor](http://www.centralcorridor.org/index.asp) – Light Rail Transit <http://www.centralcorridor.org/index.asp>
 - Connects downtown Saint Paul and Minneapolis
 - One of the largest “unbuilt” transit corridors in the U.S.
 - The [Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority](#) (RCRRA) is the lead agency on Light Rail Transit (LRT) development, which will connect Union Depot in Saint Paul to the Metrodome in Minneapolis
 - Eleven stations will be built within Saint Paul
 - The estimated construction cost of the Central Corridor LRT line is \$840 million

- ◆ Union Depot – <http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/rail/docs/LTKsummary.pdf>
 - Pursuant to the Federal highway bill passed by Congress in 2005, Saint Paul received \$50 million to convert the Union Depot in Downtown Saint Paul into a regional transportation hub
 - The City and the [Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority](#) (RCRRA) are negotiating the acquisition of the concourse and platform from United States Postal Service and hope to conclude negotiations by the end of 2005
 - The RCRRA has sponsored the [LOCATE Task Force](#) (<http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/rail/UnionDepot.asp>) since 2002 to determine how well the Union Depot’s head house, concourse and platform could accommodate various forms of public transportation
 - A study concluded that Union Depot will accommodate:
 - ✓ One set of tracks for AMTRAK
 - ✓ Two sets of freight tracks
 - ✓ Three sets of commuter rail/high-speed rail tracks
 - ✓ Two sets of LRT tracks
 - ✓ One bay for taxis, airport shuttles and limousines
 - ✓ One bay for express buses
 - ✓ One bay for local buses
 - ✓ One bay for Greyhound and Jefferson Lines buses

- ✓ Space for bicycles

◆ Metropass

- The Metro Transit Metropass program promotes public transportation through deeply discounted annual transit passes
- Currently, 3,000 downtown Saint Paul employees participate in the program, which offers unlimited transit system rides within the metro area
- Employers pay 50% - 90% of the cost of the program by subsidizing the program for their employees
- The City of Saint Paul offers its employees Metropass
- Employers receive a tax break for joining the Metropass program

◆ HOURLCAR Car Sharing - <http://www.hourcar.org/index.html>

- Unique car-sharing program developed by Saint Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium (NEC)
- Launched in 2005 with 240 members and twelve new hybrid vehicles distributed among hubs in Saint Paul and Minneapolis
- First and only car-sharing fleet in the United States consisting entirely of fuel-efficient gas-electric hybrid vehicles
- Reduces traffic congestion, improves air quality, and saves members money by spreading the cost of ownership across many drivers
- Studies of North American car-sharing organizations show that an average vehicle in a car-sharing fleet replaces up to 20 privately-owned vehicles
- The City of Saint Paul supports HOURLCAR by providing deeply discounted parking rates for HOURLCAR vehicles in two city-owned parking ramps
- HOURLCAR members may save several thousand dollars each year by car-sharing
- The unique dual rate structure allows a member to choose a plan that will save him/her the most money

◆ Bicycling and Walking in Saint Paul

- The City of Saint Paul has within it nearly 75 miles of paved State and City trails, including the Bruce [Vento Trail](http://ronsplace.org/2003/Swede_Hollow_Vento_Trail/) (http://ronsplace.org/2003/Swede_Hollow_Vento_Trail/) and the [Gateway Trail](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_trails/gateway/index.html) (http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_trails/gateway/index.html) which are part of an extensive, interconnected, metro-wide network of bike/pedestrian trails that provide a pollution-free mode of transportation and recreation
- The Saint Paul Division of Parks and Recreation Maintains:
 - ✓ 101 miles of paved off-street trails
 - ✓ 30 miles of bike lanes
 - ✓ 10.8 miles of bike routes
 - ✓ 30.3 miles of striped shoulders
 - ✓ 24 miles of dirt trails
- The Division of Parks and Recreation employees a Bicycle-Pedestrian Coordinator
- The Bicycle Advisory Board
 - ✓ Appointed by the Mayor
 - ✓ Made up of citizen volunteers and representatives from Parks, Planning and Economic Development, Police, and Public Works
 - ✓ Promotes the use of bicycles and the expansion of Saint Paul's paved trail system
- Saint Paul Classic Bike Tour
 - ✓ Largest annual regional bicycle event in the northern states
 - ✓ Hosted by the Saint Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium and co-sponsored by the City of Saint Paul
 - ✓ More than 7,000 riders of all ages enjoy 31 miles of mostly traffic-free cycling on the City's trails and scenic boulevards
 - ✓ Organizers focus on using locally-produced, organic food and beverages; music is amplified using a solar generator; and 97.68% of potential "waste" materials are recycled or composted
- ◆ City Vehicle Efficiency Improvements
 - In 2006, the City of Saint Paul began phasing high-mileage and flexible-fuel vehicles into the City's sedan and light utility vehicle fleet
 - These vehicles will use environmentally-friendly bio-fuels, such as Ethanol-E85% and Biodiesel-B20%
- ◆ City of Saint Paul Internal Efforts

- Traffic signals in Saint Paul are regularly retimed by the Department of Public Works thereby minimizing delay and fuel consumption
- On many well-travelled streets, Public Works installs pavement markings made of reflective tape during street reconstruction projects or asphalt overlays, which eliminate the need to apply paint markings to these roadways for 5-7 years

CLEAN AIR

- Saint Paul [Urban CO2 Reduction Plan](http://www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/depts/tms/real/co2rednsumy.html)
<http://www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/depts/tms/real/co2rednsumy.html>
- Background:
 - ✓ The Minnesota [Pollution Control Agency](#) reports that:
 - ▶ CO2 emissions are increasing in Minnesota by an average of two percent per year
 - ▶ Increased use of electricity in homes, business, and industry is partially responsible
 - ▶ Increased use of electricity causes increasing greenhouse gas emissions from power plants
 - ▶ The five most polluting coal plants in Minnesota emit more than 33 million tons of CO2 each year
 - ▶ Automobiles are also responsible for global warming by creating 20 pounds of CO2 for every gallon of gasoline burned
 - ✓ The [Environmental Protection Agency](#) reports that:
 - ▶ the average minivan produces 16,800 pounds of CO2 each year
 - ▶ Average fuel economy in the 2001 fleet (20.4 miles per gallon) was the lowest of any year since 1980
 - ▶ If fuel economy was improved three miles per gallon, consumers would save up to \$25 billion a year in fuel costs, CO2 emissions would be reduced by 140 million metric tons per year, and America's dependence on foreign oil would be reduced by as much as a million barrels a day
- The Plan:
 - ✓ In 1992, the Cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis joined the [International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives](#) (ICLEI), an international network of 14 cities worldwide focussed on environmental/economic transition under the Urban CO2 Reduction Project
 - ▶ This project is the first global effort to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases
 - ▶ Saint Paul and Minneapolis co-founded the ICLEI Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, which enlists other cities to adopt policies and important measures to achieve quantifiable reductions in greenhouse gas emissions
 - ✓ In 1993, the City Council adopted the CO2 Reduction Plan, which was developed by a task force made up of individuals from several departments
 - ✓ The Plan's purpose is to:
 - ▶ Improve St. Paul's environmental and economic health

- ▶ Reduce energy consumption at 200 City work sites by installing energy-efficient equipment purchased with interest-free loans issued by Xcel Energy
 - ▶ Encourage recycling and waste reduction, equipment/lighting conversions, water treatment efficiency, sustainable storm water and wetlands management, forward-looking land use planning and neighborhood development, energy-efficient heating/cooling, and environmentally-friendly transportation options
- Implementation:
 - ✓ In 1993 the Saint Paul [Environmental-Economic Partnership Project](#) (EEPP) was initiated to implement the City's Urban CO2 Reduction Plan, a 20-year effort
 - ✓ Implementation of the CO2 Reduction Plan has resulted in significant economic and environmental savings and ultimately will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 960,000 tons of per year, at a total cost savings of \$59,000,000
 - ✓ In 2000, the ICLEI awarded the EEPP a [Local Initiatives Award](#) for its development and implementation of a comprehensive, long-term plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen the local economy
- ◆ Green Fleet Project
 - Established by [Clean Air Minnesota](http://www.cleanairminnesota.org/) <http://www.cleanairminnesota.org/>
 - Will purchase and install diesel retrofit equipment on school buses in Saint Paul, Minneapolis, Rochester and Duluth that will reduce pollution inside the bus to outdoor levels, dramatically reducing children's exposure to pollutants
 - Eventually, the program will install pollution-control equipment on at least 500 school buses across the state
- ◆ City of Saint Paul Internal Efforts
 - Public Works uses B20 (20% biodiesel) fuel in its diesel vehicles and equipment
 - Public Works currently owns 58 sedans that are E85 compatible and will continue to purchase only "flex-fuel" sedans
 - Vehicles are maintained and kept in good repair, which minimizes emissions and improves fuel economy

- The Public Works Department has a “No Vehicle Idling” policy, reducing tailpipe emissions and saving fuel
- Public Works uses hydraulic tools instead of gasoline-powered tools whenever possible

DEVELOPMENT

- ◆ The City of Saint Paul Department of [Planning and Economic Development](#) (PED) and the [Housing and Redevelopment Authority](#) (HRA) have implemented an [energy conservation policy](#) that requires:
 - Every developer undertaking a development in Saint Paul, in which public dollars have been invested, must meet with energy design consultants to discuss services that are available to make buildings more energy-efficient and cost-effective
 - ✓ Consultant Services include [Energy Design Assistance](#) (Xcel Energy) and [Peak Performance Homes](#) (Saint Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium)
 - For every development within the [District Energy](#) service area, the developer must meet with both District Energy and [Xcel](#) to learn about the services that each provides in order to make an informed decision about which provider to use
 - PED is working to link business opportunities generated by the [energy conservation policy](#) with qualified minority businesses that have the capacity and willingness to bid and perform

- ◆ Examples of PED Projects with Green Components:
 - The Market Lofts Condominiums and Indoor Farmers' Market include the following:
 - ✓ [District Heating and Cooling](#) in the Indoors Farmers' Market
 - ✓ The high-efficiency, well insulated building envelope is designed to be resistant to heat flow
 - ✓ Low Volatile Organic Chemical (VOC) paints and finishes throughout the condos
 - ✓ [Energy Star](#) rated furnaces and appliances in the condos
 - ✓ Programmable thermostats in the condos
 - ✓ High recycled content in concrete used in the development
 - ✓ Sheetrock used in the development contains recycled materials
 - ✓ Low-e energy-saving windows
 - ✓ Recycled and sustainably-harvested products offered to buyers as finish products, including granite, stainless steel, bamboo flooring
 - ✓ A rooftop storm-water retention system
 - ✓ Centrally located near transit lines and a shopping
 - The proposed redevelopment at Snelling Avenue and I-94 includes a Best Buy and Lowe's, both of which will undergo [Energy Design Assistance](#) (Xcel Energy) review and are considering solar-powered lighting for the parking lots

- The Rondo Community Outreach Library and 93 nearby housing units underwent [Energy Design Assistance](#) review (Xcel Energy) and incorporated the recommendations
 - The Dale Street Townhomes developed by the [Greater Frogtown Community Development Corporation](#), the [University of Minnesota's School of Architecture](#), and the [Wilder Foundation](#), incorporated an Oriented Strand Board (OSB) panel system, which uses wood from a wide-range of fast-growing species, thereby causing less impact on the environment than traditional stick framing
 - Redeveloping existing buildings, which is common in Saint Paul, as opposed to demolishing and building new ones, reduces the environmental impact
 - Transit oriented design, which is playing a larger role in planning and development efforts in Saint Paul, is key to making development sustainable
- ◆ The [Saint Paul Port Authority](#), the lead agency in industrial development in Saint Paul, has a [sustainable development policy](#) that:
- Requires every new building to undergo Xcel Energy's [Energy Design Assistance](#) program
 - Offers services to businesses, through [LHB Architects](#), that include an evaluation of material usage for increased durability, resource efficiency and cost effectiveness
 - Offers services through [Great River Greening's High Performance Site Design](#), which promotes native planting and enhanced storm water management
- ◆ Examples of [Port Authority](#) Projects with Green Components
- [Phalen Corridor](#):
 - ✓ 2.5 mile corridor
 - ✓ over a hundred acres of polluted land and blight cleaned up
 - ✓ \$600 million public/private investment
 - ✓ A public/private partnership with multiple City Departments ([Public Works](#), [Planning and Economic Development](#), [Parks and Recreation](#))
 - ✓ hundreds of new quality housing units for people at various income levels
 - ✓ 2,100 new jobs
 - ✓ New Transit and Transportation Improvements including Phalen Boulevard
 - ✓ New and improved parks and trails
 - ✓ Ames Lake, a reclaimed wetland and neighborhood amenity that replaced a dilapidated and blighted shopping center

DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT

- ◆ Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS)
 - Established nearly 125 years ago
 - Produces an average of 50 million gallons of drinking water every day and distributes it through a thousand miles of water main to more than 417,000 residents in Saint Paul and 14 surrounding communities
 - A conservation-based rate structure discourages excessive water usage during summer months
 - Ensures that water is not being wasted by operating a leak detection unit that identifies and locates leaks that need to be fixed
 - Capped the lime lagoon in Maplewood
 - Will operate a construction materials recycling site in one section of the lagoon and plant prairie grass and small trees on other areas of the 30-acre site
 - Maintains extensive forested areas in local watershed systems that were planted in the early 1900's and selectively thins the forests so they will continue to protect source waters and remain healthy
 - Promotes water and energy conservation at its own facilities
 - Works with Xcel Energy to reduce energy consumption because electricity and natural gas comprise nearly 30% of SPRWS's material and supply budget
 - ✓ Xcel Energy performed energy audits on SPRWS buildings and the McCarron's Center
 - ✓ SPRWS reduces energy usage during peak periods and even generates its own electricity, which allows it to continue operating during power outages
 - Worked with a local watershed organization (VLAWMO) to restore three wetlands that were drained
 - ✓ The State of Minnesota recognizes this project as a "Marquis" project of the Governors Clean Water Initiative
 - Partnered with the City of Minneapolis and the City of Saint Cloud to form the Upper Mississippi Clean Water Partnership program, with the goal of communicating the relationships between the Mississippi River's health and local drinking water sources and urging local watersheds to address drinking water issues
 - Restored the Lambert Creek Watershed area

- ✓ Selected by the Governor's Clean Water Initiative as a metro area clean water project
- The Saint Paul Regional Water Service's McCarron's Campus Expansion
 - ✓ Completed in September 2004
 - ✓ Consists of three separate buildings and major site improvements that bring administrative and crew employees together at a combined campus located in the City of Maplewood
 - ✓ Underwent Xcel Energy's Energy Design Assistance program
 - ✓ Installed
 - ▶ highly efficient interior lighting
 - ▶ natural daylighting
 - ▶ low-E glazing
 - ▶ highly efficient mechanical systems
 - ▶ storm water infiltration basins and native plantings to transfer storm water from the parking lot to the adjacent basin
 - ▶ native plantings of grasses, wildflowers, trees, and shrubs that reduce maintenance costs and improve biodiversity at the campus
 - ▶ a buffer of native plantings that runs along the edge of the campus that provides a visual screen and captures storm water before it enters the Trout Brook stream

◆ [The Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant](#)

- Located on the Mississippi River in St. Paul
- Largest wastewater treatment facility in Minnesota and one of the largest in the nation - averaging 215 million gallons of wastewater every day from 62 communities, 800 industries and over 2 million residents
- When it opened in 1938, it was the first plant in a metropolitan area on the Mississippi River
- The Solids Management Building (SMB)
 - ✓ Planned and developed by [Metropolitan Council Environmental Services](#) (MCES)
 - ✓ \$160 million investment
 - ✓ Began operations in 2004
 - ✓ Capacity to process 315 dry tons of biosolids per day
 - ✓ Three fluid-bed incinerators replaced an outdated six multiple-hearth incinerator system, thereby reducing pollutant emissions, cutting fuel consumption, and lowering operating costs
 - ✓ The new process recovers significantly more heat, which is used to produce steam for winter heating
 - ✓ The plant's highly-efficient turbine generation process produces more electricity than the old process, producing an average of three megawatts

of electricity, enough to meet 20 percent of the plant's power demands and power about 1,000 homes

- ✓ Enhanced air pollution control equipment removes almost 90% more pollutants and particulates from the air, including: metals, mercury, carbon monoxide, nitrogen, and sulfur oxides, as compared to pre-2004 emission levels
- ✓ The process uses about 80 percent less natural gas than the old system, which, based on natural gas price estimates from 2005, results in a savings of \$3 million a year
- ✓ Solids-dewatering equipment captures odors in centrifuges and neutralizes them through chemical and biological processes

RIVERS - LAKES - STREAMS AND WETLANDS

◆ Mississippi River

- [Great River Park Master Plan](http://www.riverfrontcorporation.com/1592.asp) -- <http://www.riverfrontcorporation.com/1592.asp>
 - ✓ Joint effort of the Saint Paul [Riverfront Corporation](#) (SPRC) and the City of Saint Paul ([Planning and Economic Development](#) and [Parks & Recreation](#))
 - ✓ Plan to develop parks, improve public infrastructure, and promote economic development along the Mississippi River
 - ✓ Four tenets of future river corridor development:
 - ▶ More urban
 - ▶ More green
 - ▶ Connect to the neighborhoods
 - ▶ Celebrate the River as a regional/national asset
- [Mississippi River Critical Area Zoning Amendments](#)
 - ✓ In 2004, the Saint Paul [City Council](#) created the Mississippi River Critical Area Task Force
 - ✓ Task Force Purpose is to update the City's zoning regulations for the Mississippi River Critical Area Corridor so they are consistent with the recommendations in the Mississippi River Corridor Plan
 - ✓ The regulations address:
 - ▶ building set-backs from bluffs
 - ▶ building heights
 - ▶ scenic views
 - ▶ tree preservation
 - ▶ protection of steep slopes and bluffs
- The Saint Paul [Division of Parks and Recreation](#) partners with Great River Greening, Friends of Parks and Trails, Friends of the Mississippi River, The Ramsey Soil and Water Conservation District and the West Side Citizens Organization to develop and implement plans to conserve the unique bluffs that tower above the Mississippi, reduce direct pollution into the river, restore degraded natural amenities, and ensure that people enjoy the bluffs responsibly

◆ Trillium Site

- Plan calls for day-lighting a stream that is currently buried in storm water pipes
- The stream will create wetlands and on-site park amenities, capturing all storm water at the end of streets and channelling it into wetlands that will cleanse the water before it is discharged into the storm sewer

◆ City of Saint Paul Internal Efforts

- In 2004, the City Council adopted the Storm Water Management Ordinance, which requires sediment and erosion control during construction and permanent storm water management for projects involving more than one acre of impervious surface
- Public Works designs bridge drainage structures that direct pollutants into detention basins and prevent pollutants from entering rivers and streams
- Public Works currently owns two regenerative-air street sweepers that minimize pollutants flushed into streams and rivers by stormwater
- Public Works uses environmentally-friendly, recyclable spill/cleanup products
- Public Works uses environmentally-friendly cleaning fluids
- Trucks with large hydraulic systems are stocked with recyclable oil spill kits that contain and clean oil spills
- Public Works and the Residential Street Vitality Program is working together to construct rain gardens, two of which are already complete near the Swede Hollow Café and Como Lake
- In the last ten years, Public Works has reduced its use of sand by over 90%, significantly reducing the amount of sand that flows into storm sewers, lakes, and rivers
- Parks and Recreation uses prescribed burning instead of herbicides to maintain native plantings
- Parks and Recreation removes aquatic weeds to improve water quality and animal habitat
- Parks and Recreation implemented a goose feeding ban to improve flock health, reduce nitrogen pollution in area lakes, and promote public safety
- Volunteers at Lake Phalen Boathouse installed a rain garden consisting of native plants
- Parks and Recreation reports pesticide use to Community Councils
- Parks and Recreation Well and Groundwater Management Program monitors well use history
- Mower decks on Parks' mowers are set at 3" to reduce the need for watering and mulching blades are utilized when possible
- Frequent mows eliminate the need for herbicide use

- Grass clippings are removed from impermeable surfaces, reducing the levels of nitrogen in area lakes and rivers
- Parks and Recreation implemented the Desnoyer Seep management plan along the Mississippi River Boulevard and initiated the floodplain forest restoration project at Crosby Farm Regional Park

NATURAL RESOURCES - PARKS AND RECREATION

- ◆ The [Saint Paul Division of Parks and Recreation](#)
 - Operates:
 - ✓ 101 parks
 - ✓ 41 recreation centers
 - ✓ three golf courses
 - ✓ two city pools
 - ✓ Como Zoo
 - ✓ the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory
 - Maintains
 - ✓ 450,000 trees
 - ✓ 101 miles of paved off-street trails
 - ✓ 30 miles of bike lanes
 - ✓ 10.8 miles of bike routes
 - ✓ 30.3 miles of striped shoulders
 - ✓ 24 miles of dirt trails
 - ✓ 160 unique garden sites
 - ✓ 150 hanging baskets
 - Is accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Park & Recreation Agencies (CAPRA)
 - ✓ One of only 59 park agencies nationwide to have received this accreditation and one of only three in Minnesota
 - ✓ For more information, visit www.nrpa.org.
 - Partners with Great River Greening, Friends of Parks and Trails, Friends of the Mississippi River, The Ramsey Soil and Water Conservation District and the West Side Citizens Organization to develop and implement plans to conserve the unique bluffs that tower above the Mississippi, reduce direct pollution into the river, restore degraded natural amenities, and ensure that people enjoy the bluffs responsibly
 - Employs two full-time Environmental Services staff members to maintain natural areas, environmental programs, environmental volunteer base, and partnerships with partner organizations
 - Enacted the following environmental management strategies:
 - ✓ Natural Resource Management Plans
 - ✓ Restoration of Como Lake and Lake Phalen shorelines utilizing native plants to anchor the lakeshore, prevent erosion, and provide food and shelter for fish and wildlife
 - ✓ Planting of native prairie shrubs at Mounds Park, Harriet Island, Lilydale Regional Parks, and Mississippi River Boulevard

- ✓ Establishment of a bluff management plan for the Mississippi River gorge and a Preliminary Restoration Plan for Pig's Eye Lake
- ✓ Management of storm water runoff on Harriet Island, including the use of bio-swales, so that it is captured and filtered through a biofiltration system before reaching the River
- ✓ Use of rain gardens in several areas of the City to filter the stormwater released into lakes and the River
- ✓ Monitoring and regulating insects and other pests to minimize the use of pesticides
- ✓ Eradication of invasive species
- ✓ The \$26 million [Como Park Visitor and Education Resource Center](#) underwent the [Xcel Energy's Energy Design Assistance](#) analysis, which resulted in:
 - ▶ the use of photovoltaic panels, recycled materials, and sustainably harvested interior wood finishes
 - ▶ the glass in Tropical Encounters is positioned to reflect the summer sun away and intensify the winter sun
 - ▶ rain runoff is collected and used to water plants
 - ▶ waste water from the Tropical Encounters exhibit is treated and reused
- Operates the North Dale Recreation Center which:
 - ✓ Utilizes high-efficiency heating and cooling units, dimmable fluorescent lighting, occupancy sensors for lighting control in restrooms, and earth sheltering for part of the building
 - ✓ Incorporates recycled ceramic tile in the kitchen
 - ✓ Used recycled bituminous in the gravel base for the parking lot, tennis courts, driveways, and walks
 - ✓ Recaptured storm water from the roof is used for infiltration in the play area sub-grade
- Undertook the addition and remodelling of the Griggs Recreation Center, which
 - ✓ has a high-efficiency furnace and hot water heater as part of the new mechanical system and long-lasting fluorescent lighting
 - ✓ incorporated recycled aggregate for the concrete slab base and recycled bituminous in the gravel base of the tennis courts
- Constructed the Highland Park toilet shelter building with
 - ✓ translucent plastic windows that utilize natural light, thereby minimizing the amount of artificial light required
 - ✓ energy-efficient fluorescent and metal halide light fixtures with lighting controls
 - ✓ low-maintenance, hard-wired infrared controls for all plumbing fixtures
 - ✓ high-efficiency furnaces and fans
 - ✓ long-lasting clay roof tiles and a natural stone facade that will keep maintenance costs down

- Manages the Wacouta Commons Dog Walk area that features
 - ✓ alkaline soil that neutralizes dog urine
 - ✓ urine-resistant trees
 - ✓ commercially harvested timberwood and recycled tires used to surface the play area site
 - ✓ on-site drainage that conserves water and limits runoff

- Is planning permeable parking lots and pathways that allow water to permeate through the pavement and be filtered

- Promotes “green roofs,” which reduce heating and cooling costs and reduce storm water runoff

- Plans to install benches and waste receptacles in Parks and Recreation Centers made from recycled materials

- Plans to use ethanol gas blends in City vehicles

- Uses large trash receptacles at parks and recreation centers, thereby reducing the frequency of emptying and the consumption of fuel

- Partners with volunteers to maintain natural areas and manage environmental projects, which include:
 - ✓ clearing, from a variety of bluffland habitats, invasive buckthorn and honeysuckle that inhibit the growth of native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers
 - ✓ the annual Spring Parks Cleanup which draws approximately 6000 volunteers

- Manages four golf courses and in doing so:
 - ✓ Introduces native plantings, reducing the use of water and chemicals
 - ✓ Establishes 12 to 16 foot buffer strips around ponds to reduce and filter runoff
 - ✓ Irrigates the Como Park Golf course using primarily reconditioned stormwater runoff
 - ✓ Composts grass clippings and weeds into the soil at the Como Park Golf course
 - ✓ Works with the University of Minnesota to control the goose population thereby reducing nitrogen pollution in area lakes
 - ✓ Mulches all leaves
 - ✓ Utilizes spot spraying of herbicides when applicable and utilizes environmentally-friendly herbicides
 - ✓ Encourages new bird populations through the use of birdhouses
 - ✓ Installs separate trash containers for metal, which is then recycled

◆ Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary

- Just east of downtown
- After a century of industrial use, the land lay vacant and blighted until a coalition of East Side and Lowertown residents, with the help of the City, launched an effort to purchase the land and transform it into the 27-acre Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary
- Bluff restoration work at the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary and Indian Mounds Regional Park began in April, 2004
- Today, project partners are restoring the land's ecology and working with Dakota people to interpret Carver's Cave/Wakan Tipi, a sacred area in a corner of the Sanctuary
- Stormwater that previously flowed into the Mississippi River via storm sewers, is now recaptured by native plants and is stored in three separate clear water ponds and adjacent wetlands
- Mulch, incorporated into existing sterile soil, promotes the growth of new plantings
- Limestone rock slabs previously used in railroad operations form a waterfall, stone bridge, stairway, and ponds
- Site remediation and stabilization work is ongoing
- Restoration priorities in 2005 focussed on combatting invasive species, slope stabilization, erosion control, and planting 7.5 acres of native trees

◆ Comprehensive Bluffs Management Plan

- The West Side Bluffs Task Force developed a comprehensive Bluff Management Plan for the western segment of the Mississippi River bluff
- Developed by neighborhood volunteers, Great River Greening, and the Parks and Recreation Division, this landmark Plan was finalized in 2003
- The Plan provides a framework for bluff maintenance and improvement based on a balance of ecological restoration, resource preservation, and recreational use
- Great River Greening's *Ecological Inventory and Vegetation Management Plan* is the foundation of the Bluff Management Plan

ENERGY & ENERGY CONSERVATION

◆ [Xcel Energy](#)

● [Wind Energy](#)

- ✓ One of the nation's leading suppliers of wind energy
- ✓ Generates about 1,100 megawatts of wind energy capacity in service
- ✓ Anticipates increasing output to more than 2,300 megawatts by 2007, including more than 1,000 megawatts each in Colorado and Minnesota
- ✓ The additional capacity would make Xcel Energy the nation's largest utility user of wind power
- ✓ Xcel's goal is add another 1,700 megawatts of wind capacity by 2012
- ✓ This additional wind energy and its voluntary emissions reduction program will result in a net reduction of 12 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions between 2003 and 2009
- ✓ Xcel is a leader in offering customers a choice in buying renewable energy
 - ▶ Through the [Windsource](#)® program, customers in Minnesota, Colorado and New Mexico can specify that part or all of their electricity be generated by the wind
 - ▶ Customers choose the number of 100 kWh blocks they want to buy
 - ▶ Because wind energy costs more to produce than electricity from conventional sources such as coal or gas, customers pay a slightly higher price for it
 - ▶ The Windsource® program is one of the largest voluntary wind power programs in the country

● Conservation

- ✓ [Conservation Improvement Programs](#) (CIP)
 - ▶ The City of Saint Paul and Xcel Energy have been working together for 15 years to introduce CIPs to city, school district, county, state government, and private sector buildings
 - ▶ Saint Paul CIPs include facilities energy conservation, retrofits, ENERGY STAR purchasing, street lighting, signal lamp conversion, pumping peak demand pricing, lime sludge dewatering, treatment chemical reduction, and private sector energy conservation
 - ▶ Estimated Annual Savings: 81,497 tons of CO₂ gasses and \$7,934,000 annually
- ✓ Citywide [Energy Audit](#) of Government Buildings
 - ▶ The [Weidt Group](#) conducted an energy-use study of 6,000 government buildings in Minnesota
 - ▶ The first phase of the project is to collect information about public buildings larger than 5,000 square feet
 - ▶ The information will be used to improve energy efficiency in the public buildings

- ▶ The second phase of the project involves analyzing the information and identifying buildings that are performing poorly
 - ▶ Departments with poorly performing buildings will budget for building improvements with assistance from Xcel Energy
- Xcel Energy High Bridge Power Plant Conversion to Natural Gas
 - ✓ The High Bridge Minnesota Metro Emissions Reduction Project (MERP) involves replacing the existing coal-powered facility with a natural gas-fired combined-cycle unit - a \$1 Billion undertaking
 - ✓ A natural gas-fired, combined-cycle plant produces electricity from two sources of energy instead of one making it about 30 percent more efficient than a traditional steam plant
 - ✓ The new unit will reduce sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and particulate matter by more than 90 percent, while mercury will be completely eliminated
 - ✓ Electricity output from the High Bridge site will be increased by 270-280 megawatts — enough electricity to supply almost 300,000 typical homes
 - ✓ The conversion is supported by a broad coalition of environmental groups - <http://www.me3.org/news/121803ns.html>
- ◆ District Energy Saint Paul -- <http://www.districtenergy.com/>
 - Owns and operates the largest hot water district heating system in North America
 - Has produced energy from renewable sources at a low cost for commercial and residential customers in Saint Paul since 1983
 - Serves 80% of buildings in downtown Saint Paul and adjacent areas, including the State Capitol Complex, all downtown city offices and 300 single-family homes
 - District Cooling began providing cooling service in 1993 and today serves about 60% of the buildings in downtown Saint Paul while continuing to expand its service area
 - System reliability exceeds 99.99 percent
 - The hot water district heating system is twice as efficient as the previous steam heating system in downtown Saint Paul, heating twice the square footage of building space with the same amount of fuel
 - Using District Energy, customers saved \$1,000,000 more in November 2005 alone than customers who used natural gas
 - Air emissions have been significantly reduced: 150 smokestacks, 50 cooling towers, and 300 chimneys have been eliminated in St. Paul

- The closed-loop distribution system eliminated the use of groundwater and chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) refrigerants in heating and cooling, thereby conserving an important natural resource and reducing the use of CFCs, which are destroying the Earth's protective ozone shield and are chiefly responsible for global warming
- Two chilled water storage tanks store water produced at night, using off-peak electricity, for daytime distribution to district cooling customers. Chilled water storage increases system efficiency and reliability, improves regional air quality, and reduces regional peak electric demands
- A combined heat and power (CHP) plant located adjacent to the facility is fueled by clean wood waste a form of biomass, a sustainable, renewable energy derived from plants and other organic matter. St. Paul's CHP Plant is the largest plant of its kind serving a district energy system in the U.S.
- The plant simultaneously produces heat and 25 megawatts of electricity making it more than twice as efficient as conventional electric power plants
- The plant reduces District Energy's reliance on coal 80%, reduces particulate emissions by 50 percent, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions by more than 280,000 tons
- Under a management agreement with the City of Saint Paul, [Environmental Wood Supply](#) operates the City of Saint Paul's Pigs Eye Wood Recycling Center - each year, 300,000 tons of wood waste from the recycling center is converted into biomass fuel for the Saint Paul co-generation facility
- [Market Street Energy](#), in partnership with [Cinergy Solutions](#), received a [2005 Environmental Initiative Award](#) for the wood-fueled CHP plant that provides heat to District Energy Saint Paul and electricity to Xcel Energy

◆ Energy Park District Energy System

- The [Saint Paul Port Authority](#) owns the [Energy Park Utility Company](#), an integrated energy system utilizing innovative technologies in energy production, conservation and management
- Energy Park Utility Company applies new and emerging technologies to the provision of heating, cooling and other energy services to Energy Park, a Saint Paul complex that includes housing, industrial buildings, and retail establishments
- Since 1997, Market Street Energy has managed the central heating and cooling system for Energy Park

- The systems in Energy Park are similar to those operated by [District Energy](#) in downtown Saint Paul
 - ✓ Water is heated or cooled at a central location and circulated through underground pipes to customers
 - ✓ The water then reaches heat exchangers, which provide heating or cooling for the building's internal distribution system
 - ✓ This provides numerous benefits to customers and the surrounding community, including energy savings, increased operating efficiency, and reduced pollution

◆ [Science House Experiment Center](http://www.smm.org/sciencehouse/) - <http://www.smm.org/sciencehouse/>

- Developed by The [Science Museum of Minnesota](#)
- 1.2 acre Science Park on the Mississippi Riverfront in downtown Saint Paul
- The zero-energy-consumption Science House contains:
 - ✓ A solar-powered classroom
 - ✓ An 8.4 kW photovoltaic laminate on standing-seam steel roof,
 - ✓ Passive solar design
 - ✓ Geothermal heat pump
 - ✓ High-efficiency south-facing windows
 - ✓ EarthScapes and WaterScapes, in the back yard introduces the public to landscape processes river dynamics, ground water, biodiversity, ecosystem productivity, horticulture, renewable energy, and energy efficiency

◆ Twin Cities Assembly Plant Hydroelectric Dam - Ford Motor Company

- Ford Motor Company's Twin Cities Assembly Plant is located in the Highland Park neighborhood of Saint Paul, along the lower banks of the Mississippi River
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers finished the dam in 1917, which was built in anticipation of hydro-power
- The promise of cheap hydro-power was the chief reason Henry Ford decided to build the plant in Saint Paul along the Mississippi
- Ford completed construction of the hydro-plant in 1924 at a cost of about \$1 million
- The power plant currently produces a maximum of 18 kilowatts of clean energy, of which the assembly plant uses about 13 kilowatts, enough to power 10,000 homes for a year
- The rest of the clean energy is sold back to the grid, to Xcel Energy

- The hydro plant provides \$4 million of direct benefit to the assembly plant each year

◆ City of Saint Paul Internal Energy Conservation Efforts

- City-operated Traffic Signals use LEDs that save a substantial amount of energy
- In 2004, Public Works replaced 30-year-old Air Conditioner units at the Traffic Operations building with new energy efficient units
- Public Works uses a computerized building management system that maintains proper heating and cooling temperatures
- All florescent lighting in the Public Works shop has been replaced with new, high-efficiency units which reduce power consumption
- Division of Parks and Recreation reduces use of personal space heaters by encouraging staff to dress appropriately on cold days
- The old four-stage chilling system at the Como Zoo “Seal Island” was replaced with a new high-efficiency variable-output chilling system

WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING

- ◆ [Eureka Recycling](http://www.eurekarecycling.org/Index.cfm) <http://www.eurekarecycling.org/Index.cfm>
 - Saint Paul's award-winning non-profit recycling program since 1991
 - A mission-driven nonprofit organization that looks beyond the bottom line to provide the best recycling services - balancing cost, convenience, and environmental concerns
 - Currently under a 13-year contract with the City of Saint Paul, which mandates recycling
 - A national leader in demonstrating the best waste reduction and recycling practices
 - Serves all of Saint Paul's 282,000 residents
 - The curbside program serves 84,621 households
 - Saint Paul is the largest U.S. city with a recycling program operated by a non-profit
 - Saint Paul is the one of the largest U.S. cities that provides recycling service to all of its apartment buildings, which range in size from 12 to 550 units
 - The amount of material collected has increased 10-fold since the program went citywide in 1986
 - Participation rates have increased from 15% to 62%
 - Recyclable materials are collected by Eureka's biodiesel-powered vehicles, saving 12,000 gallons of petroleum-based fuel each year
 - Recipient of the 2005 American Forest & Paper Association's National Small Business Paper Recycler of the Year Award
 - Recyclable materials collected by Eureka include cardboard, newspaper, junk mail, plastics, glass, office paper, steel cans, aluminum, and textiles
 - Preparing to collect organic materials like food scraps and non-recyclable paper in 2006
 - Initiated a paper-buying cooperative that combines many small paper orders into one large order to offer quality 100% recycled office paper at a reduced cost

- Initiated an internet-based exchange program that connects people who have free reusable items with people who want them, which has resulted in over 2,000 tons of reusable goods being diverted from landfills and incinerators
<http://www.twincitiesfreemarket.org/>.
- ◆ Compost / Brush Sites -
http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/ph/hy/Composting_and_Yard_Waste.htm

-
- In an effort to keep neighborhoods clean and divert organic material from landfills, Saint Paul partners with Ramsey County to expand services at compost sites
 - In 2004, 146,293 cubic yards of organic waste were diverted from landfills and delivered to compost sites in Saint Paul
 - Brush and trees are converted into fuel used by the [District Energy](#) co-generation plant

- In 2004, the first year that tree and shrub waste was accepted, 67,314 cubic yards of tree and shrub waste were collected by at the compost sites in Saint Paul
- In 2004, 78,979 cubic yards of leaves and grass were received at the four compost sites in Saint Paul
- Ramsey County has distributed more than 5,000 backyard composting units to residents of Saint Paul between 2001 and 2005.

◆ Annual Neighborhood Cleanup

- Orchestrated by the Saint Paul's 17 District Councils
- Residents pay a nominal fee to bring in tires, appliances, brush/tree limbs, batteries/scrap metals, asphalt, concrete, demolition/construction waste, items for reuse, electronics, and refuse
- Over 12,000 tons of material have been recycled or reused over the past 15 years, which amounts to a reduction of 7,000 tons of CO2 emissions

◆ City of Saint Paul Internal Waste Reduction Efforts

- Paper, cans, plastic bottles, glass and cardboard are recycled by in all City offices
- The Finance Division of Public Works sends management reports electronically rather than using paper, thereby saving at least two reams of paper each month
- Two divisions of the Public Works Department and the Finance Division are using 100% post-consumer content recycled paper
- The Department of Planning and Economic Development and the Office of License Inspections and Environmental Protection use exclusively 30% recycled paper
- Public Works refurbishes and reuses light poles that have been knocked down
- Public Works is replacing cardboard temporary parking signs that are used for only one special event with reusable signs that are used for multiple special events
- Sign materials and ink that Public Works uses last 15-18 years, much longer than materials used in the past
- Public Works reuses aluminum sign blanks by sanding and/or re cutting them - sign blanks that are not reusable are recycled

- Public Works replaces the batteries in parking meters only twice per year and is testing longer-lasting batteries
- Public Works uses recycled concrete as the base material for bridge approach pavement
- Public Works recycles all steel and concrete from demolition projects
- Public Works recycles the waste oil, oil filters, air filters, scrap metal, hydraulic fluids and batteries it uses
- The Public Works repair shop uses washable rags to reduce waste
- Leaves collected by Public Works during street sweeps are composted
- Public Works picks up, screens, and reuses all its seal coat rock.
- All asphalt collected as waste is recycled.
- The Division of Parks and Recreation recycles:
 - ✓ used antifreeze
 - ✓ motor oil
 - ✓ hydraulic oil
 - ✓ oil filters
 - ✓ sorbents
 - ✓ lead acid and dry cell batteries
 - ✓ toner cartridges
 - ✓ cell phones
 - ✓ scrap metal
 - ✓ propane cylinders
 - ✓ fluorescent lamp tubes and high pressure light tubes
 - ✓ paint and thinner
 - ✓ tires
 - ✓ scrap metal
 - ✓ electric ballasts that contain mercury
 - ✓ waste rags
 - ✓ concrete
 - ✓ refrigerant
 - ✓ computers, TV monitors, copiers, and appliances are recycled after hazardous materials are extracted from them
- Trash collected from Parks and Recreation Centers is converted into fuel for Xcel Energy power plant and does not go to landfills
- Parks staff use scrap paper for messages and notes
- All city tree material is composted and used to generate heat and electricity

- Saint Paul Regional Water Services requires its janitorial service to recycle and recycles its spent fluorescent lighting fixtures
- Saint Paul Regional Water Services recycles materials from construction activities
- Saint Paul Regional Water Services reuses asphalt and concrete as construction aggregate

POLICIES AND PRACTICES

- ◆ The City of Saint Paul [Comprehensive Plan](#) (the Plan) is replete with strategies concerning population density, walkability, transit options, brownfield redevelopment, environmental stewardship, noise pollution, solar power, water quality, and the City's natural beauty.

The Plan explicitly incorporates specific environmental policy statements among its several chapters.

- The [Land Use Chapter](#) stresses:
 - ✓ Maintaining the downtown as a vital city center
 - ✓ Preserving neighborhoods as urban villages
 - ✓ Promoting growth by redeveloping the City's corridors
 - ✓ Practicing environmental stewardship
- The [Transportation Chapter](#) stresses:
 - ✓ Increasing travel modes by improving transit options, bike routes and walkways
 - ✓ Travel demand management
 - ✓ Traffic calming
- The [Parks and Recreation Chapter](#) identifies:
 - ✓ Policies that protect green spaces and natural areas consistent with the City Charter's "[no net loss of parkland](#)" provision
 - ✓ Means to expand physical and visual access to the Mississippi River from neighborhoods throughout the City
- Environmental policy statements are found in more than twenty chapters of the [City Code](#)
- In 2004, the City Council adopted the [Storm Water Management Ordinance](#), which requires sediment and erosion control during construction and permanent storm water management for projects involving more than one acre of impervious surface
- No city has more shoreline along the Mississippi River than Saint Paul. The [Mississippi River Corridor Plan](#) stipulates the heightened environmental standards that the City and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will impose on areas along the Mississippi River
- In 1997, the City adopted the Saint Paul Sustainable Decisions Guide, which directed city departments to use specific environmental guidelines in the design, construction and management of city facilities. The [Minnesota Sustainable Design Guide](#) has since replaced the Saint Paul Guide. See: <http://www.stpaul.gov/depts/realestate/sustainable/>

- The [CO2 Reduction Plan](#) contains a detailed listing of City projects undertaken to reduce CO2 emissions by 20%. See <http://www.stpaul.gov/depts/realestate/co2rednsumy.html>

- ◆ Urban sprawl results in more highways being constructed, more fuel being consumed by vehicles driving on the highways, more pollution caused by the vehicles burning the fuel, and more green space being paved over for parking lots for the vehicles burning the fuel. Keeping our urban cores livable is a key strategy to slowing urban sprawl and thereby protecting the environment. Saint Paul has three urban redevelopment strategies intended to make the City more livable by creating quality jobs and housing.
 - Neighborhood redevelopment strategies/policies: Saint Paul and Minneapolis were among the first advocates for Smart Growth and affordable housing strategies in the metro region. The Saint Paul [Housing and Redevelopment Authority](#) (HRA) focuses on redeveloping blighted, contaminated, and underutilized properties in targeted neighborhoods. The HRA selectively uses its redevelopment powers to acquire, clear, remediate, and convey blighted residential and commercial properties for redevelopment by private developers and businesses. From 2002 to 2006, the Saint Paul Housing 5000 initiative invested over \$1 billion of private and public funding to build over 5000 new housing units. Twenty percent of these housing units are affordable to families with incomes at or below 50% of the area median income (AMI). At least half of that 20% is affordable to households at or below 30% of AMI. . See <http://www.housing5000.com/>

 - Industrial redevelopment strategies/policies: The [Saint Paul Port Authority](#) redevelops blighted, contaminated, and underutilized properties in industrial areas. Over the past 20 years the Port Authority has redeveloped hundreds of acres of blighted and contaminated land, creating 14 business centers for advanced manufacturing and service enterprises. These business centers increase the tax base and provide good paying jobs to residents of Saint Paul. See http://sppa.com/site_selection.asp

 - Transit oriented redevelopment strategies/policies: The Saint Paul [Department of Planning and Economic Development](#) (PED) plans long-term redevelopment projects, transforming areas along transit corridors to denser, mixed-use projects. In Saint Paul, Transit-Oriented Design is a successful and sustainable approach to urban development which will have even a greater impact as Light Rail Transit, Bus Rapid Transit, and commuter rail are developed in the City. See <http://www.stpaul.gov/depts/ped/uni.pdf>.

- ◆ City of Saint Paul Working Group on Environmental Sustainability - Sustainable Saint Paul Initiative
 - Created by a resolution authored by Council Member Lee Helgen and approved by the City Council and Mayor in July 2005

 - The interdepartmental group consists of individuals from:

- ✓ Public Works
 - ✓ Saint Paul Regional Water Service
 - ✓ Division of Parks and Recreation
 - ✓ Planning and Economic Development
 - ✓ Office of Financial Services Contract and Analysis Services
 - ✓ Office of Technology
 - ✓ License, Inspection and Environmental Protection
 - ✓ Council Research
- Work Group responsibilities include:
 - ✓ Website development
 - ✓ Develop goals for the Xcel Energy franchise negotiations
 - ✓ Evaluate characteristics of “green” cities and strive to make Saint Paul a green city
 - The Working Group is currently conducting an internal assessment of City practices and developing a web page

GET INVOLVED

- ◆ Saint Paul Division of Parks and Recreation
 - Community garden coordination – Farm in the City program teaches residents how to grow their own food
<http://www.stpaul.gov/depts/parks/environment/gardens/index.html>
 - Volunteer for Spring Parks Cleanup
<http://www.stpaul.gov/depts/parks/environment/parkscleanup/index.html>
 - Environmental Programs <http://www.stpaul.gov/depts/parks/environment/>
 - Park Stewards, Eco Stewards & Community Gardens
<http://www.stpaul.gov/depts/parks/environment/volunteer/>
 - A Guide to Memorial, Commemorative and Gift Programs with Saint Paul Parks and Recreation <http://www.stpaul.gov/depts/parks/administration/memorials.html>
 - Adopt an animal at Como Park Zoo
<http://www.comozooconservatory.org/czcs/adopt1.html>

- ◆ Incentives are available to individuals and businesses in Saint Paul that generate solar or wind power, including:
 - [Wind and Solar-Electric \(PV\) Systems Exemptions](#) excludes the value added to property by solar-electric (PV) systems from Minnesota property tax valuation
 - [Solar Sales Tax Exemption](#) exempts solar-energy systems from the state sales tax
 - [State of Minnesota Solar-Electric \(PV\) Rebate Program](#) is a program administered by the Minnesota Department of Commerce and funded by Xcel Energy that buys-down the up-front costs of grid-connected, solar-electric systems, with a maximum award of \$20,000 per system
 - [Solar and Wind Easements](#) are permitted under Minnesota law
 - Cities, counties, hospitals and schools are eligible for the [Energy Investment Loan Program](#), which buys down the loan principal to achieve 0% interest for any specific renewable energy, energy efficiency or energy conservation “capital improvement” in Minnesota with a simple payback of 10 years or less.
 - The Saint Paul [Neighborhood Energy Consortium](#) (NEC) provides many energy conservation services to the public, including energy audits and ENERGY STAR home consultation and certification. NEC also links people to solar power resources, such as financing for solar installation and information about tax

incentives for solar power.

AWARDS

- ◆ 2005 [Phoenix Award](#) Grand Prize for “Excellence in Brownfield Redevelopment”
 - Awarded by the [United States Environmental Protection Agency](#) - the highest level of recognition by the federal government, for “Excellence in Brownfield Redevelopment”
 - Awarded to The City of Saint Paul, the [Saint Paul Port Authority](#) and dozens of partners at the local, state, and federal level
 - The Port Authority worked with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the EPA to obtain federal government approval to limit the legal/financial liability of property owners who participate in a Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup Program for polluted redevelopment sites, leading to hundreds of acres being remediated and redeveloped
 - The City of Saint Paul’s efforts serve as a national model of recycling polluted urban land
 - <http://www.nyc.gov/html/hpd/html/pr2005/pr-09-01-05.shtml>
 - <http://www.phoenixawards.org/>
- ◆ 2005 [Phoenix People’s Choice Award](#)
 - Selected by 5,500 redevelopment professionals at the [United States Environmental Protection Agency](#) Conference
 - Awarded to the [Phalen Corridor](#)
 - Description of Project: “Many developers turn wetlands into shopping centers, the Phalen Corridor partners reversed the trend. The City of Saint Paul turned a distressed shopping center on the east end of the Corridor into an exciting new development that surrounds the recaptured Ames Lake Wetland. The new development includes attractive housing, a seniors’ residence, a state agency campus, and a Wells Fargo bank, a clinic and retail.”
 - See www.phalencorridor.org.
- ◆ 2005 [Take Pride in America Award](#)
http://www.doi.gov/news/05_News_Releases/050819_tp.htm
<http://www.mepartnership.org/sites/LOWERPHALENCREEK>
<http://www.americantrails.org/awards/tpiaawards05.html>
 - Awarded by the U.S. Department of the Interior

- Recognized volunteers who turned a former Saint Paul railroad yard and dump site into the 27-acre [Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary](#) along the Mississippi River
- The Sanctuary is a national model for municipalities that wish to transform former industrial land into green space
- ◆ 2005 [Environmental Initiative Award](#)
 - Awarded to [Market Street Energy](#), in partnership with [Cinergy Solutions](#), for the wood-fueled Combined Heat Power (CHP) plant that provides heat to District Energy Saint Paul and electricity to Xcel Energy
- ◆ 2005 [National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management](#)
 - Awarded by the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration and the National Recreation and Park Association for excellence in the field of recreation management
 - Awarded to the Saint Paul Division of Parks and Recreation
 - The Gold Medal, the most prestigious award of its kind, represents and honors the nation's outstanding park and recreation agencies in communities with more than 250,000 inhabitants for excellence in the field of recreation management, including:
 - ✓ long range planning
 - ✓ fiscal resource management
 - ✓ citizen support systems
 - ✓ environmental stewardship
 - ✓ preservation
 - ✓ technological integration
 - ✓ program planning and assessment
 - ✓ professional development
 - ✓ agency recognition
 - ✓ services for special populations
 - Other 2005 Class I finalists included:
 - ✓ The City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
 - ✓ The County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation
 - ✓ The Indianapolis Department of Parks and Recreation.
- ◆ 2005 National Small Business Paper Recycler of the Year Award
 - Awarded by American Forest & Paper Association
 - Awarded to Eureka Recycling, which provides citywide recycling services in Saint Paul

- 2003 Accreditation of Parks
 - Awarded by the Commission for Accreditation of Park & Recreation Agencies (CAPRA)
 - Awarded to the City of Saint Paul Division of Parks and Recreation
 - Saint Paul Parks and Recreation is one of only 59 park agencies to have received this accreditation nationwide and one of only three in Minnesota
 - For more information, visit www.nrpa.org.

- ◆ 2000 [Local Initiatives Award](#)
 - Awarded by the [International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives](#) (ICLEI)
 - Awarded to the City of Saint Paul's [Environmental-Economic Partnership Project](#) (EEPP) for its development and implementation of a comprehensive, long-term plan to reduce greenhouse gas (CO2) emissions and strengthen the local economy

PARTNERS

- ◆ The Saint Paul [Neighborhood Energy Consortium](http://www.spnec.org) <http://www.spnec.org> (NEC)
 - A nonprofit organization with strong neighborhood ties
 - Established in 1985
 - Provides many energy conservation services to the public throughout the Twin Cities and the Upper Midwest Region, including energy audits and ENERGY STAR home consultation and certification

- ◆ The [Saint Paul Port Authority](#)
 - Redevelops blighted, contaminated, and underutilized properties in industrial areas
 - Over the past 20 years the Port Authority has redeveloped hundreds of acres of blighted and contaminated land, creating 14 business centers for advanced manufacturing and service enterprises
 - These business centers increase the tax base and provide good paying jobs to residents of Saint Paul

- ◆ [District Energy Saint Paul](http://www.districtenergy.com/) -- <http://www.districtenergy.com/>
 - Owns and operates the largest hot water district heating system in North America
 - Has produced energy from renewable sources at a low cost for commercial and residential customers in Saint Paul since 1983
 - Serves 80% of buildings in downtown Saint Paul and adjacent areas, including the State Capitol Complex, all downtown city offices and 300 single-family homes
 - District Cooling began providing cooling service in 1993 and today serves about 60% of the buildings in downtown Saint Paul while continuing to expand its service area
 - System reliability exceeds 99.99 percent
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◆ Xcel Energy

◆ [Eureka Recycling](http://www.eurekarecycling.org/Index.cfm) <http://www.eurekarecycling.org/Index.cfm>

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- A mission-driven nonprofit organization that looks beyond the bottom line to provide the best recycling services - balancing cost, convenience, and environmental concerns
- Currently under a 13-year contract with the City of Saint Paul, which mandates recycling
- A national leader in demonstrating the best waste reduction and recycling practices

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

◆ The [Metropolitan Council](#)

- Operates the region's [largest bus system](#)
- Collects and treats [wastewater](#)
- Engages communities and the [public](#) in planning for future growth
- Provides [forecasts](#) of the region's population and household growth
- Provides affordable [housing](#) opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals and families

- Provides planning, acquisitions and funding for a regional system of [parks and trails](#)
 - Provides a [framework](#) for decisions and implementation for [regional systems](#) including aviation, transportation, parks and open space, water quality and water management
-
- ◆ Ramsey County
 - ◆ [Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority](#) (RCRRA)
(<http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/rail/index.htm>)