

THE INCREDIBLE ROC

A Sustainability Charrette for the City of Rochester



City of Rochester Sustainability Initiatives

Facilitator Version

Mission>>

As citizens and employees of the City of Rochester, we practice environmental leadership and act as environmental stewards. We are guided by the following principles: sustainability, conservation, restoration, compliance, leadership, & continuous improvement.

City of Rochester's Commitment to Climate Change>>

- [Climate and Environment Protection Resolution \(8/09\)](#)
 - Acknowledges the many activities the City has already undertaken
 - Paves the way for additional efforts that will position Rochester as a livable, green city.
 - City [Green Team](#) – Interdepartmental team with environmental mission; formed by Mayor Duffy.
- [Climate Action Plan \(funded by the EECBG\)](#)
 - Prepare city-wide GHG inventory as baseline for CO₂ emission reductions.
 - Plan serve to increase energy efficiency, reduce emissions, decrease air pollution, create jobs, and save money.
- [US Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement](#)
 - Mayor commitment to reduce city emissions below 1990 levels (comply with Kyoto Protocol).
- Participation in NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation [Climate Smart Communities](#)
 - A partnership of state and local governments whose goal is to combat climate change. The program encourages local governments to pledge on beginning a local climate protection program.
- [ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability](#)
 - Membership association of local governments committed to advancing climate protection and sustainable development.
- [The Climate Registry](#)
 - A nonprofit collaboration among North American states, provinces, territories and Native Sovereign Nations that sets consistent and transparent standards to calculate, verify and publicly report greenhouse gas emissions into a single registry.

Green Initiatives>>

- Government building HVAC upgrades, lighting efficiency upgrades, US Green Building (LEED) standards, employee education
- Purchase of energy generated by renewable sources
- Partnership between City, Cool Rochester, and other local organizations to reduce Rochester's CO₂ emissions by 1 billion pounds over 3 years.
- Greening the City's fleet with highly efficient and alternative fuel vehicles
- [Clean Sweep](#)
 - 15,000 volunteers working alongside City crews once annually to clean and beautify city streets.
- [Earth Day 2010 Events](#)
 - Celebrate the 40th anniversary of Earth Day by participating in one of many community events. While April 22 is the official day, events are being held throughout the month.
- [Environmental Cleanup and Brownfield Redevelopment](#)
 - The Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) manages environmental investigations and cleanup projects, coordinates environmental regulatory compliance, conducts environmental audits, provides analysis on a variety of environmental issues, and provides support and management for brownfield redevelopment projects.
 - [Environmental Cleanup Project- East Main Street \(former gas station\)](#)
 - [Environmental Cleanup Project: Mt. Hope Avenue and Ford Street](#)
 - [Brownfield Cleanup Project: Gregory Street \(former auto body shop\)](#)
 - [Brownfield Opportunity Area: South Genesee River Corridor \(former Vacuum Oil site\)](#)
- [Flower City days at the Market](#)
 - Flower City days at the Market are a paradise for novice and experienced gardeners who want to cultivate gardens guaranteed to earn them bragging rights. Over 250 local nurseries and growers put their best stock up for sale at the market.
- [Flower City Looking Good 2010](#)
 - The 2010 Flower City Looking Good program schedule packs in dozens of events and activities for all ages that showcase, immerse, and involve you in Rochester's superb natural and built environments.
- [Forestry Master Plan](#)
 - On Arbor Day, 2005, the City of Rochester released a forestry master plan entitled: "[City in a Forest: An Urban Forest Master Plan for the City of Rochester.](#)" Currently, the Forestry staff in the Department of Environmental Services strives to meet the expectations outlined in the plan.
- [Forestry Services](#)
 - The Forestry Division, located in the [Department of Environmental Services](#) , manages the care and maintenance of approximately 70,000 public trees located along City streets and in City parks and cemeteries.
- [Highland Park-Canalway Trail Project](#)
 - The trail is intended to: Connect Highland Park with the Erie Canalway Trail and the [Genesee Riverway Trail](#), Provide a safe pedestrian and bicycle route to Highland Park, Build a cost-effective, context-sensitive, community-valued trail, and Enhance the regional trail system.

- [Materials Give Back Program](#)
 - The Materials Give Back Program is a "green" way that the City of Rochester provides various recycled materials to city residents free of charge. Individuals use these materials for household landscaping or other improvement projects.
- [Project Green](#)
 - Project Green is a bold plan that would change the look and feel of Rochester by replacing vacant properties with vast swaths of green space.
- [Recyclable Materials](#)
 - Recycling is mandatory for all households, businesses, and institutions. The service is automatically provided to the City's commercial refuse customers.
- [Recycling of Holiday Trees](#)
 - Residential customers who wish to recycle their natural holiday trees may bring them to one of several holiday tree drop off locations around the city.
- [Turning Point Park, Trail, and Rain Garden](#)
 - Hiking and biking trails will help you discover the park's distinct areas, from the wooded oak forest called "Bullock's Woods" to the cattail lined shores of the river. Enjoy the nature watching and beautiful river views from its trails.

Protection and restoration of natural resources activities

- Leadership participation in the [Great Lakes & St. Lawrence Cities Initiative](#)
- Preventing and monitoring beach pollution
- Nationally recognized [urban forestry program](#) - you can take a look at our [forestry master plan](#)
- 3,500+ acres of [parkland](#)
- More than 18 miles of off-road and unpaved [trails](#)
- Aggressive and successful [brownfield cleanup and redevelopment program](#)
- Stewardship of a pristine watershed that includes [Hemlock and Canadice Lakes](#)

Recycling & reuse activities

- [Residential curbside collection](#)
- [Materials Give Back Program](#)
- Purchasing policy that emphasizes and encourages green products

Construction and zoning activities

- Revision of the Zoning Code to emphasize sustainable development
- Adoption of LEED standards for all new construction and major rehab projects by the City
- Working with private sector partners to facilitate green development
[Developer's Guide](#)