

PLATINUM LEVEL AWARD WINNER

BEACON

SPOTLIGHT
AWARD

WINNER

BEST PRACTICE
ACTIVITIES



City of Woodland

Sustainability Best Practices Activities



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About This Document

This document tracks and shares local agency best practice activities completed and counted as part of a city or county's participation in the climate change and sustainability recognition program, the Beacon Program. The Beacon Program is a statewide program recognizing cities and counties that are working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save energy and adopt policies and programs that promote sustainability.

The Beacon Program is sponsored by the Institute for Local Government and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative. The Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC) provides support to cities and counties to help them reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy. SEEC is an alliance between three statewide non-profit organizations and California's four Investor-Owned Utilities. It builds upon the unique resources, expertise and local agency relationships of each partner.



Supporting California local governments

The Beacon Program is funded by California utility ratepayers and administered by Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison and Southern California Gas Company under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.



SPOTLIGHT AWARD

Areas of Accomplishment

		SILVER LEVEL	GOLD LEVEL	PLATINUM LEVEL
	Agency GHG Reductions			
	Community GHG Reductions			
	Agency Energy Savings			
	Natural Gas Savings			
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities		2017	





Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities	Reported
Silver	1. Almost thirty percent of the city’s 2020 Climate Action Plan (CAP) GHG reduction target and almost forty percent of the 2035 CAP GHG reduction target rely on energy conservation strategies, including lighting efficiency upgrades, appliance and office equipment upgrades, comprehensive building efficiency upgrades, improved building temperature controls, and energy conservation education and outreach. Implementation of these CAP strategies is supported by the City of Woodland 2035 General Plan and by public outreach efforts.	2017

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city has replaced approximately 70% of the lamps in city-owned streetlights with LED bulbs. LEDs have also been installed in city facilities to replace incandescent and fluorescent lights. Motion sensors are installed at all city facilities to conserve energy when rooms and hallways are not in use. 2. The city maintains and reports an annual municipal greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory. The city’s first annual GHG inventory was reported to the California Climate Action Registry in 2007, which acts as the baseline year. Since 2007, the city has reported its annual GHG emissions every year, with the exception of 2012, through the California Climate Action Registry and The Climate Registry. Based on the annual GHG inventories, the city’s municipal GHG emissions have decreased every year since 2011. 	2017

Level	Energy Efficiency & Conservation Activities	Reported
Platinum	1. In 2016 the city completed a major upgrade of the main wastewater treatment process that is decreasing electrical usage for this process by approximately 760,000 kWh per year, while increasing solids handling capacity by 40%.	2017





Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity

Level	Energy Efficiency & Conservation Activities	Reported
<p>Platinum</p>	<p>2. In April 2015, the City of Woodland and PG&E launched Woodland Step Up and Power Down – a 19-month community-wide energy savings initiative to empower residents to make smart choices to increase energy efficiency at home. Between April 2015 and November 2016, Woodland Step Up and Power Down signed up 1,674 households (8.7% of all Woodland households) with pledges to save energy, participated in 134 outreach events and workshops, gave out 408 LED light bulbs, and provided other energy efficiency resources to the community.</p> <p>3. Working with Yolo County and the three other municipalities in the county, the City of Woodland has expanded financing options for energy-efficiency, water conservation, and renewable energy improvements for residential and commercial properties by making the CaliforniaFIRST, HERO, and Ygrene Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs available to property owners.</p>	<p>2017</p>





Water & Wastewater Systems Activity

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city established a “No Water-Waste” ordinance in 1991, which was strengthened in 2014. Water waste, which includes allowing excessive leaks, irrigating impervious surfaces, irrigating during rainfall, and watering excessively to the point of runoff, is prohibited at all times. Water use becomes more restricted as available water supply decreases. The ordinance includes enforcement measures to support compliance.	2017

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city completed the installation of water meters at all properties by 2014. The Advanced Metering Infrastructure has enabled the city to implement a tiered consumption-based billing system and to provide a higher level of assistance with water use inquiries. In 2016, the city implemented a customer water use portal called AquaHawk Alerting. This allows customers to view their hourly water use online, set water use and billing thresholds, and view their estimated bill at any time. This program has also helped the city to substantially lower municipal water use. 2. The city provides leak assistance and outreach to residential and commercial water customers. Leak alert letters are sent on a bi-weekly basis to customers with meters showing continuous usage to notify them that they may have a leak and to offer helpful resources. Resources available to residents and businesses include a dedicated leak detection webpage on the city’s website with instructions on locating leaks, a list of local plumbers and leak detection services, and assistance over the phone and by email. 	2017

Level	Water and Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
Platinum	1. The city’s water conservation rebate program offers rebates for mulch, weather-based irrigation controllers, rain sensors, and rain barrels. From 2010 to May 2017, the city has provided a total of 517 water conservation rebates to Woodland water customers. The water savings that may be attributed to the rebates amount to an estimated 5,091,503 gallons. The city is also a WaterSense partner and promotes the use of energy and water efficient appliances, leak detection, and more.	2017





Water & Wastewater Systems Activity

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activity	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="345 531 1271 709">2. The joint Woodland-Davis Surface Water Supply Project was completed in summer 2016 and switched Woodland's water supply from 100% groundwater to almost 100% surface water. This decreases the city's energy costs from pumping and provides Woodland with improved drinking water quality.<li data-bbox="345 716 1271 961">3. The city's Recycled Water Project began operation in early 2017. The project uses treated wastewater to offset approximately 500,000 gallons of potable water use per day for irrigation of street-side landscaping and two parks, and cooling processes at the Woodland Biomass Power facility, allowing the city to store surplus surface water for later use when demand is high. The city is continuing to extend the recycled water system for use in landscape irrigation at additional sites in the future.	2017





Green Building Activity

Level	Green Building Activity	Reported
Silver	1. In 2016, the city amended the Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris Recycling ordinance to require 65% diversion of C&D debris and 100% diversion of soil and land clearing debris, effective January 2017. The amended ordinance also broadened the scope of projects that are subject to the requirements. Increased outreach has encouraged cleaner and better quality mixed C&D recycling loads to help increase the average monthly landfill diversion rate.	2017

Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Gold	1. The city achieved a Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council for the construction for the Woodland Police Station building, which houses the City's Police Department and Information Technology division. The building also now has rooftop solar panels and a solar shade structure for the employee and fleet parking lot generating almost 0.5 MW of renewable energy.	2017

Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Platinum		





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activity

Level	Waste Reduction Activity	Reported
Silver	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The city's 2035 Climate Action Plan puts forth a goal of 75% landfill waste diversion by 2020 with a focus on establishing a residential and commercial organics collection program for large-scale processing as compost or into biofuels. In 2017 the city and Waste Management initiated a door-to-door outreach program to prepare local businesses for compliance with Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling (AB 1826) and offer future organics collection services to businesses that do not fall under the requirements of AB 1826, but would still like to add organics collection at their facility. 	2017

Level	Waste Reduction Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The City of Woodland 2035 General Plan Update supports the promotion of waste reduction in the community through the policies established under the Solid Waste Collection, Transfer, Recycling, and Disposal goal. The policies include, but are not limited to, promoting maximum use of solid waste source reduction, recycling, composting, and environmentally safe transformation of wastes; collaborating with affected stakeholders and partners to identify and support recycling, composting, waste to energy technology, and waste separation to reduce the volume and toxicity of solid wastes sent to landfills; encouraging the development of regional and community-based recycling facilities; and encouraging businesses to use recycled products in their manufacturing processes and consumers to buy recycled products. For the past decade, the city has contracted with Waste Management to host an annual Bulky Waste Event where residents can drop off items for free recycling and disposal or for donation to the Big Blue Recycling Barn Thrift Store at the Yolo County Central Landfill (beginning in 2016). At the event residents can drop off everything from appliances, furniture, mattresses, carpet, wood, rigid plastics, cardboard, e-waste and more. Bikes dropped off at the event are donated to The Bike Campaign and Bike Garage – a local non-profit dedicated to encouraging people of all ages to ride bicycles. 	2017





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activity

Level	Waste Reduction Activities	Reported
<p>Platinum</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city's compost bin rebate program offers rebates for compost and vermicompost bins. From 2011 to May 2017, the city has provided a total of 209 compost bin rebates to Woodland residents to promote food waste collection and backyard composting. The city coordinates with the Yolo County Master Gardeners to provide two compost workshops each year and provides a free food scrap container to each participant. 2. A door-to-door outreach program for multi-family housing recycling was initiated by the city in partnership with Waste Management in spring 2016. This outreach effort involved hosting recycling kick-off parties to educate residents on material sorting and door-to-door outreach during which city and Waste Management staff knocked on doors, talked with residents about recycling, and provided each resident with a city-designed reusable bag for use as a container for recyclables, along with easy-to-follow recycling instructions. The outreach effort effectively brought the percentage of multi-family housing complexes recycling from 50% in 2015 to 93% by June of 2017. 3. All printers at city offices are set up to print double-sided as the default print mode. Some printers at city offices have a tray specifically to print on scratch paper for additional use. Additionally, ink cartridges are recycled through Office Depot's greener office program. 	<p>2017</p>





Climate-friendly Purchasing Activity

Level	Climate-Friendly Activity	Reported
Silver	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The city adopted an Environmentally Preferable Procurement Policy (EPPP) in February 2013. The EPPP is intended to guide the city's efforts to procure environmentally sustainable products and services that have a lesser impact on human health and the environment when compared with competing products that serve the same purpose. The EPPP affirms the city's support for the purchase of recycled content products and environmentally preferable products in order to reduce the city's carbon footprint and increase sustainability relating to city government operations and serves as a model to influence community waste prevention, recycling, and sustainable procurement efforts. 	2017

Level	Climate-Friendly Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Woodland Sports Park features benches and baseball field backstops made with recycled content and artificial turf made with recycled tires in the baseball and soccer fields. The city's Urban Forestry Group in the Community Services Department recycles wood chips from removed trees as landscaping material for greenbelts in the city. 	2017

Level	Climate-Friendly Activities	Reported
Platinum		





Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activity

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Silver	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The city's 2020 and 2035 Climate Action Plans include a goal to reduce vehicle and equipment emissions with the replacement of 30 gasoline vehicles with five electric vehicles and 25 hybrid vehicles, and replacement of 10 diesel vehicles with vehicles using CNG, biodiesel, or E85. As of June 2017, the city has replaced seven gasoline vehicles with seven hybrid vehicles and three diesel tree maintenance trucks with one hybrid truck that has the capabilities of all three diesel vehicles. 	2017

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Rec2Go is the city's mobile recreation program and first ever all-electric vehicle to the city fleet. The Rec2Go van is a Zenith electric cargo van and the first of its weight class certified for driving by the State of California. It is estimated that approximately \$18,000 of City funds will be saved in fuel costs over the lifetime of the van. Rec2Go offers organized activities, crafts, and games for free to youth of all ages at parks and events around Woodland and serves as a colorful rolling promotion for electric vehicle use. The city has installed six solar arrays that altogether generate 2.3 megawatts of electricity from renewable energy for the Water Pollution Control Facility, Community and Senior Center, Police Station, Municipal Service Center, Library, and City Hall. That's enough power to cover 80 to 90 percent of the energy demand of five of the six facilities, with electricity cost savings conservatively estimated at \$7.7 million. Five of the six solar arrays have been up and running since May 2016 and the final solar array began operation in June 2017. 	2017

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The city contracts with Waste Management for waste, recycling, green waste, and street sweeping services. As part of Waste Management's contract with the City, Waste Management's full-time fleet vehicles will be converted to compressed natural gas by 2019. Re-refined oil has been used in all conventional city fleet vehicles for the past 10 years in support of used oil recycling and proper waste management. 	2017





Efficient Transportation Activity

Level	Efficient Transportation Activity	Reported
Silver	1. About thirty percent of the city's 2020 and 2035 Climate Action Plan GHG reduction targets rely on efficient transportation strategies, including reducing motor vehicle trips, increasing use of alternative modes of transportation, reducing vehicle and equipment idling, and increasing use of alternative-fuel vehicles. These strategies are supported through public outreach efforts of the city, the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District, the Yolo County Transportation District, Yolo County Health and Human Services Safe Routes to Schools programs, and The Bike Campaign – a local non-profit dedicated to encouraging people of all ages to ride bicycles.	2017

Level	Efficient Transportation Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In support of the use of electric vehicles, three dual electric vehicle (EV) charging stations and one single EV charging station have been installed in three public parking lots in Downtown Woodland at and near City Hall and the Woodland Public Library. The single EV charging station and the first dual EV charging station were installed in partnership with Yolo County in 2014 and the two additional stations were installed by the city in 2016. Seven parking spots are marked for EV parking only at the charging stations. The charging stations are well used by the public and city employees. The city plans to continue to install EV charging stations in public parking lots to promote and encourage the use of electric vehicles. 2. The city of Woodland is a member of the Yolo Transportation Management Association (TMA), also known as Yolo Commute. As a member of Yolo Commute, city employees are encouraged to commute by bicycle, carpool, vanpool, public transit, or walking through Yolo Commute's Rideshare Incentive Program. A recent highlight of participation in Yolo Commute is the bike grant opportunity offered by Yolo TMA of which thirteen city employees were awarded up to a \$100 reimbursement for bike-related expenses to encourage employees to increase bicycle commute trips. 	2017





Efficient Transportation Activity

Level	Efficient Transportation Activities	Reported
Platinum	<p>1. The city is expanding its system of bike lanes and including bike lanes in major street reconstruction projects. With the recently completed 2016 Road Maintenance Project, new and enhanced bike lanes were established on several streets to encourage the use of bicycles throughout town and raise awareness of the presence of bicyclists on local streets. The improvements include new bike lanes on streets that did not previously have bike lanes as the creation of “buffered” bike lanes, which are separated from the vehicle traffic lane by a cross hatched “buffer” space. In addition to the buffer, parking lanes were also marked adjacent the bike lane to ensure that vehicles do not park in the bike lanes.</p>	2017





Land Use and Community Design Activity

Level	Land Use and Community Activity	Reported
Silver	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The city adopted a 2020 Preliminary Climate Action Plan (CAP) in 2014 and a 2035 CAP in 2017. The CAP presents a set of community-generated strategies to guide the city, its residents, and local businesses in reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with state goals for addressing California's contributions to climate change. The 2035 CAP is supported by the City's 2035 General Plan Update, which includes specific policy direction to implement the 2035 CAP. Six focus areas are provided in the CAP: energy, transportation and land use, urban forest and open space, water and solid waste, public involvement, and municipal operations with overall goals of reducing local GHG emissions by 60,226 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO₂e) per year by 2020 and by 111,645 to 112,265 MTCO₂e per year by 2035. 	2017

Level	Land Use and Community Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The city's 2035 General Plan includes policies to encourage infill development to promote pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly neighborhoods, require convenient and safe pedestrian, bicycle, and transit connections between commercial centers and surrounding neighborhoods, and to design streets to facilitate pedestrian and bicycle mobility to reduce automobile dependents and vehicle miles travelled. The city, in partnership with the Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District, The Bike Campaign, and Sacramento Area Council of Governments, developed a Woodland Bike Map brochure providing a map of bike routes in Woodland, locations of parks and facilities, and bicycling safety tips. In addition to the Woodland Bike Map brochure, the City of Woodland website features an interactive GIS map that displays bike routes, schools, and parks all in one view. 	2017

Level	Land Use and Community Activities	Reported
Platinum		





Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activity

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Silver	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The city's 2020 Preliminary Climate Action Plan established a goal of increasing Woodland's community tree canopy by 50% by 2020 by planting 6,000 new trees between 2014 and 2020 and maintaining and nurturing existing trees. As an initial step toward this goal, former Mayor Tom Stallard launched the 2,400 Trees Campaign as a community-wide effort coordinated jointly by the City of Woodland and the Woodland Tree Foundation with a goal of planting 2,400 trees between July 2014 and June 2016. The 2,400 Trees Campaign goal was achieved early at the Arbor Day Celebration in March 2016. As of May 2017, more than 3,500 trees have been planted since July 2014. 	2017

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The city's 2035 Climate Action Plan (CAP) expands on the 2020 CAP goals and establishes a goal of planting 10,500 trees by 2035. The 2035 CAP also calls for ongoing public outreach efforts on proper maintenance of existing trees. These goals of the 2035 CAP are supported by policies in the 2035 General Plan, which establish that the tree canopy be increased, managed, enhanced and improved as a valuable ecological resource. The Legacy Grove is a project of the City of Woodland, the Woodland Tree Foundation, and dedicated community volunteers. Volunteers planted 105 trees in the Legacy Grove at two tree planting events organized by the Woodland Tree Foundation and city staff in February and March 2016. The trees planted in the Legacy Grove compensate for the removal of ornamental trees from adjacent parking lots for the City's solar project. The grove features a variety of tree species selected for their climate appropriateness, provides opportunities for memorializing and honoring individuals and groups, and contributes to promoting the reduction of carbon emissions by increasing carbon sequestration, tree canopy, and shade. 	2017





Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activity

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
<p>Platinum</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city offers a rebate for residential street trees for up to \$75 per home address. The Residential Street Tree Rebate program requires that rebate recipient plant the tree in the front yard of their residential lot and that they choose a tree on the city's approved master street tree list, which were selected based on desirable street tree characteristics such as resistance to injurious insects and diseases. 2. The City of Woodland provides funding support for tree planting through the Woodland Tree Foundation's Neighborhood Shade Tree Campaign. Under the Neighborhood Shade Tree Campaign, the Woodland Tree Foundation and its volunteers have planted 600 trees in the yards of Woodland residents, at no cost to the residents, since 2014. The campaign focus has been on those neighborhoods with a combination of low amount of tree canopy and lower average household incomes. 3. The City of Woodland has received the Tree City USA designation through the National Arbor Day Foundation for 16 years. The city meets the eligibility requirements for the designation by employing staff in the Urban Forestry Group under the Community Services Department responsible for the maintenance of city-owned trees, enforcing multiple tree ordinances regarding planting, maintaining, and protecting trees, administering a budget for trees of more than \$2 per capita, and organizing annual Arbor Day celebrations. The city has just won a CAL FIRE Urban and Community Forestry California Climate Investments grant for \$356,000 plus \$147,000 in matching funds that will support the development of an Urban Forest Management Plan and planting of 1,200 trees over the next three years. 	<p>2017</p>





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activity

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Silver	<p>1. The City's Environmental Services Division organizes and/or participates in 10 to 15 (and sometimes more) community events each year promoting and encouraging best practices in sustainability. Events and workshops organized by the City have included water-wise landscape tours, water-wise landscaping workshops, a rain barrel use and installation workshop, fix-a-leak workshops, bi-annual motor oil filter exchange events, and pharmaceutical take-back events. The Environmental Services Division has also participated in the Yolo County Fair, senior resources fairs, recreation program fairs, Earth Day festivals, and other community events to promote sustainability and conservation. In addition to these events and workshops, City staff regularly makes presentations to community groups and students on water conservation, energy conservation, and recycling.</p>	2017

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Gold	<p>1. The city's Environmental Services Division sends out a monthly e-newsletter to more than 2,500 email list subscribers. The e-newsletter includes announcements for upcoming conservation-related and other local events and workshops hosted by the city and community groups, information on the city's conservation rebate programs, local environmental-related and City planning news, and tips on water conservation, energy conservation, alternative transportation, and recycling.</p> <p>2. Since 2011, the city has contracted with Zun Zun, an interactive environmental education performance duo, to perform at five to eleven schools and programs each year reaching between 2,000 and 5,000 students. Zun Zun's performances cover a variety of environmental conservation topics including energy conservation, water conservation, recycling, stormwater, and wildlife protection conveyed through interactive songs and the use of unique instruments, many of which are made by Zun Zun out of recycled and upcycled materials.</p>	2017





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activity

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
<p>Platinum</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city's Environmental Services Division administers Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts under the name EnviroWoodland with almost 3,500 followers. The social media accounts are used as an outreach tool almost every day and have proved to be an effective method to promote environmental events and workshops hosted by the city and community groups and to provide tips and information regarding the City's environmental programs and general sustainability tips. 2. The City of Woodland participates in regional outreach campaigns for used oil recycling and holiday recycling. The regional campaigns have included television and radio ads, billboard ads, and social media campaigns that in previous years had typically been in only English. To better reach Spanish-speaking populations in Woodland and the surrounding region, the city contributed funds to the regional campaign efforts to translate the advertisements to Spanish for television and radio beginning in 2012. In addition to the Spanish television and radio ads, City staff coordinated with community members, Woodland City Councilmembers, and city staff to further reach Spanish-speaking audiences through Spanish interviews on Univision for the oil filter recycling and holiday recycling campaigns. 3. The city established the City Council Energy Committee in 2008, which was later renamed as the City Council Sustainability Committee in 2012. Two City Councilmembers sit on the committee with one Councilmember as the chairperson. The Sustainability Committee is open to all community members to attend and discuss sustainability issues. The committee was largely involved in the development of the city's 2020 Preliminary Climate Action Plan and will have involvement in implementation of the city's 2035 Climate Action Plan. Additionally, since 2008 the city has participated in the Yolo County Climate Compact, and association of Yolo County, the four county municipalities, numerous special districts, and local and regional organizations that meets regularly to share information and promote energy efficiency in all the member jurisdictions. 	<p>2017</p>





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