

BEACON

SPOTLIGHT
AWARD

WINNER

BEST PRACTICE
ACTIVITIES



City of Woodland

Sustainability Best Practice Activities









ILG INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTSM
Promoting Good Government at the Local Level

City of Woodland

California communities are leading the fight against climate change. From small projects to large-scale programs, cities and counties are making great strides to create healthy, sustainable and economically prosperous communities. Participants in ILG's Beacon Program serve as leaders in this effort, making measureable contributions to reducing energy and greenhouse gas emissions, and sharing their sustainability best practices.

This document represents a collection of activities your agency has completed in 10 areas of sustainability. While local governments have a wide range of choices available to address climate change, these activities represent the unique opportunities and values in your community. These voluntary actions are essential to achieving California's goals to save energy, reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and create more sustainable communities.

SPOTLIGHT AWARD

SPOTLIGHT AWARD		SILVER LEVEL	GOLD LEVEL	PLATINUM LEVEL
Areas of Accomplishment				
	Agency GHG Reductions	2012 (8%)		
	Community GHG Reductions			
	Agency Energy Savings	2019 (9%)		
	Natural Gas Savings	2016 (5%)		
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities		2017	
	Beacon Award			

Cities and counties throughout the Golden State should be proud of the accomplishments made through the hard work, innovation and collective community action. The Institute for Local Government applauds your achievements and thanks you for your continued participation in the Beacon Program.

The Beacon Program is sponsored by the Institute for Local Government and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC). SEEC is an alliance between three statewide non-profit organizations and California's four Investor-Owned Utilities. 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.



Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities

Silver

1. Almost 30% of the city's 2020 Climate Action Plan GHG reduction target and almost 40% 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.

Gold

2. 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.
3. The city maintains and reports an annual municipal 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. Based on the annual GHG inventories, the city's municipal GHG emissions have decreased every year since 2011.

Platinum

4. 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%.
5. 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.
6. 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.





Water & Wastewater Systems Activities

Silver

1. The city established a “No Water-Waste” ordinance in 1991, which was strengthened in 2014. Water waste is restricted at all times. Water use becomes more restricted as available water supply decreases. The ordinance includes enforcement measures to support compliance.

Gold

2. 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.
3. The city provides leak assistance and outreach to residential and commercial water customers. 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.

Platinum

4. The city’s water conservation rebate program offers rebates for mulch, weather-based irrigation controllers, rain sensors, and rain barrels. The water savings that may be attributed to the rebates amount to an estimated 5,091,503 gallons.
5. 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.
6. 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.





Green Building Activities

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.

Gold

2. 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.

Platinum





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activities

Silver

1. 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.

Gold

2. 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.
3. 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.

Platinum

4. 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.





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activities

Platinum

5. The city's compost bin rebate program offers rebates for compost and vermicompost bins. From 2011 to 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.
6. The city initiated a door-to-door outreach program for multi-family housing recycling 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.





Climate-friendly Purchasing Activities

Silver

1. The city adopted an Environmentally Preferable Procurement Policy 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.

Gold

2. 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.
3. 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.

Platinum





Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activities

Silver

1. 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.

Gold

2. 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.
3. 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.

Platinum

4. 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, its full-time fleet vehicles will be converted to CNG by 2019.
5. Re-refined oil has been used in all conventional city fleet vehicles for the past ten years in support of used oil recycling and proper waste management.





Efficient Transportation Activities

Silver

1. About 30% 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.

Gold

2. In support of the use of electric vehicles, three dual 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.
3. The city is a member of Yolo Commute. As a member, city employees are encouraged to commute by bicycle, carpool, vanpool, public transit, or walking through the Rideshare Incentive program. A recent highlight of participation in Yolo Commute is the bike grant opportunity, of which thirteen city employees were awarded up to a \$100 reimbursement for bike-related expenses to encourage employees to increase bicycle commute trips.

Platinum

4. 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.





Land Use and Community Design Activities

Silver

1. The city adopted 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 (MTCO_{2e}) per year by 2020 and by 111,645 to 112,265 MTCO_{2e} per year by 2035.

Gold

2. 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 VMT.
3. 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.

Platinum





Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities

Silver

1. 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 of May 2017, more than 3,500 trees have been planted since July 2014.

Gold

2. The city's 2035 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.
3. 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.

Platinum

4. The city offers a rebate for residential street trees for up to \$75 per home address. The program requires that rebate recipients 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.
5. The city provides funding support for tree planting through the Woodland Tree Foundation's Neighborhood Shade Tree Campaign. The foundation and its volunteers have planted 600 trees in the yards of Woodland residents, at no cost to the residents, since 2014.
6. The City of Woodland has received the Tree City USA designation through the National Arbor Day Foundation for 16 years.





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities

Silver

1. The city organizes and/or participates in 10 to 15 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.

Gold

2. The city 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.
3. 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.

Platinum

4. The city has social media accounts under the name EnviroWoodland with almost 3,500 followers. They are used as an outreach tool almost every day and have proved to be an effective method to promote environmental events and workshops.
5. The city participates in regional outreach campaigns for used oil recycling and holiday recycling.
6. The city established a Sustainability Committee, which is open to all community members to attend and discuss sustainability issues.





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