

# EVER GREEN ROSEVILLE

## SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE 2021



### CITY GOALS

#### FOR RESILIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Maintain and operate parks, open space, and recreation facilities in a safe and clean manner, protecting natural resources and preserving high-quality recreation opportunities and experiences.
- Reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions by exemplifying education, regulation, and integration to encourage action by residents and businesses.
- Support renewable energy growth and installation through outreach, partnerships, and policy to reduce contributions to climate change.
- Promote awareness of resilience and environmental protection issues.
- Preserve and enhance water and land quality, native planting, tree canopy, and increase pollinators for current and future generations.
- Implement the sustainability goals outlined in the Energy Action Plan and the 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

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## FOOD SCRAPS DROP SITE

At the beginning of 2020, Roseville proposed a food scraps drop site at the same location as the Dale Street yard-waste facility. The proposal was approved by the City Council, and the site opened to the public at the end of that summer. Annually, the drop site gets about 12,376 visits and diverts an estimated 52 tons (104,000 lbs) of material.

The site is available for residents to drop off organic waste including food scraps and land waste within the city limits. Interested residents may bring organic waste to the site, or to one of many other Ramsey County sites found on their interactive online map. Small organics containers are available by request at City Hall, and bags can be found at the drop off site, at City Hall, and in stores. Resources for those interested are available on the City of Roseville website.

### Organics Information and Drop Sites:

[cityofroseville.com/3393/Food-Scraps-Collection-organic-recycling](http://cityofroseville.com/3393/Food-Scraps-Collection-organic-recycling)

## WATER CONSERVATION

Beginning in 2020, the City of Roseville began planning and implementing the Water Efficiency Rebate Program in partnership with the Metropolitan Council and the Clean Water Land & Legacy Amendment. For existing homes, this program offers reductions on your water bill for making fixes to your current irrigation system intended to increase efficiency and reduce water usage.

The following types of WaterSense® labelled irrigation equipment is eligible for a 50% rebate on a future water bill, **up to a total of \$300:**

- Irrigation controllers: determine when and how much to water using local weather data.
- Sprinkler heads: reduce leaks/sprays onto paved surfaces caused by damaged heads

To qualify, you must fill out an application that includes itemized receipts (with a date of purchase January 1st, 2021 or later) and a photo of the installed equipment.

**To find the application or learn more about water conservation, visit Roseville's website:**

<http://www.cityofroseville.com/3599/Water-Efficiency-Rebate-Program>



## GREEN STEP CITIES

Roseville has been a participating member of the GreenStep Cities Program for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency since 2014, which is a voluntary 5-step challenge to help cities achieve sustainability and quality of life goals. In June of 2020, Roseville was awarded the status of Step 4 by improving practices such as increasing the number of trees planted, evaluating the methods of transportation for residents and employees, calculating the energy consumed by the city, increasing the number of solar energy systems both public and private, calculating miles of pathway, and more. On May 20th, 2021, the City of Roseville was granted Step 5 status.

The goals of Steps 4 and 5 are to gather data in order to inform sustainable decisions in the following years. Along with Roseville, 24 other MN cities have achieved Step 5 status this year. Step 5 of the program is a renewable metric that is only achieved upon additional improvements from year to year. Roseville hopes to continue being an advocate for prestigious and ambitious cities leading the state on resiliency, efficiency, and sustainability. **More details about Roseville's progress can be found at:**

<https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/>



Minnesota  
GreenStep Cities

## GREEN TEAM

To maintain Roseville's progress through the Minnesota GreenStep Cities Program, a committee has been formed and is working in the Public Works, Environment, and Transportation Commission of City Council—the official Green Team of the city. Much of the committee's work focuses on the implementation of sustainability practices which meet the city's sustainability goals. The Green team is working with the Public Works department staff, such as the environmental specialist, to electrify the city fleet and increase solar systems in the city as opportunities for growth in the near future.



## CITY HALL RENEWABLES

Roseville completed the installation of the third solar array on the City Hall campus in the summer of 2019. Since then, solar systems on the Fire Station, Maintenance building, and City Hall have been installed and are functioning while demonstrating consistent savings throughout the year. The panels encourage the use of renewable energy to limit the use and impact of fossil fuels and Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the city and to the environment. Roseville will continue to promote the adoption of renewable energy sources throughout the city.



## BUILDING BENCHMARKING PROGRAM

In 2021, the City of Roseville implemented its Voluntary Building Benchmarking program in collaboration with Hennepin County, the Great Plains Institute, and the Center for Energy and the Environment. Building owners across all industries and professions were encouraged to participate, but large commercial spaces were especially targeted since they contribute to 86% of the citywide greenhouse gas emissions.

Not only does benchmarking provide a way to review and track the performance within buildings to ensure it is using energy and water as anticipated, but also allows for additional benefits such as:

- Transparency for building owners, operators, and municipal leaders aiming to achieve energy and climate goals .
- Peer comparison to create a frame of reference for setting and achieving further performance goals
- A forum to share operational best practices to increase building performance across the country

**More information including participation steps can be found on the City of Roseville website:**

[cityofroseville.com/3554/Voluntary-Benchmarking](https://cityofroseville.com/3554/Voluntary-Benchmarking)



## SOLSMART PROGRAM

SolSmart is a national designation program that provides resources, guidance, and recognition to cities that support local solar energy. SolSmart offers cities no-cost technical assistance from a team of national experts working to evaluate programs that impact solar markets. Rated from Bronze to Gold, the program recognizes cities which have demonstrated a commitment to solar energy by taking tangible steps into integrating solar energy into their city. The city currently holds the Gold Level recognition, the highest possible designation from the program.

In addition, Roseville received a Special Recognition Award in the Inspections category of the program, earning over 60% of the possible



## MINNESOTA GREENCORPS MEMBER

MN GreenCorps member, Will Ristow, joined the City of Roseville to advance sustainability initiatives in September of 2020. The Minnesota GreenCorps is an AmeriCorps & ServeMinnesota program, with additional funding and support from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. MN GreenCorps members are assigned to non-profits, municipalities, and other public sector host sites. The focus areas for members are pollution reduction, community readiness and outreach, green infrastructure improvements, and waste reduction.

Will Ristow primarily focused on creating and implementing Roseville's Building Benchmarking program with Hennepin County, the Great Plains Institute, and the Center for Energy and the Environment. Additionally, he helped identify City fleets for electrification, expanded sustainability efforts by advancing GreenStep Cities, provided outreach about Roseville's SolSmart Gold status, and coordinated with other Ramsey County cities to provide regional benefits related to the reduction of emissions.



## PARTNERS IN ENERGY

The City of Roseville was accepted into Xcel Energy's Partners in Energy Program in July of 2020. Partners in Energy, or PiE, is a program that supports communities in developing and implementing energy plans. For this process, a team composed of local leaders, business owners, and residents assisted in the creation of Roseville's Energy Action Plan in collaboration with Xcel Energy, which was formally adopted by the City Council on June 21, 2021.



### **PARTNERS IN ENERGY** An Xcel Energy Community Collaboration

The City of Roseville has begun to implement the Energy Action Plan by proceeding with the approved timeline related to the 4 focus areas:

1. Energy Burden
2. Residential Energy Efficiency
3. Commercial/Industrial Energy Efficiency
4. Renewable Energy

**To find out more about the Partners in Energy Program and the Energy Action Plan, visit the Roseville website:**

[cityofroseville.com/Partners-in-Energy](http://cityofroseville.com/Partners-in-Energy)