



Sustainable Northampton:

Focus on...  Energy, Environment & Climate Protection



Goals						
Reduce the community's and city's energy demand and natural resource consumption	Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases	Protect valuable and sensitive ecological resources (land, air, water, habitat, plants and animals)	Minimize the impacts of infrastructure systems on environmental resources	Safeguard & improve the quality of the city's surface waters to ensure use for safe public swimming recreational fishing activities, boating and drinking	Reduce light pollution	Develop strategies to protect the city from the impacts of natural hazards

Photos: Musante Beach in Leeds; Barrett Street Marsh; Connecticut River; snow emergency blue lights in downtown parking lot

Reduce the community's and the city's energy demand and natural resource consumption

how our budgets are supporting this goal

FY 2011	FY 2012
Lilly Library uses energy efficient lighting throughout the library and whenever possible green products on the grounds.	
Auditor's Office provided procurement support to promote energy initiatives with the following projects: citywide Energy Management Services (ESCO), Smith Vocational Agriculture High School and James House Photovoltaic Array.	
Treasurer worked with Central Services Department to receive grant monies and structure unique borrowings such as CREBs (Clean Renewable Energy Bonds) and QECBs (Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds).	
MIS provided network support for the installation of energy monitoring devices at several city owned buildings and enabled network connectivity at the Academy of Music for energy control systems.	
Police Dept installed more energy efficient A/C and heat pump pod system to replace old, inefficient air conditioning.	When the new NPD facility is built, the energy efficient units will be redeployed to other city buildings with older units.
Changing the Armory St. Parking Lot to LED lighting and upgrading Parking Garage lighting saved \$16,000 in energy costs. Changing the electric heat in garage office to natural gas saved about \$4,000 annually.	

continued.....

FY 2011	FY 2012
	Mayor, City Council, Central Services, Energy & Sustainability Comm, and Planning will sponsor PACE legislation (Property Assessed Clean Energy), allowing property owners to finance energy efficiency and renewable energy projects through an assessment on their property taxes over a period of 20 years.
Planning advances efforts to reduce community energy consumption by 20% through the Green Communities designation effort, zoning changes to encourage production of renewable energy components, and the development of large scale photovoltaic sites.	
Our designation as a Green Community enabled us to secure a \$198,500 grant to install a 100kW solar-electric array at the SVAHS that will be used for classroom education and produce an annual revenue stream of over \$30,000 a year to support City energy conservation initiatives to help private property owners.	
Building Inspector's office encourages and facilitates energy efficient construction. Worked closely on Senior Center and will work closely on Police Station to achieve LEEDS Silver certification.	
Fire Services operates a hybrid vehicle for fire inspection and code enforcement activities and our facilities have been updated with energy efficient lighting and high efficiency heating systems.	

Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases

how our budgets are supporting this goal

FY 2011

FY 2012

DPW, Recreation & Planning Depts. support creation, maintenance and use of bike and walking paths for fun, GHG-free commuting, and safe routes to school.

Central Services and CEDO conducted energy audits on the James House and received grants to upgrade energy efficiency and install photovoltaic panels.

Police Department purchases fuel efficient mid-size vehicles for its administrative and investigative fleet. The vehicles are maintained for maximum fuel efficiency and pollution prevention at the SVAHS Auto Tech Department.

Central Services leading 6.2 million dollar capital improvements project to reduce annual energy use, and greenhouse gas emissions from city/school buildings by 20%+, paid for through energy savings, grants, and utility rebates – not taxes. Project includes: lighting efficiency upgrades; more efficient boilers, burners and air conditioners; improved process efficiency at waste water treatment plant, new energy management systems in all major buildings; solar hot water and solar hot air systems; new windows in several municipal and school buildings.

Landfill gas to energy project provided electricity for ≈ 500 homes.

how our budgets are supporting this goal

FY 2011

FY 2012

Recreation and Planning worked for protection of Bean/Allard land, including habitat along the Mill River.

Planning implements efforts to reduce non-native invasive plant species, creates incentives for private sector to restore wetlands, and aggressively preserves the most ecologically sensitive open spaces in the community.

Planning will revise and administer wetlands regulations to preserve water resources.

DPW purchased 125 acres of critical watershed land to protect City drinking water.

Protect valuable and sensitive ecological resources (land, water, habitat, plants and animals)