The Michigan Green Communities Challenge

michigan municipal league
Better Communities. Better Michigan.

Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth
DELEG
Working to Create Michigan's Future Today

Challenge Progress Report	Total Possible Points	Points for pre-2010 Actions	Points for 2010 Actions
Step 1—Obtain organizational support (Resolution)	10		
Step 2—Assign responsibility	10		
Step 3—Collect energy data for governmental operations	10		
Step 4—Assess situation and identify gaps	10		
Step 5—Develop goals and activities: Planning for the future (See below)	—	—	—
Step 6—Measure performance and quantify results	10		

Suggested goals and activities (Step 5)			
1. Develop and implement an energy improvement plan for governmental operations.	20		
2. Adopt a community sustainability plan, climate protection resolution, or similar commitment by the governing body.	20		
3. Develop recycling and household hazardous waste programs for residents and businesses (25 pts for each distinct program).	25		
4. Consider performance contracts (15 pts for each contract).	15		
5. Consider the purchase of electric power from renewable sources or install renewable energy technology (solar, wind, or geothermal) for use in government facilities.	25		
6. Develop a policy to utilize energy-efficient and dark sky-compliant outdoor light fixtures.	10		
7. Establish a policy of adherence to LEED certification criteria for all new government facilities.	15		
8. Approve or build a LEED-certified government building or renovate an existing building to LEED-certified level.	40		
9. Implement an internal government program that reduces, reuses and recycles paper, plastic and other materials.	10		
10. Establish a procurement policy of a minimum of 30 percent post-consumer recycled content for everyday office paper use (consistent with the current federal government policy).	10		

		Total Possible Points	Points for pre-2010 Actions	Points for 2010 Actions
11.	Adopt a "green fleet" policy that incorporates, at a minimum, the purchase of low-emitting, fuel-efficient vehicles for vehicle fleet replacement and the use of alternative fuels (biodiesel, natural gas, ethanol) in fleet operations.	30		
12.	Promote light rail systems, increased busing, and other modes of transportation.	20		
13.	Develop and implement a plan for tree preservation and planting.	15		
14.	Adopt an anti-idling policy for government fleet vehicles.	15		
15.	Develop diesel engine retrofits partnership (NOx filters and particulate traps) with the heavy construction industry to reduce air pollutants.	25		
16.	Provide employee benefits for ride sharing, walking, biking or taking public transit to work (i.e. bike rack).	15		
17.	Adopt a policy that a minimum of 20 percent of the eligible workforce should participate in alternative work schedules or telework by 2010.	25		
18.	Develop an employee education program on policies/practices relating to the environment and energy conservation.	15		
19.	Establish an advisory commission (or "Green Team") composed of local residents and business representatives to advise and assist the local governing board on policies and practices dealing with the environment, energy efficiency and conservation.	25		
20.	Develop and implement an energy efficiency and conservation education program for the local community dealing with the environment and energy.	15		
21.	Create a water protection education program.	30		
22.	Offer incentives for residents and businesses to retrofit all lighting systems with energy-efficient bulbs.	25		




	Total Possible Points	Points for pre-2010 Actions	Points for 2010 Actions
23. Target major institutions and industries for an educational campaign about ways to reduce energy consumption.	15		
24. Create a program to help residents replace older air conditioning and refrigeration units with more efficient models.	40		
25. Implement real-time pricing of electricity to show residents the increased cost they experience during peak demand times.	15		
26. Partner with nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies for the purpose of retrofitting existing facilities to improve energy efficiency.	25		
27. Develop and implement programs to conserve energy used in transportation, including but not limited to: ● Employee flex time programs; ● Promotion of satellite work centers; ● Development and promotion of zoning guidelines or requirements that promote energy efficient development; ● Development of infrastructure such as bike lanes and pathways and pedestrian walkways; ● Synchronization of traffic signals; ● State/local/regional integrated planning activities (i.e. transportation, housing, environmental, energy, land use) reducing greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled; ● Improvements in operation and system efficiency of the transportation system such as implementation of intelligent transportation system (ITS) strategies; ● Idle-reduction technologies and/or facilities to conserve energy, reduce harmful air pollutants, and greenhouse gas emissions from freight movement; and ● Installation of solar panels on interstate rights-of-way to conserve energy in highway operations and maintenance activities.	15 per bulleted item		

	Total Possible Points	Points for pre-2010 Actions	Points for 2010 Actions
28. Implement distributed energy resource technologies that significantly increase energy efficiency, including (40 pts for each qualifying system installed): ● District heating and cooling systems ● Combined heat and power systems ● Cogeneration systems ● Energy storage systems ● Absorption chill ● Desiccant humidifiers ● Micro turbines ● Group source heat pumps	40		
29. Consider the implementation of technologies to reduce, capture, and, to the maximum extent practicable, use methane and other greenhouse gases generated by landfills or similar waste-related sources, such as wastewater treatment plants, operations producing food waste, dairy farms and other animal operations.	40		
30. Replace traffic signals and street lighting with energy efficient lighting technologies, including light emitting diodes; and any other technology or equal or greater energy efficiency.	40		
31. Update government buildings by developing, implementing and installing onsite renewable energy echnology that generates electricity from renewable resources, including solar energy, wind energy, fuel cells, and biomass.	35		
32. Consider any other appropriate activities which have been outlined within a community's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy as developed under the EECBG program.	Evaluate as needed		
100 points = 1 star (green, of course) Recognition will be given to communities based on stars accumulated.	Subtotal		
	TOTAL POINTS		

Contact Information:
Michigan Municipal League in collaboration with the Bureau of Energy Systems / State of Michigan
1675 Green Road, P.O. Box 1487, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1487 Phone: 734-662-3246 Fax: 734-662-8083

Printed on Recycled Paper