



CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY DIVISION

MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Urbana Sustainability Advisory Commission
FROM: Scott R. Tess, Environmental Sustainability Manager
DATE: Tuesday, August 7, 2018
RE: Staff Report

Climate Action Plan Phase 2 Progress

Goal 3 Action 4: Propose strategies to improve the local onsite renewable energy market

Solar Urbana-Champaign 3.0 has passed the first bulk discount benchmark of 50kw of contracted capacity triggering a 1% discount and now stands at 127kw of contracted capacity. The full schedule of events is at solarurbanachampaign.com.

Goal 6 Action 2: Work with the Sustainability advisory Commission to create a new plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions for the 2020 to 2050 period

In lieu of pursuing a new tax or fee to fund energy and climate programming, staff was asked to identify practical and impactful carbon pollution reduction strategies. Such an effort may be appropriate to inform a future energy and climate planning effort in 2019 or 2020 in order to replace the Climate Action Plan Phase 2 when it expires at the conclusion of 2020.

Carbon reduction strategies do not lend themselves to a simple ranking of most impactful or best cost-benefit ratio as outcomes are highly context-sensitive. Even if specific strategies were studied for a specific location, a simple cost-benefit ranking would ignore community norms as well as co-benefits of many potential carbon reduction strategies. Instead, a term like priority strategies seems appropriate as priority strategies could be construed to balance multiple public goods rather than carbon reductions alone. In our staff and budget constrained environment, priority strategies by necessity may also be no-cost strategies.

By happenstance, staff was supporting an effort to identify a number of priority strategies to be considered by the Illinois Climate Table Downstate Caucus and presented to the coalition's members. Members would subsequently choose a subset of this collection for the group's focus. The Downstate Caucus was created to coordinate work between the downstate advocacy organizations across Illinois with the Illinois Climate Table in support of reducing carbon and other greenhouse gases. Based on the work contained in three publications, Project Drawdown, Carbon Free City Handbook, and STAR Communities Rating System, staff identified a limited number of carbon reduction strategies that would be practical and impactful for downstate Illinois. This document is included in the Commission packet. This list could be further limited by excluding strategies relating to agriculture which would be less relevant to our urban jurisdiction.

Additional energy and climate activities

The Downstate Caucus of the Illinois Climate Table is planning a series of "Listen, Lead, Share" listening sessions to develop priority carbon reduction strategies appropriate for downstate Illinois. The Caucus is a September or October session in Urbana-Champaign. If Commission members are interested in supporting that effort, please contact staff.

Stacy Gloss is supporting several high school students developing the first CU Youth Sustainability Summit to take place on October 6 at the Siebel center at the University of Illinois. The event is sponsored and

supported by the City of Urbana Sustainability Advisory Commission. The Champaign County Sustainability Network and the youth organization iMatter are also sponsors. The event will be a day-long summit for 8th to 12 grade students will learn about the global effects of climate change and local sustainability efforts.

The City continues to negotiate a lease option and lease with Sunpower to develop a solar array on the closed Urbana Landfill. The State incentive program is expected to be initiated near the end of the year.



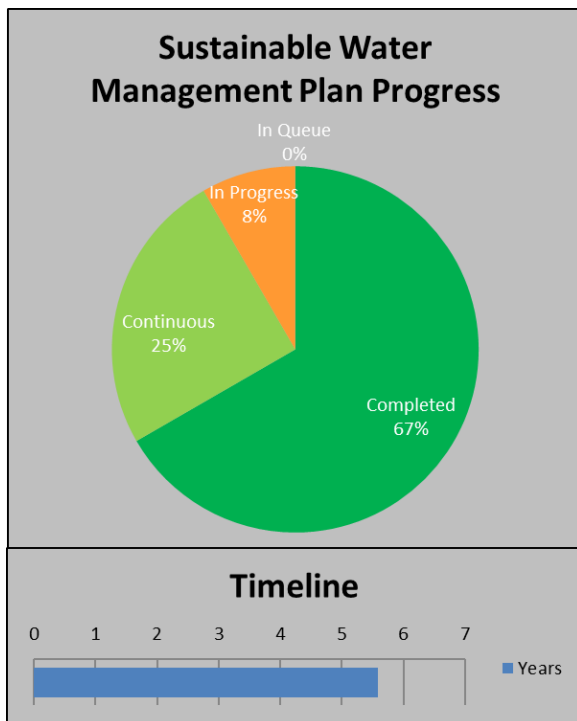
Sustainable Water Management Plan

Aspect 3: Goal 1: Action 2 Demonstrate & promote environmentally friendly landscape practices

The Midwest Pesticide Action Center, City of Urbana, and Urbana Park District are planning a series of natural lawn care activities in September as part of the Midwest Grows Green program. The series starts Saturday, September 8th as MPAC's Ryan Anderson tables at Urbana Market at the Square to discuss upcoming events, answer your lawn and garden questions, and introduce the Urbana City Building's pesticide free South Lawn. Following the Market from 1 to 3 pm, the weekend moves to Meadowbrook Park Organic Community Garden for an FREE organic gardening demonstration with the Urbana Park District. The weekend takes Sunday off and returns to Parkland College Monday night, 7 to 9 pm, for a natural lawn care demonstration with the Champaign County Master Gardeners.

Aspect 3: Goal 2: Action 3 Report EPA TMDL testing to the Sustainability Advisory Commission

Surface Water	Designated Uses	Status	Cause	Source
Boneyard Creek IL_BPJCA	Aquatic Life	Not Supporting	Alteration in stream-side or littoral vegetative covers, Copper, Dissolved Oxygen, Total Phosphorus	Channelization, Urban Runoff/Storm Sewers
	Fish Consumption	Not Assessed		
	Primary Contact	Not Assessed		
	Aesthetic Quality	Not Assessed		
Crystal lake IL_RBU	Aquatic Life	Not Assessed	Mercury	Atmospheric Deposition - Toxics
	Fish Consumption	Not Supporting		
	Primary Contact	Not Assessed		
	Aesthetic Quality	Not Assessed		
Saline Branch IL_BPJC-06	Aquatic Life	Fully Supporting	N/A	N/A
	Fish Consumption	Not Assessed		
	Aesthetic Quality	Fully Supporting		
Saline Branch IL_BPJC-08	Aquatic Life	Not Supporting	Alteration in stream-side or littoral vegetative covers, Dissolved oxygen,	Channelization
	Fish Consumption	Not Assessed		

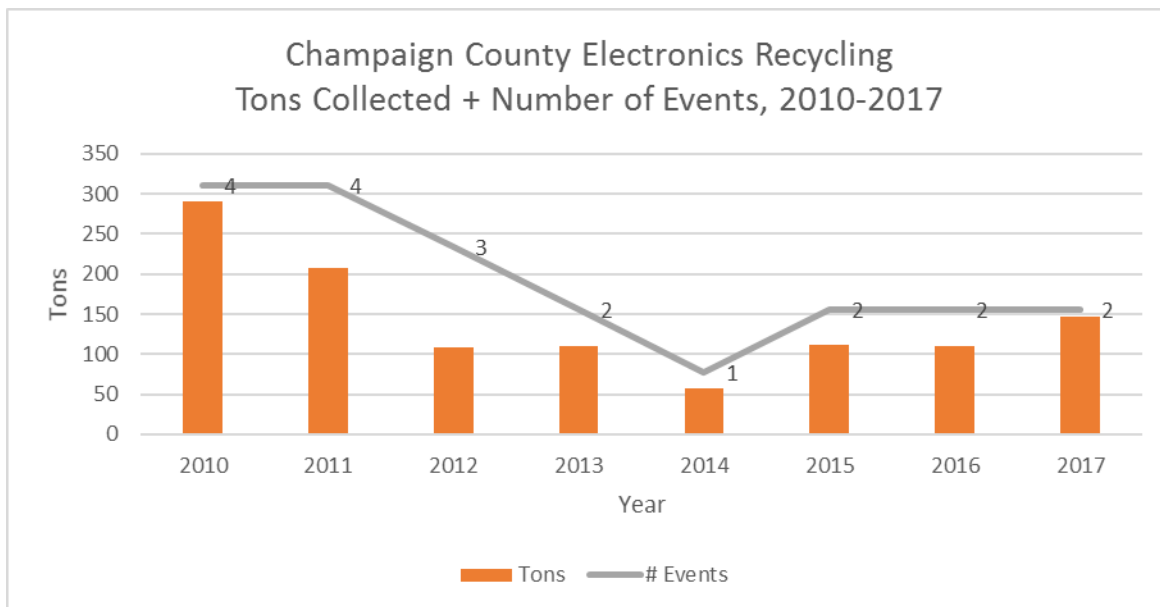


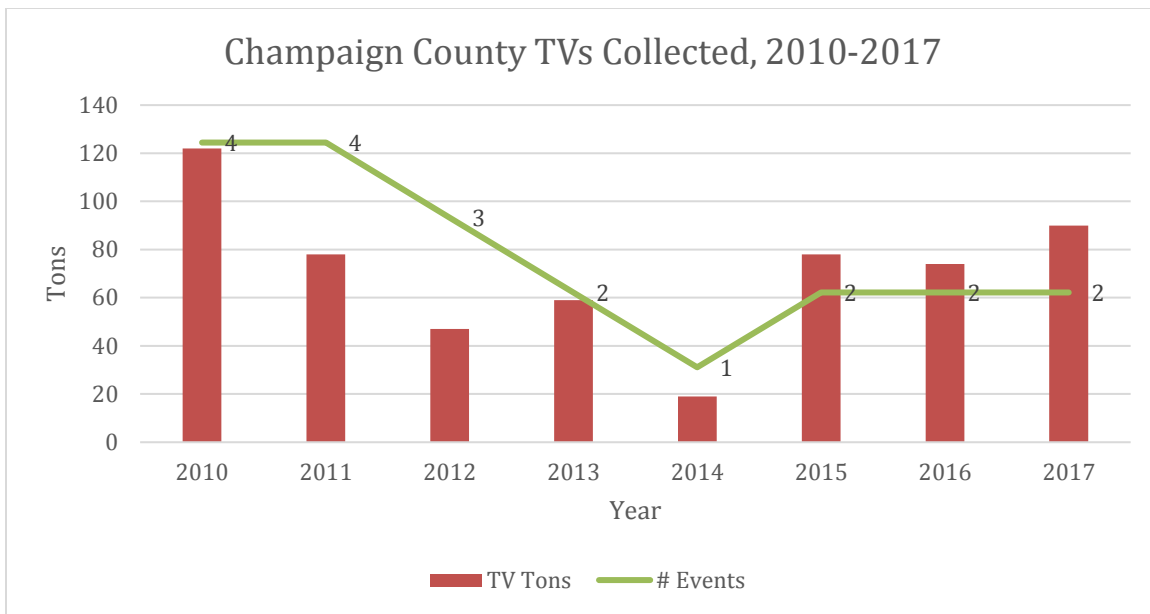
Public Engagement

Staff have appeared on Penny for your Thoughts radio show on WDWS, CI Business magazine, Champaign County Freedom Parade, and Urbana Market at the Square in the last two months with the expectation of appearing in the next issue of At Home in Central Illinois magazine.

U-Cycle

On May 19, U-Cycle staff along with staff from Champaign County, City of Champaign and Village of Savoy conducted the Spring 2018 electronics recycling event at Parkland College. There were 1,290 vehicles that dropped off electronics at the event. Outcomes are below





In July, U-Cycle staff conducted outreach to a dozen apartment complexes providing information/brochures to tenants about U-Cycle program, re-decaling recycling totes, and providing apartment management personnel with online versions of the U-Cycle brochure to e-mail to all new tenants. Staff will continue this effort through the remainder of the year to continue to reduce contamination at multifamily properties. In addition, staff e-mailed the major property management companies with a PDF of the U-Cycle brochure to e-mail to all tenants residing at Urbana properties.

Courtney Kwong, Recycling Coordinator, was named one of the 2018 Steve Thompson Memorial Resource Recycling Conference grant recipients. The grant awards the recycling coordinator free travel, registration and accommodation to the national Resource Recycling Conference in St. Louis on October 22-24, 2018. More than 350 people from North America applied for the grant this year. The grant application included a written essay on what the U-Cycle program has accomplished and what goals U-Cycle wishes to achieve in the future. A follow-up summary will be required of grant recipients after the conference. The grant is in honor of Steve Thompson, a committed recycling champion who worked tirelessly to move the recycling industry forward. Thompson, who passed away in 2016, served as executive director of the Curbside Value Partnership (CVP), part of Keep America Beautiful, before retiring in 2014. The grants are meant to honor him and his life's work.

Next Sustainability Advisory Commission Meeting

September 4 at 7:00 pm in the Executive Conference Room