
TO: Urbana Sustainability Advisory Commission
FROM: Scott R. Tess, Sustainability & Resilience Officer
DATE: June 6, 2023
RE: Staff Report

Carryout Bag Fee

Staff is reviewing ordinances and other materials from Illinois cities that have established carryout bag fees and will return to City Council to share information.

Geothermal Urbana-Champaign

The bulk geothermal program has 3 contracts secured. The vendor is having success installing air source heat pumps at lots where geothermal wells cannot fit.

Solar Urbana-Champaign

The bulk solar program will be publishing a request for proposal to select an installer very soon.

Urban Lumber

The Arbor Division and Landscape Recycling Center have made their first sale of urban lumber. Staff are working to develop a market for converting tree removals into slab and dimensional lumber as a higher and better use than firewood. The City currently has hackberry and red oak urban lumber for sale through the Landscape Recycling Center.

Ucycle

The Illinois Paint Stewardship Act (SB 836) passed the House and Senate and is on the Governor's desk for approval. This stewardship act would allow consumers to recycle used household paint safely and responsibly throughout the state. Once signed into law, paint manufacturers of household/architectural paint will submit a plan to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to establish a program. The paint manufacturers would then pay a fee to the IEPA to set up paint collection sites, services, or events to allow consumers to drop-off used paint, free of charge, throughout the state. The act would take effect on July 1, 2026.

Next Sustainability Advisory Commission Meeting

August 1 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers at the Urbana City Building.