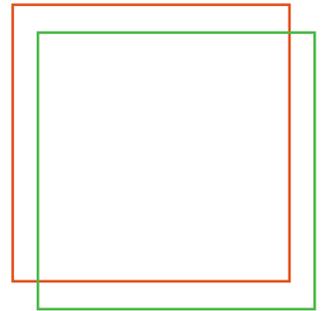
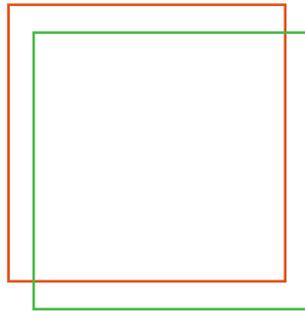
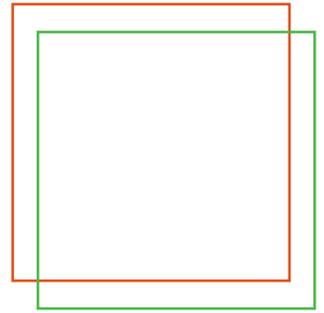
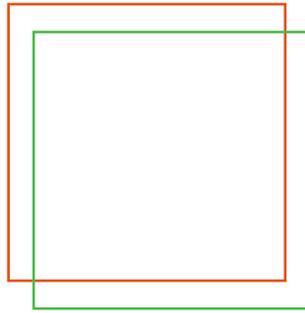
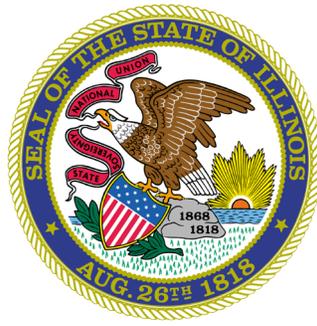


# 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Green Governments  
Coordinating Council





Office of the Governor  
Springfield, IL 62706

Pat Quinn, Governor

March 6, 2014

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The Illinois Constitution guarantees the people of this great state “a healthful environment for the benefit of this and future generations.” The environmental challenges we face require prudent, sustainable governance. It is our responsibility to leave the next generation with a clean, green Land of Lincoln while imparting the necessary skills for both conservation and sustainable development. I have chaired the Green Governments Coordinating Council (GGCC) since it was codified in state statute in 2007. I fully support the efforts of GGCC agencies and individuals to cultivate creative, sustainable solutions for state operations.

This 2013 GGCC Annual Sustainability Report outlines the innovative sustainability initiatives unfolding across our state agencies, boards, and public institutions. Since updating our data collection methods for the 2011 Annual Report, patterns have emerged that allow us to undertake more ambitious programs and make more environmentally-sound decisions. The information we gather highlights our successes while providing a road map for future improvements. Across the board, Illinois state agencies have embraced sustainable office practices and integrated new goals—from energy efficiency standards to local food procurement—into their missions. We’ve also built strong partnerships with local resources—such as the University of Chicago’s Data Science for Social Good program, which analyzed the energy efficiency of a sample of Department of Corrections’ facilities—and supported the efforts of Illinois’ sustainability community to provide solutions to difficult environmental, economic, and social justice problems. A number of individuals and agencies have gone above and beyond their duties to ensure Illinois government operates sustainably and efficiently with respect to the use of precious local and global natural resources. This report recognizes these efforts along with the many initiatives that have contributed to a more sustainable state of Illinois.

Every year, the success of the GGCC relies on interagency collaboration and partnerships. The 2013 report highlights state agencies’ cooperative efforts and the impressive results of these projects and programs in areas ranging from recycling to alternative transportation to green procurement. We must learn from past successes and challenges, build upon them, and continue to drive further improvement of state government’s environmental footprint in the years to come. I believe this report will reenergize our sustainability efforts and elevate Illinois as a national model of conscientious state governance. Of course, our work is never complete, but I am confident that we have the momentum to achieve great progress working together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Quinn".

Pat Quinn, Governor of Illinois

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Please consider the environment before printing this report. Visit [green.illinois.gov](http://green.illinois.gov) for a digital copy as well as previous GGCC reports.



# Toward a more sustainable Illinois

## A leaner, greener state government

The Green Governments Coordinating Council is proud to publish this ninth annual report for the 2013 fiscal year (July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013). The report highlights green initiatives and sustainability successes achieved by Council member agencies and by other constitutional offices, state agencies, boards, commissions, and educational institutions throughout Illinois.

## Background

The Illinois Green Governments Coordinating Council (GGCC) was originally formed by Executive Order in 2000. However, the enactment of the Green Governments Illinois Act (20 ILCS 3954) in the fall of 2007 formally established the Council in Illinois statute. With the enactment of the Green Governments Illinois Act, the Council grew in membership and authority.

Chaired by Governor Pat Quinn and comprised of a representative from the Lt. Governor's Office, and 14 state agency members, the Council seeks to “integrate more fully into the ongoing management systems, long-range planning, and daily operations of State agencies a number of cost-effective environmental sustainability measures that enhance health and safety, reduce the consumption of energy and fuels, conserve water, minimize emissions and reduce solid and hazardous wastes.” (20 ILCS 3954/10)

For FY2013 reporting, GGCC continued to use an Excel template. While the Excel template serves to assist state agencies in meeting the requirements of the Green Governments Illinois Act, it is also available as a tool to guide other institutions—particularly universities, colleges, schools, and local governments—in tracking and planning their own sustainability programs and initiatives.

## Scope

Sustainability assessment, planning, data-gathering and reporting cover seven operational areas that reach across the key opportunity areas for greening state operations and policies:

- Office Practices—Document production, distribution, and communications as well as local initiatives to conserve basic resources required for state operations;
- Recycling and Waste Reduction—Paper, glass, metal, oil, cardboard, batteries, aluminum, etc. as well as efforts to reduce waste produced by individual agencies;
- Purchasing—Procurement of paper, office supplies, and electronics;
- Energy, Landscaping and the Built Environment — Green building certification (e.g., LEED), energy efficiency, water conservation, green cleaning, waste reduction, retrofitting, alternative energy, gardening, local food production, green construction materials, and demolition recycling;
- Transportation—Vehicle use and maintenance, conventional and alternative fuel consumption, and use of transportation alternatives;
- Education—Employee education and awareness, Green Team communication and activities, contests, and awards programs.

The Structure of the report reflects these operational areas, though many initiatives fall in two or more categories. The report recognizes individual agency accomplishments but also highlights interagency cooperation—a key to sustainable operations. The “Caught Green Handed” profiles recognize outstanding individual achievement, emphasizing that all agency accomplishments are achieved through the concerted efforts of dedicated personnel.

## Report Highlights

This year state agencies and institutions have made great strides in pursuing energy efficiency and alternative transportation. A wide variety of departments have reduced energy consumption with ambitious retrofits, favored electronic communications to printing, and purchased more materials with environmentally friendly attributes. In addition, state agencies and institutions have expanded an array of recycling efforts on various scales. What follows are but a few of the many impressive accomplishments reported this year.

The Governor's Office, the Lt. Governor's Office, the Department of Central Management Services, Department of Transportation, Department of Corrections, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture and the Department of Revenue have purchased 55 electric vehicles and their charging stations. These electric vehicles are powered in part by renewable energy thanks to a recently renegotiated State Energy Contract to include 25 percent Illinois wind energy for all State Government buildings.

All 14 GGCC member agencies and 31 other state agencies and public universities reported on their

individual initiatives. Already a green leader, the Illinois Department of Corrections has continued to expand its recycling and local food programs. DOC also benchmarked energy use for seven facilities through a partnership with the University of Chicago's Data Science for Social Good, making a positive impact on local communities through energy efficiency and saving taxpayer dollars. All reporting universities—led by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign—demonstrated operational improvements as well as expansions in sustainability education and outreach, creating a robust sustainability culture throughout Illinois. In addition, the Department of Transportation designed a scorecard to measure sustainability practices for all transportation related projects, developed the first state bike plan and set up a new Sustainability Committee with representatives from all departments to monitor and report all internal sustainability practices.



*The 2007 Green Governments Illinois Act "demonstrates the State's commitment to reducing negative environmental impacts, reducing greenhouse gases, and preserving resources for current and future generations."*

## **Executive Initiatives**

As Chairman of the Council, Governor Pat Quinn and his office's staff coordinated a number of initiatives that further sustainability throughout state government, including the seventh annual Sustainable Schools Symposium. The symposium—hosted by the GGCC, USGBC-Illinois, and Loyola University—featured workshops, panel and break-out discussions, exhibits, and speakers who addressed topics such as sustainable transportation and best practices for green businesses. This year there was a record number of panels, participants, and presenters, with over 300 attendees enjoying approximately 17 panels that spanned higher education and K-12 sustainability issues. Topics included local foods, urban agriculture, energy research, and bike sharing.

This fiscal year also marked the second year of the newly redesigned Illinois Campus Sustainability Compact, which outlines environmental goals that colleges and universities—both public and private—may adopt on their campuses. The Compact includes objectives such as purchasing renewable energy, implementing green building practices, developing sustainable transportation options, improving water conservation, and incorporating sustainable dining practices. As a campus makes progress on its sustainability goals, it can apply for recognition when it has achieved bronze, silver, and/or gold levels. Currently 25 colleges and universities have been recognized at their achievement levels, with 9 of the 25 recognized at the Gold level, the highest level of achievement.

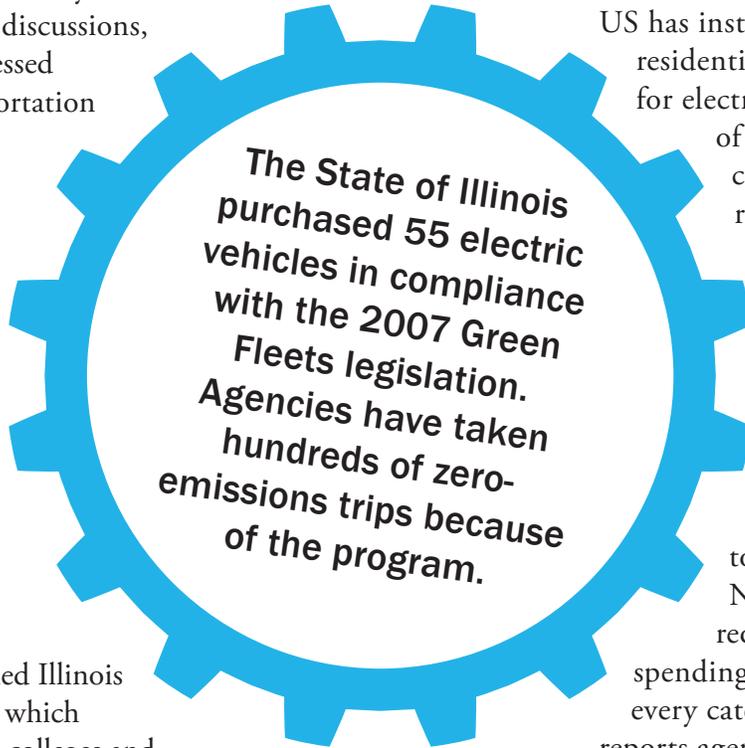
The Executive Mansion in Springfield continues to become greener and more efficient. All of the interior lighting has been replaced with LED lighting

by Polybrite-Borealis. Governor Quinn has also previously installed solar panels, rain barrels, and most recently a community vegetable garden. In May of 2011 Coulomb Technologies installed a residential ChargePoint® charging station for electric vehicles. The installation of the ChargePoint® station marks the first time a Governor of any state in the

US has installed a networked residential charging station for electric vehicles. The State of Illinois will use the charging station to recharge new electric vehicles and it will be used by staff as well as guests of the Mansion.

Agencies continued to respond effectively to Executive Order Number 10 (2010) requiring additional spending reductions in every category. In their reports agencies also cited

Executive Order Number 11 (2009) requiring them to adopt various green operational practices and encouraging other governmental entities to follow suit and take advantage of State contracts. This year's emphasis on energy efficiency and alternative transportation choices is reflected in Central Management Services' commitment to implementing cost-saving reductions across other agencies. Along with ARRA funding, Governor Quinn's \$31 billion capital bill (signed in July 2009) prioritized green construction and retrofits. These investments launched Illinois to first overall in the US Green Building Council's state ranking with 171 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certified projects, representing 2.29 square feet of LEED space per resident of Illinois.



# Reporting Agencies

The following agencies completed at least one section of the Green Government Coordinating Council sustainability planning and reporting requirements for fiscal year 2013.

Council Member agencies are listed in *bold italics*.

## Constitutional Offices

Office of the Auditor General  
Office of the Comptroller  
*Office of the Governor*  
*Office of the Lt. Governor*

## State Agencies

Arts Council  
*Department of Agriculture*  
*Department of Central Management Services*  
*Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity*  
*Department of Corrections*  
Department of Employment Security  
Department of Financial and Professional Regulation  
Department of Healthcare and Family Services  
*Department of Human Services*  
*Department of Natural Resources*  
Department of Revenue  
*Department of Transportation*  
Emergency Management Agency  
*Environmental Protection Agency*  
*Governor's Office of Management and Budget*

Historic Preservation  
Office of the State Appellate Defender  
Office of the State Fire Marshal  
Secretary of State  
State Board of Elections  
State Police  
State Toll Highway Authority  
State Universities Civil Services System

## Boards and Commissions

*Board of Higher Education*  
*Capital Development Board*  
Civil Service Commission  
Commerce Commission  
Criminal Justice Information Authority  
Guardianship and Advocacy Commission  
Pollution Control Board  
Prisoner Review Board  
Racing Board  
*State Board of Education*

## Public Education

Illinois State University  
Northern Illinois University  
Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
*University of Illinois at Chicago*  
*University of Illinois at Springfield*  
*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

## a. Office Practices

The little things often make the largest difference. Since the beginning of the GGCC, Illinois state agencies have recycled, consolidated, shared and digitized their way towards a greener state government. Sure, these local initiatives save state funds, but they also create a culture of change that prioritizes efficient resource use and environmental stewardship.

### Supplies

*The Auditor General* achieved a significant reduction in the use of paper and expect to reduce audit workpapers (hardcopies) by over 80 percent on an average audit.

*The State Appellate Defender* has instituted e-filing for a number of required legal documents. Along with this, the agency encourages employees to reuse paper, recycle and take advantage of double-sided printing and copying.

In 2013, *Capital Development Board (CDB)* staff replaced older printers, copiers, faxes and scanners with updated technology, reducing the number of machines from 50 to 7.

Before 2013, *the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)* did not purchase any recycled-content paper. This year, IDOT increased recycled paper purchases to 30 percent of all paper.

*The Department of Historic Preservation* equipped all printers for double-sided printing and also has desk-side recycling in most employee cubes.

*The Illinois Arts Council* distributes documents electronically, prints double-sided copies and turns off electronics when not in use. The Arts Council also transitioned from paper to online grant forms, while the staff maintains a commitment to reducing, reusing and recycling office products.

*The Office of Lieutenant Governor Sheila Simon* promotes reusable office supplies, particularly for parties and daily dishware. Office printers also default to double-sided printing to save paper.



*The DCEO Springfield office consolidates surplus to decrease the amount of new supply purchases.*

*The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO)* did not purchase any copy paper in FY13. Due to printer consolidations, DCEO's copy paper usage decreased approximately 50 percent in FY13. DCEO had enough extra reams in stock from FY12 (purchased 8,800 reams) to last through FY13 without any additional purchases. All copy paper used in the agency contains 30 percent recycled content, purchased from CMS master contract. Agency policy and practice is to remove desktop

imaging devices when employees leave and provide only networked multi-function device access (no desktop devices) for new employees.

*The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC)* reported the agency's lowest paper consumption totals since they began collecting data in 2008 and a seven percent decrease in total costs. This change occurred because of a number of paper reduction goals such as setting all printer and copier settings to duplex, draft-quality printing and streamlining agency websites and e-filing applications for reports and data.



### **Acting Director Simone McNeil, CMS**

CMS Acting Director Simone McNeil helps bring nature to the city. In cooperation with Windy City Harvest, Director McNeil coordinates vegetable planting outside of the Thompson Center. The annual crop of peppers, basil, kale, cabbage and other herbs not only beautifies the state of Illinois' Chicago office; it also shows the public how plants and agriculture can thrive in the most unusual places.

actively increased the number of electronic forms and communications.

Ninety-three percent of all paper purchased by *the State Universities Civil Service System* contained recycled content.

*Northern Illinois University (NIU)* eliminated the use of virgin paper on campus. The Document Services department uses 100 percent recycled-content paper and only provides recycled-content paper to other departments upon request.

*The Illinois State Board of Elections* has committed to buying more recycled paper in conjunction with reducing paper consumption by 5 percent in 2013. They've modernized agency documents, making most paperwork available online.

As a part of *Department of Revenue's* continuing efforts to reduce paper, the agency eliminated the weekly update mailings and reduced the annual booklet size by eliminating the General Instruction, Reg 16, 941 and labels. These changes resulted in a 70 percent paper reduction and \$72,000 in printing and postage cost savings.

*The Office of Financial Regulation* encourages employees to turn off lights and electronics when not in use. The office also reuses supplies like paper clips and binders, maintaining a collection location for redistributing unused supplies. What they cannot reuse—such as toner and cartridges—is promptly recycled.

*The Department of Employee Security (IDES)* uses CMS master contracts to purchase remanufactured toner cartridges. This purchase saved over \$300,000 based on previous toner purchases.

*The Office of the State Fire Marshal* committed to the GGCC Recycled Paper Challenge, and has

*The Office of Guardianship and Advocacy* adopted the E-time system, cutting back tremendously on the amount of paper, envelopes, postage and employee time consumed. The office looks to reuse anything it can before turning to recycling. Desk chairs and printers often come from surplus, while office supplies come from the recollection pile.

## **Greener Schools**



*The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE)* migrated a number of paper materials—from Board meeting materials, grant applications, academic program approvals, the Friday Memo weekly newsletter—to the agency website, reducing the amount of printing throughout the office. IBHE also allows educational institutions seeking operating and degree-granting authority to apply for this certification online on their website. In FY 2012, the IBHE received 194 Notices of Intent and 119 full applications from institutions seeking new program approval and the authority to operate and grant degrees, saving thousands of pages of paper.

## Going Digital

*The CDB* has made a strong push to eliminate paper from the office. Over the last year, the agency equipped three reviewers with additional monitors for electronic document review. Therefore, fewer paper copies of drawings and specifications are needed. The 2014 goal is to have two more reviewers providing electronic reviews.

*The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)* modified the process for reviewing employee overtime requests and created an electronic format. The agency saves 6,000 sheets of paper and nearly \$60 a year as a result.

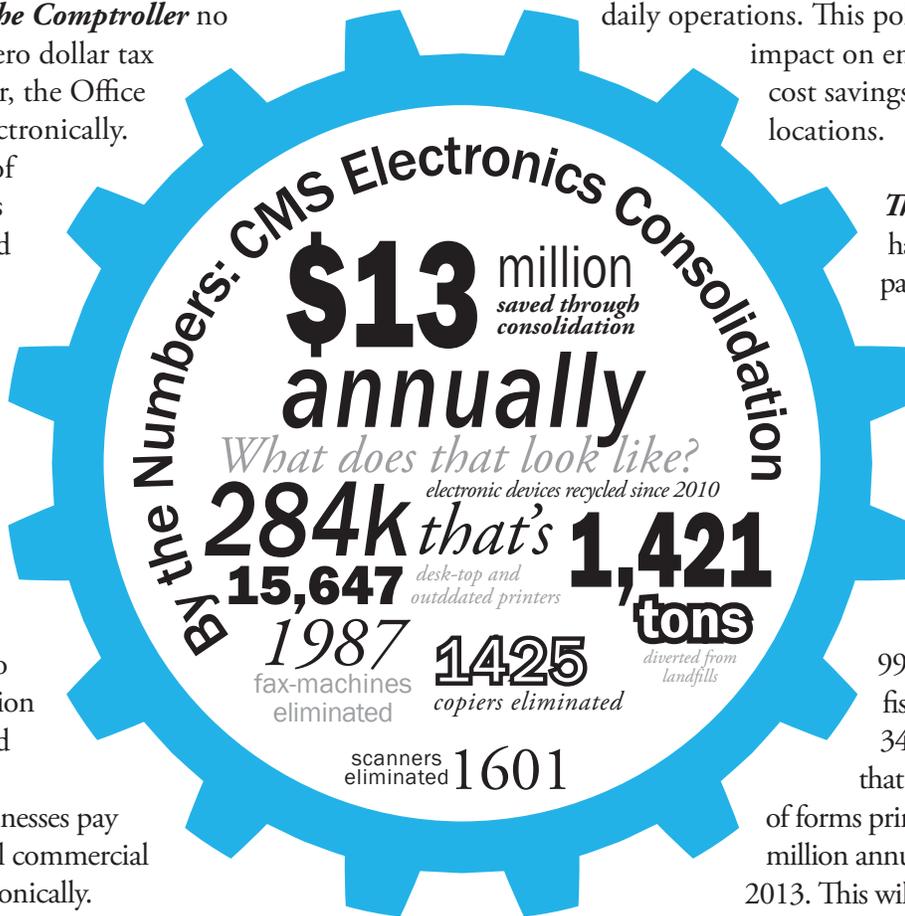
*The Office of the Comptroller* no longer prints zero dollar tax warrants; rather, the Office offers them electronically. Since the end of June 2012, this policy has saved approximately 500,000 pieces of paper. Also, the Comptroller continues to expand the use of electronic funds transfer to replace production of envelopes and paper warrants. Right now, businesses pay 64 percent of all commercial payments electronically.

### Billy Earl, CMS

Billy Earl exemplifies commitment to the environment in his role at CMS. Mr. Earl consolidates printers and manages paper needs across facilities—this includes removing desk printers from employees and upgrading technology. His dedication to the printer reduction project has saved the state money and the planet resources. Over the year, he has visited almost every single state site to assess and advise printing needs, while also reducing the amount of printers in state government and contributing to the Recycled Paper Challenge. State offices would not operate with as much efficiency without him!

*The Department of Healthcare and Family Services* developed and implemented a comprehensive Green IT plan. The agency committed to supporting sustainable daily operations. This policy has made a huge impact on environmental awareness and cost savings for the 62 individual HFS locations.

*The Department of Revenue* has identified key industries for paper elimination and directed them to their online tax-filing terminal, [MyTax.illinois.gov](http://MyTax.illinois.gov). In Fiscal year 2013, the agency launched an initiative to reduce the number of paper tax returns sent to Auto Dealers. As a result, the Department received over 992,000 electronic ST-556s in fiscal year 2013—an increase of 34 percent. Revenue anticipates that they will reduce the number of forms printed from approximately 1.2 million annually to under 400,000 in 2013. This will reduce printing and mailing costs by over \$50,000 in 2014.



The new coordinator for the Art-in-Architecture Program at *the CDB* has developed a database for all of the registered artists' portfolios to facilitate electronic submissions. The coordinator has also reduced the number of paper copies required on the Ethics Training Manuals for the selection committees.

*Central Management Services (CMS)* has installed software that provides active PC power management, which allows for the shut-down of desktop computers when not in use, on all CMS PC's and many PC's supported for other agencies. Once fully implemented at all agencies, this feature should save over \$1.4 million in electricity costs. Monitors also "time-out" when not in use for a pre-set period of time for additional electricity savings.

*CMS* has also developed applications to reduce the use of paper forms. Examples are the Electronic Pay Stub System (EPASS), which allows employees to view their current and past pay stubs electronically and the Electronic Timekeeping application (e Time), which eliminates the need for paper time sheets, leave requests and overtime requests. CMS supports tools and applications that allow for online report viewing and electronic content and document management, eliminating the need for paper where applicable.

Additionally, *CMS* has "virtualized" over 65 percent of servers supported for all agencies, which has reduced the number of physical servers and their corresponding power consumption.

### **Harish Bhatt, DES**

Harish Bhatt started recycling toner cartridges before CMS I-Cycle offered an official program. He picks up the used resources and delivers them to recycling centers on his personal time. Mr. Bhatt demonstrates the power that one individual has to make a noticeable environmental difference in the office and for the planet.

### **Socorro Del Real, Office of the Governor**

Socorro Del Real maintains a small, but verdant collection of plants in the Governor's Office. Besides rescuing plants and nursing them back to health without the benefit of direct sunlight, Ms. Del Real collects recycling from around the office and prioritizes supply reuse.

The print, fax, copier and scanner reduction continues to move forward. The impressive equipment reduction initiative has removed 11,700 devices since its inception. The device reduction savings is now an estimated \$7,240,040.00 in savings. The team leading this initiative handles the analysis, coordination and logistics of the entire operation.

New employees at *DCEO* now receive compact desktops that are more space and energy efficient. Many current employees' PCs were also upgraded to the efficient models.

*The Illinois Racing Board* continues to purchase green-cleaning products to ensure a safe and healthy workplace.

In fiscal year 2013, *the Department of Revenue* set new electronic filing and electronic payment records within the agency. The agency will receive over 4.7 million electronically-filed IL-1040 returns—approximately 150,000 more than 2012. Around 80 percent of the tax returns that the department receives for individual income tax are filed through one of the department's electronic filing options.

In 2013, *the Department of Revenue* expanded the number of tax-return types that businesses can file electronically. In calendar year 2013 the agency received over 200,000 business income tax returns electronically—a 175 percent increase from calendar year 2012. Also, the electronic payments programs continued to grow with the department receiving over 6 million electronic payments totaling more than \$33.4 billion through one of the agency's electronic payment channels.

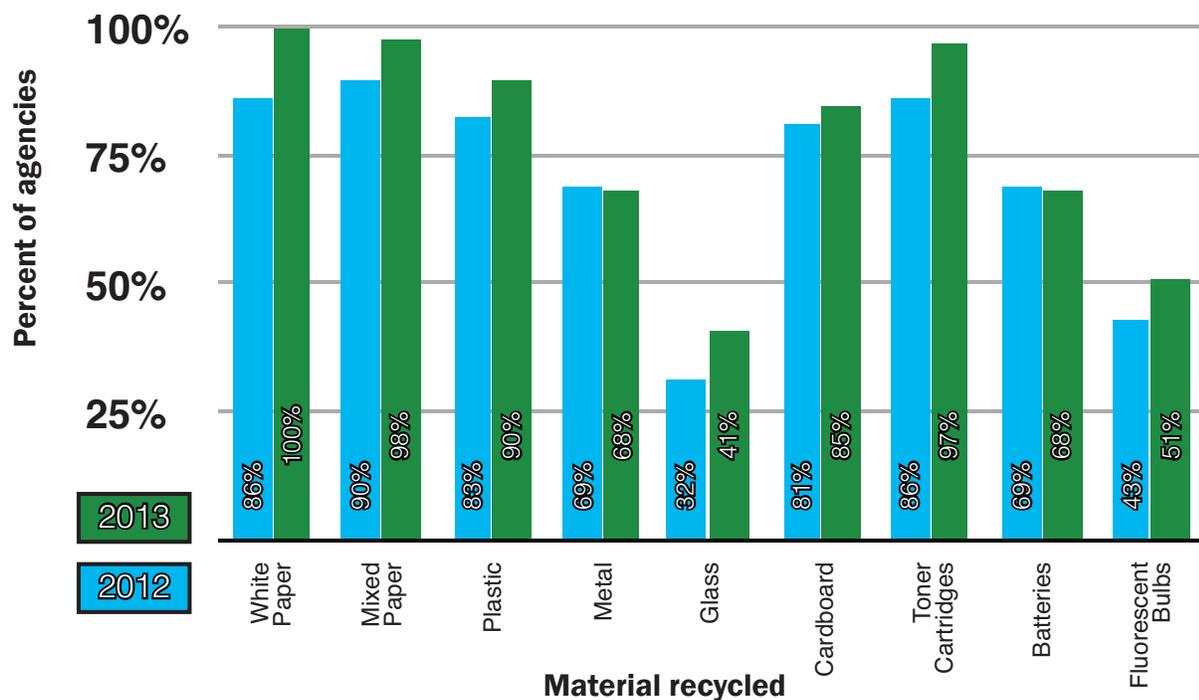
Also part of *Revenue's* continuing efforts to reduce paper consumption, the agency developed an electronic method for individuals to acquire mailed information. Department of Revenue offered electronic versions of the paper 1099G in FY13. This option reduced the required number of printed cards by an estimated 75 percent and saved approximately \$20,000 in printing cost and \$225,000 in postage.

*The Department of Human Services (DHS)* initiated a print reduction initiative in October of 2008. About 95 percent of the agency publications are available electronically. The DHS intranet hosts all bulletins and deliver all employee notices via email.

In fiscal year 2013 *DHS* completed the conversion of all DHS owned copiers, printers, fax machines and scanners to their more efficient counterparts. As a result of the initiative, DHS removed 3,984 printers, 975 scanners, 626 fax machines and 712 copy machines, replacing them with 1,065 Xerox multi-functional devices with an estimated annual savings of \$3.1 million.

Office cleaning occurs only three times per week in the *Office of the Auditor General* to reduce energy demands and depletion of cleaning supplies. In addition, the Office uses programmable thermostats, energy efficient and motion sensor lighting, automatic sleep mode for printers/copiers, low-water toilets and quick heat/reduced flow water faucets.

## Office Recycling Programs 2012 - 2013



## b. Recycling and Waste Reduction

Reduce. Reuse. Recycle. Agencies have tracked their supply use and made a conscientious effort to recycle. CMS negotiated a master contract for recycled-content paper, and the amount purchased increases every year. Some agencies, like DCEO, have seen overall paper use decline, and others have taken extra steps to ensure that materials avoid landfills.

All *Governor's Office of Management and Budget (GOMB)* employees have recycling bins in their offices, as well as numerous centrally located recycling bins. GOMB has developed educational materials for maintaining a more sustainable workplace.

State agencies purchased over **2.3 million** reams of recycled content paper in 2013.

*CDB* registered last year with TerraCycle—a recycling company—to recycle uncollected materials such as tape dispensers and cores. Unfortunately, the small volume of these materials used by the agency limited the ability to participate. *CDB* also researched recycling the large quantity of plastic binders in the office, but found few realistic options.

With help from *the Department of Corrections, the Illinois Secretary of State* constructed and placed recycling bins in and around the Capitol to encourage visitor and employee recycling.

*The Chief Procurement Offices* are building a unified portal for the submission of disclosures and certifications which would significantly reduce the amount of paper received by the agency.

In April 2013, the *GGCC Green Procurement Subcommittee* launched the “Buy Recycled Paper Challenge” for State agencies to commit to buying a greater percentage of recycled-content paper.

*CMS* will continue to use State Use Vendors in fiscal year 2014 to process broken or outdated electronics (computers, monitors, fax machines, etc.). The State Use Vendors continue to meet or exceed national certifications (ISOs, R2, etc.) for responsible electronics recycling. Since inception of the current state-use master recycling contracts (April 2010) *CMS* has ensured the responsible recycling of 218,121 electronics and prevented 1,090.6 tons of e-waste from entering Illinois landfills, saving



*The Recycled Paper Challenge has helped agencies monitor supply use across the board and created repositories for supplies that meet agency demands.*

## A Greener State Fair



*The Department of Agriculture* has made sustainability a top priority for the Illinois State Fair. Last year, recyclers collected over 10,000 pounds of aluminum cans from the Springfield fairgrounds. At the DuQuoin facility, staff collected and baled nearly 4.5 tons of cardboard and 2400 pounds of aluminum cans. Both sites maintain ambitious vegetable-oil recycling programs, and DuQuoin collected and recycled over 1200 gallons at last year's fair.

In cooperation with Illinois Correctional Industries, Department of Agriculture plans to recycle cardboard year round and expand vendor-education programs for a greener State Fair experience.

taxpayers more than \$8 million dollars in related expenses (transportation, labor, etc.).

*The Illinois Tollway Authority* recycled over 7000 pounds of electronics and consolidated printers.

*DCEO* employees David Ross, David Smith, and Kate Tomford regularly chair and participate in the GGCC calls for recycling and waste. David Smith was a guest speaker for the GGCC colleges and schools committee to discuss planning and recycling issues. GGCC members were provided guest access to DCEO-supported recycling and waste reduction seminars. DCEO also issued an FSCRAP grant to DOC to implement food scrap composting projects at several facilities. FSCRAP grants were also issued to Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and Western Illinois University to implement food composting projects addressing material generated on campus.

At the Ridgely Building in Springfield and Thompson Center in Chicago, *DCEO* collects and recycles batteries from both agency use and personal use. The Ridgely bin is in the third floor file room, and the Thompson Center bin is in the mail room. Also at Ridgely, DCEO has a container for recycling electronic media for recycling for such things as video tapes, DVDs, cassettes, etc.

*The Office of the State Fire Marshal* maintains a comprehensive recycling program. The Office has a centralized recycling pick up, as well as desk-side recycling. They also have a cardboard recycling and re-use receptacle in the back of the agency.

From 1987 to 2012, *the University of Illinois at Springfield* reduced waste generation per student by 50 percent. The university recycles all computers, metal and furniture and only purchases paper with 30 percent recycled content.

A simple change in garbage collection methods increased paper recycling by 40 percent across *Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville's* campus.

*The University of Illinois at Chicago* participated in Recyclemania and improved over previous performance—from eighth place to sixth, recycling 823,554 pounds of material. The urban campus also placed 21st out of 246 universities for paper recycling, aided by a grant to expand recycling collection and install desk-side recycling bins.

*IDOT* used a recycled asphalt mix for three resurfacing projects, some of the first recycled asphalt projects in the nation. The mix uses 97 percent recycled content while reducing petroleum input and cutting costs by nearly 20 percent.

*Western Illinois University* expanded its food scrap compost program to include pre-consumer collection from each dining hall and the University Union, collecting nearly 150 pounds of food scraps daily.

## c. Purchasing

State contracts play a vital role in ensuring sustainable operations. Beyond the recycled-content paper contract, CMS ensures that agencies purchase supplies with minimal environmental impacts and that new technology meets environmental requirements.

Beyond their commitment to the GGCC Recycled Paper Challenge and negotiating contracts for sustainable state purchases, **CMS** employees have worked hard to help local food producers and distributors to find a market. Last year, Carol Pinkerton of CMS Bureau of Strategic Sourcing presented at the Local Food Connections Summit to farmers and producers on how to sell local foods to the state of Illinois. In November, Tim Coleman gave presentations at Illinois Farm Bureau's "Meet the Buyer" event for local farmers and producers.

**Department of Revenue** continues to purchase all paper and all envelopes via green contracts. The department also continues to require that all outside print jobs are printed on recycled paper



with soy based ink. The Department of Revenue now purchases 100% of their toner cartridges via the recycle cartridge master contract.

**The Department of Veterans' Affairs** purchased over \$2 million in local foods, supporting local farmers and the Illinois economy.

**The State Appellate Defender** prioritizes recycled-content purchases of toner, paper, envelopes and business cards as well as ENERGY STAR rated electronics.

**The University of Illinois at Chicago** encourages students and facility managers to purchase green products through their iBuy System. The university also has a green-purchasing plan created by a green purchasing task force.



*Through local initiatives, state agencies supported the economic growth and well-being of Illinois farmers.*

## d. Energy, Landscaping and the Built Environment

Buildings contribute as much as one third of global greenhouse gas emissions. Illinois State Government has prioritized green building as well as energy efficiency retrofits for state-owned properties to ensure minimum environmental impact and maximum savings. Agencies meet energy challenges in new and interesting ways, and cutting-edge research from the state university system continues to push the bar higher.

### Energy

*The CMS Bureau of Property Management (BOPM)* is now spearheading major electrical, mechanical and building envelope upgrades to six complexes through Energy Performance Contracting, which should reduce 10-year energy costs by over \$7 million through reduced electricity, gas and water usage and associated environmental benefits.

*CMS* is also looking to expand its energy efficiency efforts through instituting major boiler tune-ups and lighting retrofits throughout the state. The agency is working to support the Department of Corrections' ongoing efforts to develop energy efficiency and renewable energy projects at various locations. *CMS* also works with the Department of Agriculture to develop projects to expand the use of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield.

*DCEO* works closely with *CMS* on facility retrofit projects where state buildings—both owned and leased—can reduce project costs by taking advantage of *DCEO*'s energy efficiency rebates. *DCEO*'s energy efficiency technical assistance team—the Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC) at UIUC—has provided free building energy assessments to IDOC correctional centers and other state facilities.

*DCEO*'s David Baker and Kate Tomford actively participate in the Energy Efficiency Committee. In FY13, *DCEO* collaborated with *CMS*, *CDB*, *GOMB*, and *IFA* to plan and partially fund the *CMS*-led energy performance contracting project for six state-owned facilities near Chicago.

*In 2013, Illinois*  
ranked **FIRST**  
*with*  
**171** **US Green Building**  
**Council LEED**  
**Certified projects.**  
*That's*  
**29 million** feet<sup>2</sup>  
*of* **LEED**  
**CERTIFIED SPACE.**

*The Department of Human Rights* replaced 150 computers and monitors with ENERGY STAR certified appliances.

An early participant in energy performance contracting, *Southern Illinois University Edwardsville* continues to add energy-efficient initiatives and expand its renewable energy portfolio. *SIUE* purchases 10 percent of its energy from wind farms and replaced all low-efficiency CFC

chillers with equipment that requires about 80 percent less energy.

Retrofitting has made facility operations more sustainable at the *University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)*. Since beginning a comprehensive retrofit program, UIC facilities have replaced over 60,000 fixtures and over 1.2 million square feet of laboratory and office space. The project decreased energy use by more than 30 percent and decreased the greenhouse gas emissions by 3.5 percent.

*IDOT* distributed 10,000 oak seedlings to Illinois schools to celebrate clean air and Earth Day. Since *IDOT* began the oak seedling program, the agency has given out over 40,000 oak seedlings to schools.

### **Bart Lytel, Illinois State University**

Bart Lytel began an e-recycling program at Illinois State University approximately three years ago utilizing student employees and a degauzing machine. Mr. Lytel's diligent work and advocacy guaranteed the success of the program and as of July 1, Mr. Lytel was named head of the unit. In taking the position full-time he has returned impressive numbers of refurbished units and significant financial savings for the state. For the first two months under Mr. Lytel's leadership. There were 392 units returned to campus for a savings of \$323,123.75. Additionally, the program diverted 5,098.55 pounds from the landfill.

*IDOT* has entered year two of a three-year study with the *University of Illinois* to make sustainable, productive use of *IDOT* right-of-ways. The project began with the goal of planting, harvesting and ultimately using cellulosic grasses on unproductive land that requires maintenance. Harvested switchgrass can then be burned for energy or converted to ethanol for E85 vehicles.

In 2013, *the University of Illinois at Chicago* planted an Urban Heritage Garden. Located on campus, the garden serves as a welcoming green space as well as an educational space, challenging students to consider the quality of life issues central to urbanization. The garden provides students and faculty with hands-on horticulture opportunities that emphasize public space and native planting.

In 2013, the *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign* completed and certified four LEED Silver projects and one LEED Platinum project—The Lincoln Hall renovation. Nine additional projects await completion and certification in addition to the eight already-certified buildings that total over 600,000 square feet. A campus-wide retrofitting initiative updated the HVAC systems in more than 40 buildings, reducing energy by 28 percent with a cumulative cost avoidance of more than \$14 million.

Nearly all campus landscaping waste at *the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign* is composted or mulched, complimenting the ambitious native plantings across campus properties.



*The Transportation and Education Center at Southern Illinois University Carbondale achieved LEED Silver accreditation.*

# Build Green Illinois

Following the guidelines of the 2009 Green Building Act, the State of Illinois constructed five of the 171 LEED certified projects completed across Illinois in 2013.

The Lincoln Hall renovation at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign achieved LEED Platinum. The newly-finished

shipping and receiving facility at Joliet Junior College received LEED Gold designation, while the USGBC recognized Western Illinois University Riverfront Campus renovation, the Student Services Center at Truman City College and the new science building at Southern Illinois University Carbondale as LEED Silver projects.



**Clockwise: Lincoln Hall at the University of Illinois, Joliet Junior College Shipping and receiving facility, Student Services Center at Truman City College, Science Hall at Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville and Western Illinois University Riverfront Campus.**



# e. Spotlight: Growing a Greener Department of Corrections



## Drawing a Baseline



With help from the University of Chicago Data Science for Social Good Fellowship Program, DOC created energy benchmarks for their Hill, Shawnee, Pinckneyville, Western Illinois and Danville Correctional Facilities. Comparing interval energy data between the facilities, the Fellows found Shawnee operated most efficiently.

Energy benchmarking helps to identify inefficiencies, and large sample sizes yield more informative results. The DOC facilities provided adequate data because of their structural similarities. DOC incorporated these findings into its sustainability plan and continues to upgrade facility systems to maintain optimum efficiency.

### Quick Facts

- Logan Correctional Center has implemented a successful vermicomposting operation with the help from Richland Community College. The sophisticated worm farm has transformed 3838 pounds of organic waste into nutrient-rich compost for gardens and grounds.
- DOC invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in DCEO grants and incentives towards sustainable equipment upgrades in boilers, lighting, HVAC systems, stoves and ovens. This initiative has reduced department-wide natural gas consumption and energy use.



*In Bloom: 22 DOC facilities maintain on-campus gardens. In 2013, Vandalia CC grew over 28,000 pounds of produce including 10,000 pounds of corn.*

## f. Transportation

Transportation presents a great opportunity for individual employees to make significant environmental improvements. State employees have responded in kind. From Curb Your Car Week to the IEPA Green Fleets program, agencies have reduced the miles they drive and employees are making sustainable commuting choices.

Employees at *the Office of the Auditor General* use the fleet flex-fuel vehicle for ride sharing and visits to external audit locations. Similarly, the agency actively provides compressed work time, flex-time schedules and telecommuting options to reduce energy consumption.

In fiscal year 2013, *CDB* purchased one flex fuel vehicle to replace an older non-flex fuel vehicle. In fiscal year 2014, *CDB* again plans to replace one older vehicle with a flex fuel vehicle and continue to promote the use of E85, carpooling and utilizing efficient vehicles through ZipCar or renting when motor pool cars are not available.

*CMS - Department of Vehicle's (DOV)* State Employee Business Transportation Policy guides agency transportation decisions to sustainable, fuel- and cost- efficient choices such as the use of Amtrak and promotes the use of videoconferencing and webinars to reduce travel. *DOV* provides agencies with a cost

calculator tool to help make informed and efficient decisions when choosing among transportation options. *DOV* also coordinates Bike to Work Week activities across state agencies annually. *CMS-DOV* installed 15 electric vehicle charging stations across the state in FY13 and plans on installing another 15 EV stations in FY14.

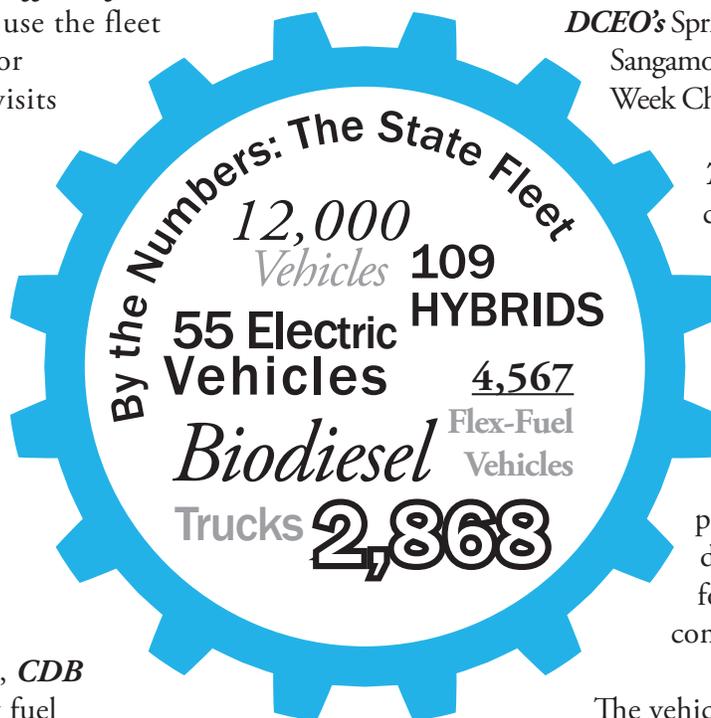
*DCEO's* Springfield office participated in the Sangamon County Curb Your Car / Bike to Work Week Challenge.

*The Department of Revenue* continues updating its aging fleet with Hybrid, Electric, and E-85 capable vehicles to work with *CMS' Vehicle Use Program*. The agency has also expanded education and communication with fleet drivers to highlight their legislative obligation to use E-85 whenever practicable in flex fuel vehicles. The department maintains a carpool system for E-85 vehicles and encourages video conferences for state business.

The vehicle fleet of *the Department of Natural Resource's* Chicago office consists only of two electric vehicles and ZipCar car sharing. This ensures fuel-efficient trips for the entire Chicago staff.

*IDOT* adopted an idling policy for all gas and diesel fleet vehicles. *IDOT* vehicles cannot idle for longer than five minutes, reducing emissions and fuel consumption.

*The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority* has reduced its fleet to two vehicles, relying mostly on the hybrid and fuel-efficient vehicles offered by ZipCar.



## Share the Road: Completing the First Illinois Bike Transportation Plan

In cooperation with Alta Planning and a number of key stakeholders, IDOT developed the first bike plan for the state of Illinois. The plan recognizes bicycling as a safe, healthy and sustainable transportation option, playing a vital role in Illinois' diverse transit landscape.

The Illinois Bike Transportation Plan follows five key principles embedded in Illinois' Long Range Transportation Plan and makes up a significant part of the Transforming Transportation for Tomorrow vision:

### (1) Access:

The plan ensures that users across Illinois can use world-class bicycle facilities for transportation and recreation while adhering to the Illinois Complete Streets policy.

### (2) Choices:

The plan outlines bicycling as a sustainable transportation alternative appropriate for Illinois citizens, helps grow a multimodal system that empowers users to choose the most appropriate transit option and provides resources for the public to accomplish this efficiently and safely.

### (3) Connectivity:

The plan identifies gaps in Illinois bikeway and trails system and provides a framework for connecting them, creates an intermodal network



within existing transit options and attempts to link up to existing interstate bicycle routes.

### (4) Safety:

The Illinois Bike Transportation Plan considers all users of the road for infrastructure projects, dedicates funding specifically for infrastructure and education, enhances data and data collection methods as well as ensures maintenance of existing infrastructure and enforcement of state laws.

### (5) Collaboration:

The Illinois Bike Transportation Plan provides—among other things—a framework for improvements concerning safety, education, outreach and infrastructure, but its success as part of the Long Range Transportation Plan depends on active, engaged stakeholder groups. The Illinois Bike Transportation Plan identifies these key district offices, metropolitan planning organizations, councils of government, localities and advocates who contributed to the current plan and will continue working to improve bicycling throughout the State of Illinois.

Focusing on active transit, *the Department of Revenue* made a significant commitment to active transportation and employee health. In May 2013, the agency finished first in the large employer category of the Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission's Curb Your Car Challenge. A total of 69 employees—6.6 percent of the department total—at the Willard Ice Building participated in the week-long event. In 2012, the agency planned and implemented a summer program focused on encouraging employees to exercise. The “REV Up Your Health” program, which ran from June through September 2012, encouraged employees to “Get Up, Get Active and Get Fit”. Department employees exercised a total of 49,134 miles, including 3,911 miles commuting to and from work. The successful REV Up Your Health program returned for summer of 2013.

*DHS* has made great strides to improve the efficiency of its vehicle fleet. In fiscal year 2013 DHS sent 139 older high-mileage vehicles to surplus. DHS added 81 mostly flex-fuel vehicles this fiscal year, complementing the three electric vehicles acquired in fiscal year 2012.



Governor Quinn speaks at a zero-emission vehicle event. The state has a contract for two models of electric vehicles, the Mitsubishi i-MiEV and the Nissan LEAF.

All *University of Illinois Springfield* motor pool vehicles average between 30-38 highway miles per gallon. On campus, staff uses electric carts rather than gasoline vehicles.

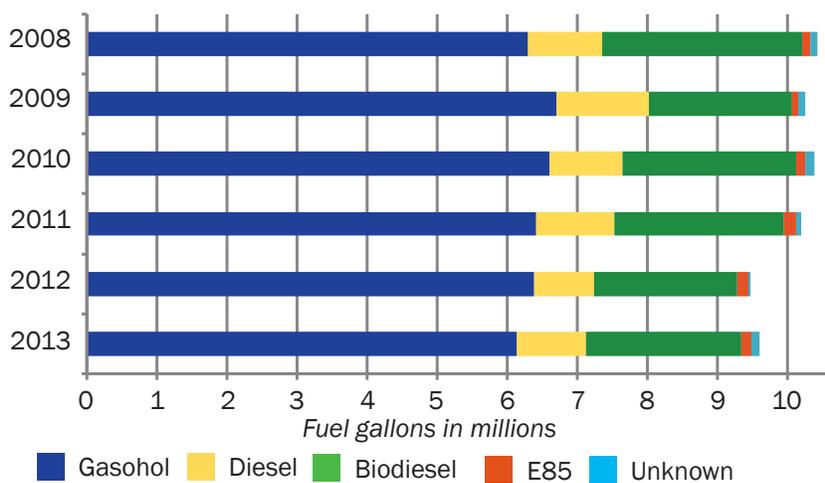
Thirteen percent of *GOMB* participated in the state of Illinois annual “Curb Your Car/Bike to Work Week.”

*The Office of Guardianship and Advocacy* uses ZipCar to drive newer, more fuel-efficient vehicles.

*IDOT* piloted a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Project, allowing the agency to test the feasibility of CNG vehicles for daily functions such as snow plowing.

In 2013, over 40 *IDOT* staff members participated in Curb Your Car Week and saved over 4300 miles of personal car use. The agency has also strongly supported International Walk to School Day and promoted safe routes for walking to and from schools across Illinois.

## Reduction in Fleet Fuel Use



Overall, fleet fuel consumption of gasohol, diesel and biodiesel declined by approximately 862,655 gallons since 2008. Using average price per gallon statistics and by year, this represents \$2.8 million in fuel savings over this time period.

*The Illinois Pollution Control Board* does not have a vehicle fleet. The Board encourages employees to use public transportation, ZipCar or carpooling while commuting.

*Illinois State University (ISU)* offers free public transit for faculty, staff and students. In addition, bike parking and repair stations have been added throughout campus, complementing the Good to Go transit program and the ISU Commuter Challenge.

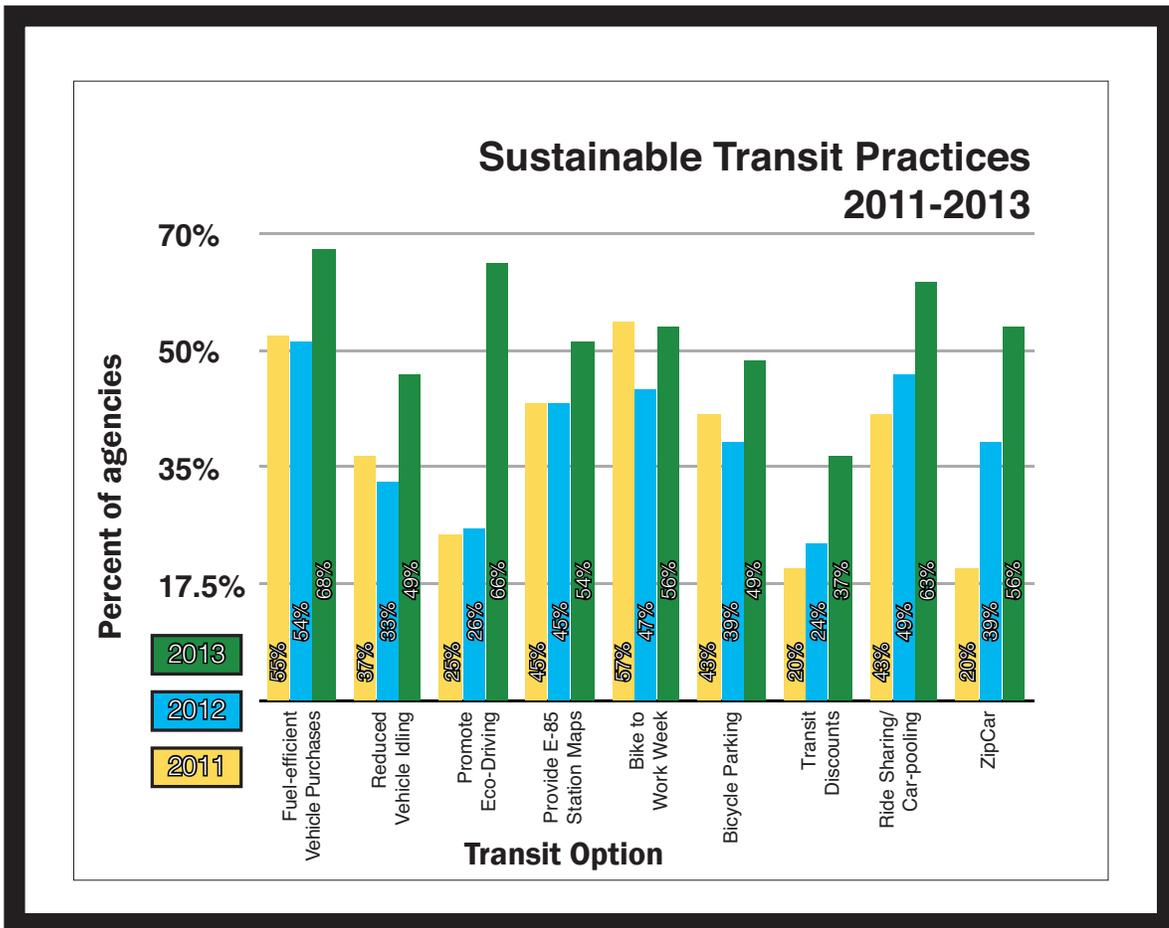
*The Illinois State Board of Elections* has emphasized technology over travel, decreasing total personal miles traveled and saving the agency money.

*The Office of Lieutenant Governor Sheila Simon* takes advantage of an electric vehicle to make short trips as sustainable as possible.

*The University of Illinois at Chicago* has embraced bicycle commuting as a sustainable transit option and established a Bike Planning Committee to steer commuter initiatives and invest in infrastructure. Bicycling is only one part of UIC's multi-modal approach to student and faculty transit. CMAP awarded UIC with a grant to develop a multi-modal transit plan to connect the community with the wide-range of urban transit options. In conjunction with this, new employees learn about sustainable transit options throughout Chicago during orientation.

The League of American Bicyclists recognizes *the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign* as a Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly University with over 10,000 bicycles and miles of active infrastructure and a Campus Bicycle Shop. The shop has seen substantial growth since creation in 2010 with over 3,000 visitors in 2013. The Student Sustainability Committee awarded funding to a year-long bicycle education

campaign that launched in May 2013, with the goal to promote bicycling for transportation and encourage safe roadway behavior by all travel modes. This campaign includes new bicycle riding and maintenance courses, events, printed materials, print and digital advertisements, and a Bicycle Ambassador program launched in the fall.



## g. Education

Sustainable government requires an informed staff willing to collaborate and share lessons about initiatives or simple water-saving techniques. State agencies have created a variety of guides and policies for their staff in order to conserve resources. Education extends beyond the workplace to the various professional environmental certifications that help build an environmentally-conscious staff.

Last year, *the Capital Development Board* created a number of training videos that allow staff to share information with vendors on various procedures. As a result, staff travels less and uses less paper for handouts.

One additional member of *CDB* passed the LEED Accredited Professional exam in FY13. CDB now employs 11 LEED APs and regularly holds green-building webinars so staff can learn, grow and maintain credits.

*The Department of Revenue* has developed an agency-wide Sustainability Policy that includes directions on how to reduce paper and information on sustainable transit options. They also coordinate cooperation between the Sustainability Committee and the Revenue Employees Club in an effort to spread the sustainability message and fund initiatives.



*Green Northern Illinois University has used its sustainability programming to educate community members about native plantings and invasive species.*

*The University of Illinois Springfield* educates and communicates with their students, staff and faculty. The

Senate Sustainability Committee established yearly schedules including brown-bag lectures, educational courses through the Environmental Studies curriculum, recycling initiatives and an orientation for incoming freshman, directed at water, electricity and recycled container conservation. Also, the University hosts a number of Earth Day events and regular Recycling Days.



*The Illinois Civil Service Commission* posts sustainability tips on a Sustainability Board in their lunch area to provide a forum for discussing office sustainability.

*Staff of the Auditor General* participates in Springfield Green's Adopt-A-Street program. Volunteers pick up garbage along a two mile stretch of sidewalk between MacArthur and Martin Luther King Drive on Ash Street.

*Northern Illinois University* created a home for all of their sustainability initiatives—the NIU Green Team, operated through the Task Force for a Sustainable Campus Environment. It includes information on general recycling, battery recycling and fluorescent light bulb recycling among other things.

The Task Force for Sustainable Campus Environment at NIU plays a prominent role in a number of campus-wide activities such as the Wellness Fair, an Electronics Waste Disposal and Recycling Program, Battery Recycling, Pen and Pencil Recycling Programs, the Environmental Fall Festival and Earth Day events.



## h. Caught Green Handed

These individuals have gone above and beyond expectations in order to ensure a more sustainable state of Illinois. Their effort and dedication directly contributes to the mission of the GGCC and helps to grow sustainable programs and initiatives throughout state operations.

### Patrick Corcoran, Office of the Governor

Patrick Corcoran has committed to alternative modes of transportation in his role as an outreach coordinator for Get Covered Illinois, the state health-care exchange. When he isn't taking advantage of Divvy, Chicago's bikeshare system, Mr. Corcoran uses a state-owned, fully-electric Nissan LEAF to conduct outreach on behalf of the Illinois health-care marketplace. Mr. Corcoran took the LEAF to a health-care outreach meeting in Elgin, a trip of over 100 miles round trip that required him to find and use a charging station. Based on trips and total miles driven, Mr. Corcoran has displayed one of the greatest employee commitments to the sustainable transit.

### David Smith, DCEO

David Smith is committed to reducing the amount of waste that ends up in Illinois landfills. Mr. Smith makes a point to collect cardboard around the office and dispose of it properly because the Ridgely Building in Springfield does not provide cardboard recycling. Over the past year, he has dropped off about 250 pounds of cardboard that would otherwise be unnecessarily landfilled.

Mr. Smith also supports product reuse in a number of forms. He donates clean packing materials to a local shipping business and composts office coffee grounds, adding them to his home compost and recycling the individual containers.

### Jeff Jennings and Charles Lingle, Shawnee Correctional Facility

Jeff Jennings and Charles Lingle are both assigned to the Correctional Industries facility located at the Shawnee Correctional Center. These individuals have been instrumental in the creation and operation of a recycling program that has resulted in the processing of approximately 200 tons of recyclable materials per fiscal year. Their tireless efforts have resulted in the facility saving thousands of dollars each year by reducing the amount of waste leaving the facility - not to mention the reduction of waste that was previously going to the landfill. Their dedication and insightfulness is

demonstrated daily as they deal with problems that arise and develop new and innovative methods of becoming a more sustainable facility. Through their hard work DOC recycling efforts have expanded beyond the Shawnee Correctional Center to the Vienna Correctional Center, Hardin County Work Camp, IYC Harrisburg, DHS Harrisburg, Social Security Office in Harrisburg, and the Massac County General Hospital. Future plans include incorporation of several surrounding communities much in need of recycling programs.



*Inter-agency collaboration at the Illinois State Fair led to 4.5 tons of cardboard and over 10,000 pounds of aluminum recycled during last year's State Fair.*



### **Tracey Laird, Department of Corrections**

Tracey Laird serves as a Correctional Counselor II at Pinckneyville Correctional Center and is an active member of the Sustainability Committee. Ms. Laird, in performing her duties as a Counselor processing the Offender Telephone Number List Request, DOC 0193, realized this two page document should be able to be condensed to one page.

Ms. Laird took the initiative and worked toward this goal. Due to her diligence and hard work Ms. Laird successfully

condensed this entire document into one page, which is now being used statewide. This form, once completed, must also be scanned into the Securus system. Per the Administrative Directive upon entry into a facility, offenders shall be provided with and required to complete the Offender Telephone Number List Request, DOC 0193. Offenders must also complete this document when making any changes to their contact numbers.

This one single action has eliminated 50 percent of the amount of paper used by facilities statewide in meeting this requirement as well as reduced the amount of time and workload of the employee scanning by 50 percent. Ms. Laird's initiative and desire to move toward a greener facility and agency as a whole is positive and inspirational to other staff members.

### **Tim Peters, IDOT**

Tim Peters is IDOT's Winter Operations Engineer and he promotes techniques that minimize the environmental impact of snow and ice operations. These included implementing the use of liquid deicers, equipment calibrations and good salt management practices. Mr. Peters has been actively involved in researching new alternative fuel including biomass fuels, compressed natural gas (CNG) and liquid natural

gas (LNG). Mr. Peters has worked with the IDOT group that is developing pilot tests of CNG vehicles. He also advocates for E-85 and the reuse of refined oil.

Mr. Peters also played an integral role in the establishment of IDOT's anti-idling policy. The IDOT Idling Policy prohibits idling for more than 5 minutes for all gasoline or diesel fueled motor vehicles at any location, unless conditions warrant an exception.

Mr. Peters also runs the IDOT Compressed Natural Gas Pilot Project. This project involves securing various types of CNG vehicles to test under conditions that IDOT vehicles

encounter in their daily operations. Mr. Peters searches for sites so IDOT can secure the cost-effective, proper vehicle testing.

### **Bill Gross, DOC**



Bill Gross has spent the better part of his career developing the Menard recycling program. Half of all waste that is created by Menard is sorted, baled and sold to recycling centers. Menard recycling is also the recycling hub for all of the municipalities in Randolph County. Mr. Gross achieved this through a lot of trial and error, and on a shoe string budget. Mr. Gross has developed a statewide Waste Vegetable oil program as well. The waste oil is used for the production of Biodiesel or is sold to rendering companies that turn it into a wide variety of household products.. He is also currently working with 5 additional facilities to assist them with implementing a recycling program. Although he planned to retire, Mr. Gross stayed on and went the extra mile to ensure a more sustainable Illinois government.



Beginning *in June of 2013,*  
**25 %** *to*  
of all electricity supplied **%** Illinois State Government comes from  
**ILLINOIS**  
**wind turbines.**  
The renegotiated price saves the state over  
**\$4 million.**

### Jerry Daly, Department of Corrections

Jerry Daly, Chief Engineer, has initiated and implemented several energy efficiency initiatives including the use of timers on equipment and lighting, the installation of energy efficient motors, and the removal of unnecessary equipment, all of which have resulted in the facility reducing natural gas and electric consumption. Mr. Daly has assisted in the compilation of data used to convey savings on projects implemented throughout the facility. He was instrumental in assisting in the planning and creation of two new garden areas at the facility and composting bins. Mr. Daly was able to implement a recycling program at the facility for staff and had recycling bins made from old pallets placed strategically throughout the facility for central collection.

### Carol Pinkerton, CMS

If you were to single out one person for elevating the “Green Initiative” to a prominent place in the State of Illinois Strategic Sourcing world, it would be Carol Pinkerton. Ms. Pinkerton is not only able to discuss any Green Initiative topic you may be interested in—whether it is the real world of insulating homes, solar panel installations, hybrid and electric car-building, green cleaning products, energy efficient light bulbs, or recycling paper—she is one of those few who lives her life in a manner that will ultimately reduce her carbon

footprint on the planet, from tending her own family garden to recycling in all forms.

Ms. Pinkerton recently attended the Illinois Food and Agriculture Summit presented jointly by The Illinois Farm Bureau, the Illinois Department of Agriculture, and the University of Illinois College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. Donors to the summit included the Illinois Green Industry Association. Various speakers addressed the importance of the integration of food science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education to the future of Illinois agriculture. Of special interest to Carol in attending the summit is her interest in sustainable agriculture and food production and her commitment to supporting local food sources where possible and financially feasible.

Ms. Pinkerton is also a member of the Green Governments Coordinating Council (GGCC) and the chair of the Illinois Green Procurement Subcommittee, which meets monthly to promote all green initiatives and reduction of the significant carbon footprint each of us leave on our planet. She has spent countless hours in the analysis of industry standards and any processes that can be implemented by the State, both by procurement of green products and the elimination of products that contain toxins that are detrimental to our health and environment.

On a daily basis Ms. Pinkerton is willing to discuss any green topic that arises and does so in an energetic, engaging manner. She is a natural at sharing her knowledge and very comfortable with spreading the word that renewable energy is a smart investment. We believe that Carol is a smart investment for the citizens of Illinois and hope that she will continue in her “Green Initiative” efforts for many years to come.

### Nick Kanellopoulos, CMS

Fueled by the energy and dedication of Nick Kanellopoulos, the Bureau of Property Management has continually strived to reduce the State’s footprint by shrinking the amount of property leased by state of



Illinois. Efforts are made to consolidate staff into state owned building where possible. These efforts reduce the amount of energy used to heat and cool buildings, the amount of cleaning products used, and also save green—money, that is.

**Will Walker, CMS**

With the guidance, vision and initiative of Will Walker, the CMS Division of Vehicles has purchased electric cars and replaced high-mileage vehicles with newer, more efficient vehicles. Mr. Walker’s dedication to greening the state fleet has saved money and reduced the amount of fuel purchased. The project doesn’t stop there, as Mr. Walker helped to purchase charging stations for the vehicles and also coordinate their locations throughout the state.

Beyond the sustainable vehicle fleet, Mr. Walker oversees



*A number of state buildings—including the Bilandic Building in Chicago—have undergone energy benchmarking to achieve higher performance.*

many of CMS’s sustainability programs including the image device reduction program, e-waste management and I-Cycle. Because of Mr. Walker’s dedication the state has consolidated over thousands of printing devices and successfully avoided adding them to the landfill. Prioritizing office resource efficiency has saved the state over 2 million dollars since the program began in 2007, and agencies have responded by consuming less paper.

**Greg Kelso, Department of Corrections**

Every winning team needs a dedicated leader: someone who exceeds every goal they set, who inspires the rest of the team with determination, who dedicates themselves to excellence every day. IDOC has a dedicated leader in sustainability, and his name is Greg Kelso. As a leading member of the Go Green Concordia Campus committee, Mr. Kelso has distinguished himself by implementing commonsense reforms and volunteering for thankless jobs.

Mr. Kelso helped to map the recycling bins across the Concordia campus and slashed paper consumption department-wide by moving several of the biggest reports online. Mr. Kelso launched a composting program within his unit that has grown to include multiple buildings and multiple divisions. Once a week, Mr. Kelso picks up the compost from participating partners, including a community grocery store, to be harvested on his compost farm at home.

Staff across Concordia can’t wait to see Mr. Kelso because they know stories and pictures come with him. The most exceptional part about Mr. Kelso, though, are the things he does without a need for acknowledgement.

On a recent tour of a community garden near the Concordia Campus, a woman who volunteered there every week explained that a man from the Department of Corrections had been kind enough to till their two-city-block patch of earth to make it possible to grow their produce. When asked if that man was Greg Kelso, she smiled, teared up, and said yes. Thanks to Mr. Kelso, this gardener no longer fears the words, “I’m from the



*Curb Your Car Week participants in Sangamon County depart Washington Park for work.*

government, and I'm here to help." Every agency needs someone like Mr. Kelso, a dedicated leader whose impact will be felt for years to come.

### **Sarah Hartman, Department of Corrections**

Sarah Hartman collects daily several large bags of recyclable pop bottles from Staff commissary and transports them to her private residence to be handled by a certified plastic recycler. The facility currently doesn't provide recycling of plastic products. Ms. Hartman is always inquiring about other recycling procedures for the facility and ensures that recyclable office paper is processed properly for the current recycling vendor for the facility.

### **Mike Cavanaugh, CMS**

Mike Cavanaugh is currently working with CMS BCCS and the Enterprise Project Management Office to develop a comprehensive service for the implementation of the electronic filing cabinet software Docuware. This service will provide for a complete assessment of the documents associated with current paper-based filing/storage systems and will result in a thorough recommendation for an e-solution.

This assessment process will address all aspects pertaining to the conversion from a paper based system to the Docuware solution including but not limited to: the State Archives requirements, type of documents, search criteria (metadata), data storage costs, staffing

requirements, and metrics to determine the savings associated with reduction of storage space and the increase in retrieval efficiency.

Direct cost saving benefits associated with the conversion from paper to digital range from the clerical staff that has to handle and transport documents, to the equipment that is needed to produce, reproduce, and distribute (e.g., printers, copiers, fax machines, etc.), to the consumables needed to produce the paper documents, the storage and warehouse expenses, and finally the risk associated with misfiled or lost documents. There are several projects underway at various stages of completion which include: the Prisoner Review Board, Department of Labor, Illinois Department of Corrections, Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission, and CMS State and Federal Surplus

In his role at CMS, Mr. Cavanaugh encourages recycling and the placement of recycling bins around the State Fair. Mr. Cavanaugh went the extra distance and provided last-minute marketing materials throughout the fairgrounds. Since he began managing the I-Cycle Program he has developed a number of new policies and initiatives in pursuit of zero-waste state government operations. Mr. Cavanaugh has overseen the installation and procurement of a number of recycling balers at various agencies and facilities. He has supported the efforts of the Illinois Department of Corrections and the Illinois Printer Reductions Program, edifying his commitment to a greener Illinois government.

### **Jen Aholt, Department of Corrections, Illinois Correctional Industries; Amy Bliefnick, Department of Agriculture, Illinois State Fair**

In an effort to assert the Illinois State Fair as the most sustainable state fair in the country, Jen Aholt of the Department of Corrections and Amy Bliefnick of the Department of Agriculture teamed up to maximize the amount of recycling done on site. The 2013 Illinois State Fair featured 110 trash and



recycling containers built by inmates out of recycled 55-gallon drums and five semi-trailers for collecting cans, plastic, paper, and cardboard generated by State Fair Attendees. Because of these initiatives as well as a vegetable oil recycling pilot program, the State Fair recycled over 30 tons of cardboard, paper, plastic, aluminum and cooking oil. Over 40 inmates learned valuable green-job skills from the recycling programs and the associated State Fair landscaping program. The dedication of Ms. Aholt and Ms. Bliefnick ensure that the State Fair and ICI/DOC meet the economic, environmental and social goals associated with sustainability.

**Kris Schachel, Southern Illinois University Carbondale**

Kris Schachel spearheaded a new Move Out collection for the SIU Carbondale residence halls called “Give & Go.” Ms. Schachel organized promotion and placement of collection containers in all 18 residence halls, and was personally making rounds to collect and transport items constantly during finals week and graduation weekend. Materials collected included clothes, shoes, purses and bags, unopened food, electronics, and cleaning products.

The collected items were sorted and re-distributed to community agencies: four vanloads of clothing went to the Church Women’s United thrift store (which coordinates an annual “Hunger Sale”); an additional large van + trailer full of clothes and bedding went to Attucks Community Services; all food went to the student food pantry operated by the Wesley Foundation; more than 18 boxes of shoes were given to Clean Water Mission, to help support efforts of providing clean water in developing countries; all dishware went to the SIU international student loan closet; miscellaneous detergents and cleaning products were given to local animal shelters. This was a first-time effort and met with positive feedback for diverting tons of material out of the waste stream and giving it to groups in need.

**Penny Poole, Department of Corrections**

Correctional Officer Penny Poole has taken on the task of overseeing the garden project at the Dixon Springs Impact Incarceration Program for many years. This year, however, things were different. Ms. Poole has approached the garden project with a strict emphasis on maintaining a “green” atmosphere. Ms. Poole has implemented recycled materials (shredded paper) into her project plans. The shredded paper was obtained from the Shawnee Correctional Center’s recycling project. Ms. Poole mixed the paper with water to create a paste to put on the ground under the vegetables. This created a weed and moisture barrier that decomposed after use. By mixing the paper with water, Ms. Poole ensured the paper would not blow away and create more trash on the nearby roadways.

After obtaining permission from the nearby Dixon Springs State Park, Ms. Poole was able to obtain fallen timber to use for posts to guide the vegetation as it grows (beans, cucumbers, etc.) The produce from the garden is used in part to feed the Dixon Springs Impact Incarceration Program staff and inmates. After the original planting of the garden, Ms. Poole was determined to use all the plants and seed that the facility had obtained to enhance the garden. This resulted in unprecedented growth for the garden as it approaches three acres.

Once the garden began to thrive, officials quickly realized that they needed to find more uses for the produce. Ms. Poole has been instrumental in ensuring that there are many outlets for the produce in the community. The produce has been given to local schools for their summer free lunch program. It has also been given to food pantries, homeless shelters, senior citizen groups, and local schools so that it can be frozen and used throughout the year so that students have fresh vegetables in their diet all year round. Officer Penny Poole has been recognized on two area News Stations (KFVS 12 and WSIL 3), where they ran a segment focusing on her and the garden, as well as the benefits to the community.

## IV. Conclusion

This year, state agencies demonstrated their commitment to sustainability through reduced energy consumption and increased usage of alternative transportation. Agencies made great strides in recycling, the reduction of paper consumption, increased usage of electronic communication, purchasing items with recycled material, and educating and involving employees so they could make informed, sustainable choices every day.

All agencies that provided a Sustainability Commitment Statement mentioned their communities and how making sustainable choices has a positive effect on the local areas where they operate. Agencies actively pursued sustainability, evidenced by the programs created and reinstated, outreach via electronic communication and tangible efforts to involve staff in sustainability initiatives. Agencies vowed to reinforce effective spending habits, reduce waste, and educate the community members of recycling opportunities to create a better with less consumption.

While Illinois agencies reported very impressive accomplishments to the GGCC for FY13, there is still progress to be made. Areas that the majority of the agencies reported they will focus on in FY14 include:

- **Office Practices:** Developing systems, programs and projects to save money and reduce energy and paper consumption, conserve water and educate employees and the community on how they can get involved and make sustainable

choices. Implementing reviews for sustainability and writing documents to include sustainability language. More detailed tracking, reporting and analysis of where improvements can be made.

- **Transportation:** Further utilizing car-sharing vehicles and services. Taking advantage of flex fuel vehicles and hybrids available through CMS, purchasing vehicles that are E-85 compatible, and installing more charging stations for EVs and instituting plans to promote alternative transportation.
- **Facilities:** Retrofitting facilities with more energy efficient equipment and materials.
- **Landscaping and Construction:** Expanding gardens for local food production, irrigation systems, and composting; pursuing LEED certification and ENERGY STAR rating.
- **Education:** Developing more frequent sustainability programs and events.

By observing, researching and implementing sustainable practices, the agencies strive to meet the needs of the current generation while ensuring they meet the needs of future generations as well. As governmental departments, they are obligated to pursue sustainability and seek to act as leaders in conservation, efficiency, and environmental stewardship in Illinois. The Green Governments Coordinating Council is very proud to report this year's accomplishments in sustainability and is eagerly anticipating the many initiatives and goals to be carried out in FY2014.

**Editor's Note: All photos courtesy of the State Government of Illinois and Flickr's Creative Commons. A special thanks to David E. Smith at DCEO and Jen Aholt at DOC for sharing their wealth of resources.**