



**STATE OF ILLINOIS**  
**GREEN GOVERNMENTS COORDINATING COUNCIL**

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2009**

[www.green.illinois.gov](http://www.green.illinois.gov)



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This past year marked historic progress in the evolution of the Illinois Green Governments Coordinating Council. Though the Council was originally formed by Executive Order in 2000, 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 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)

The Council is proud to publish its fifth annual report. It highlights green initiatives and sustainability successes achieved by its members and by constitutional offices, state agencies, boards, commissions, and educational institutions throughout Illinois. These impressive efforts, under the leadership and guidance of the Council, demonstrate the state’s commitment to greening Illinois operations and policies this year and in future years.

With the success of the 2008 annual sustainability report, the Council once again used an entirely paperless, Web-based application for sustainability planning and reporting. Accessible from the Council’s Web site, [www.GreenSolutions.il.gov](http://www.GreenSolutions.il.gov), the application, known as *Go Green Planning Pro*, leads agencies step-by-step in assessing their current environmental impacts; developing goals, objectives, measures and strategies to reduce those impacts; and reporting on progress toward accomplishing those objectives.

*Go Green Planning Pro* also enabled the Council to capture quantitative data on agencies’ resource consumption for the first time. Agencies conducted self-assessments of their environmental practices, reporting key metrics to the Council for tracking purposes.

The Council will continue to capture the same data each year to allow analyses of performance trends over time.

Sustainability assessment, planning, and reporting cover six operational areas that reach across the key opportunities for greening state operations and policies:

- *Office Operations* - Document production and distribution, communications, and recycling;
- *Purchasing of Goods and Services* - Procurement of paper, office supplies and electronics;
- *Transportation* - Vehicle use and maintenance, conventional and alternative fuel consumption, and use of transportation alternatives including remote conferencing;
- *Facilities Management* - Energy efficiency, water conservation, green cleaning, integrated pest management, stormwater retention, and natural landscaping;
- *Construction and Renovation* - Green building certification (e.g., LEED), cool roofs, renewable energy systems, green construction materials, and demolition recycling; and
- *Education and Outreach* - Employee education and awareness, Green Team communication and activities, contests, and awards programs.

While *Go Green Planning Pro* 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 formalizing their own sustainability plans.

The following agencies completed at least one section of the Green Governments Coordinating Council sustainability planning and reporting requirements for fiscal year 2009. Council Member agencies are listed in *bold italics*.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES

Office of the Auditor General  
Office of the Comptroller  
**Office of the Lt. Governor**  
Office of the Secretary State  
Office of the State Treasurer

#### STATE AGENCIES

Arts Council  
**Department of Agriculture**  
Department on Aging  
**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 Labor  
Department of Military Affairs  
**Department of Natural Resources**  
Department of Public Health  
Department of Revenue  
**Department of Transportation**  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Emergency Management Agency  
**Environmental Protection Agency**  
Historic Preservation Agency  
Illinois Racing Board  
Illinois State Police  
Office of the Appellate Defender  
Office of the Appellate Prosecutor  
Office of Management and Budget  
State Fire Marshal  
State Retirement System  
State Universities Civil Service System  
Teachers' Retirement System

#### BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

**Board of Education**

Board of Elections

**Board of Higher Education**

**Capital Development Board**

Criminal Justice Information Authority  
Guardianship and Advocacy Commission  
Illinois Civil Service Commission  
Illinois Commerce Commission  
Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission  
Illinois Education Labor Relations Board  
Illinois Finance Authority  
Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board  
Illinois Prisoner Review Board  
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority  
Illinois Student Assistance Commission  
Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission  
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules  
Labor Relations Board  
Local Economic and Employment Development Council  
Pollution Control Board  
Property Tax Appeal Board

#### DIVISION OF STATE AGENCIES

CMS Bureau of Communications & Computer Services  
CMS Bureau of Personnel  
CMS Bureau of Property Management  
CMS Division of Vehicles  
Lawrence Correctional Center  
SDT, Inc.

#### EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Eastern Illinois University  
Governors State University  
Illinois State University  
Northern Illinois University  
Rend Lake College  
Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
Southern Illinois University School of Medicine  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
University of Illinois at Springfield  
**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**  
Western Illinois University

## A. Office Operations

### *SAVING TREES ONE REEM OF PAPER AT A TIME*

One of the easiest ways to go green in the office is to cut back on paper usage. Many agencies have reported a general decrease in paper use, including utilizing double-sided copies and putting more information and forms on the web instead of using printed copies. Fourteen of the forty-one agencies that reported for the office operations section stated that they had changed the settings on all copiers to double-sided printing.

Seventeen agencies reported updating their paper forms onto the internet. The Arts Council and the Board of Higher Education both started an e-Grant system instead of using paper applications for grants. The Environmental Protection Agencies switched from a paper timecard system to an electronic one, which will save 36,000 sheets of paper per year. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has updated their student accounts online where students can view and pay their bills electronically. UIUC also did away with paper earning statements and moved to direct deposit with their employees. The Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board has increased the amount of forms available online and long term files are scanned to decrease physical storage space requirements.

Eighteen agencies reported overall paper reduction. The Auditor General reduced the copies of annual reports printed from 750 to 350, Statewide Single Audit reports from 480 to 330, and the BBCC Third Party Review from 250 to 150. The Department of Human Services reported a 62% reduction in reports printed, and a 58% reduction in pages printed per day.

### *CAN I RECYCLE THAT? YES!*

Besides reducing paper usage, many agencies have reported increasing their recycling habits. Twenty four of the forty-one agencies reported re-vamping their recycling programs. Many have placed more recycling bins throughout their offices, and some even recycle things such as light bulbs, batteries, and electronics amongst other things. The Department of Employment Security has seen a 10% increase in recycled ink cartridges, a 30% increase in recycled fluorescent bulbs, and a 29% increase in recycled paper. The Department of Natural Resources has begun to implement statewide recycling programs in state parks. The Department on Aging has increased their plastic recycling by 50%, paper and aluminum can by 25% and cardboard by 25% as well. The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity recycles aluminum cans, plastic containers, and paper and has four I-CYCLE bins being used to collect mixed paper as well as recycling bins for cans and containers on every floor.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Illinois Department of Transportation recycles 40,000-50,000 roadway signs annually and uses rubber scraps found on the highway to make playground mats. They also utilize broken concrete and asphalt as aggregates in construction material! Now that's a new way to use the highway!

The University of Illinois at Chicago has worked to expand their hazardous waste minimization program, and has begun solvent recycling programs on campus. Southern Illinois University Carbondale participates in RecycleMania! each year, which is a national recycling competition between universities.

**FUN FACT**

Professor William Bullock at The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign started an E-waste project, and in their first year they recycled 116 tons of electric waste!

**SUSTAINABLE OFFICES**

Many offices have come up with unique ways to reduce their carbon footprint, ranging from upgrading to energy star appliances to using real dishes during lunch. Twelve of the forty-one agencies reported different ways they have made their offices more energy efficient.

Many have used different energy saving techniques to start going green. The University of Illinois at Springfield reduces its thermostats in the winter and increases them in the summer as well as reduces light levels in offices and classrooms. 95% of light fixtures have been updated to energy efficient models! The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has set guidelines for temperature controls and space heaters have been banned. UIUC has also started an Energy Liaisons program where different offices, colleges, and other units across campus share ideas and suggestions about energy conservation. Lighting and water fixtures have also been upgraded to energy efficient models. Western Illinois University has also upgraded its lighting, installed motion sensors, improved electrical metering, and installed HVAC controls and high efficiency motors and pumps as well.

The WIU Honors Program located in the library was rewired to be independent from the library which will save \$700 a year!

The Illinois Commerce Commission decreased the power usage at its Springfield and Des Plaines offices by 8.3%. The ICC also prohibits the use of space heaters and encourages equipment to be turned off when not in use. The Department of Natural Resources and the Auditor General have replaced light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs as needed and thermostats with automatic setbacks have been installed. The Department of Employment Security has installed programmed thermostats and motion sensors to help reach their goal of reducing electricity use by 5%. They are also working to increase the amount of water conserving fixtures in their facilities by 10% as well. Northern Illinois University has also been replacing its water fixtures and campus lighting to more energy efficient models. Governors State University is working on replacing all the light fixtures to be energy efficient and to install a modulating hot water system.

**FUN FACTS!**

The Environmental Protection Agency is even conducting a trial run of two water-free urinals! These will save 10,000 gallons of water annually!

The Illinois Department of Transportation has converted 6,250 traffic signals to LED lighting!

Central Management Services has invested in sustainable power sources and is working on a statewide energy usage database so that each agency will track its energy usage and be able to identify where adjustments can be made CMS

also partakes in monitoring thermostat temperatures, and has been auditing state-owned spaces to ensure that they are being utilized to their fullest potential. On top of it all, CMS has been using the concept of Smart Grown, where they expand their agency in areas where public transportation is readily available, and have used green practices during renovations.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Southern Illinois University Carbondale has completed numerous energy efficient retrofit projects and has reduced its campus energy use by 3.4%, its coal use by 3.6%, its electricity by 3.7%, and natural gas usage by 1.6%! Those must have been some impressive improvements!

The Department of Human Services has not only installed temperature controls and energy efficient lighting, but has also upgraded to energy efficient heating and cooling systems as well as installed white PVC roofing. The Board of Elections has tucked pointed their Springfield office which conserves energy and it has also installed an energy efficient AC unit. The Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities and the Illinois Prisoner Review Board have started turning off electrical equipment and lights when not in use.

Some agencies have also updated their appliances to energy efficient models. All new purchases of office supplies, such as copiers, desk lamps, etc by the Department on Aging have been energy efficient models. It has also established policies that require equipment to be turned off when not in use and also banned space heaters. The Office of the Lt. Governor replaced old printers with new models with more efficient ones that print, copy, fax, scan and email. The Department of Healthcare and Family Services has instilled vigilant thermostat controls and all new appliances are energy star rated.

Some agencies have found new ways to reduce their waste outside of just recycling. The Department of Revenue reduced the use of Styrofoam in the Willard Ice Building and has encouraged employees to use real china to help reduce waste, and has negotiated a price reduction from the cafeteria for employees who use a refillable insulated mug. It has also discussed instating a rewards program for employees who suggest new ways to go green, and during the summer months the south side of the building keeps their blinds closed to conserve energy used to cool the building.

**R U GREEN?**The Department of Revenue organized a three day expo called “R U Green?” and recycled 2,398 pounds of electronic equipment. They continue to improve recycling at their office and have collected 146 pounds of alkaline batteries. They are also the largest recyclers of paper in Illinois and won the Outstanding Waste and Reduction award from the Illinois Recycling Association.

The Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission has replaced printers and encouraged the use of real dishes and silverware, as well as reusing plastics by washing them. The State Retirement Systems has also been upgrading lighting fixtures and installing motion sensors. They change the filters of their irrigation system are changed more often, and even perform rain dances once a month so irrigation doesn’t need to be used!

**B. Procurement**

*NOW THAT YOU’VE RECYCLED IT,  
BUY THE FINISHED PRODUCT!*

Not only have agencies increased their recycling practices, but many have also started purchasing recycled materials for their offices. The Capital Development Board, The Department of Revenue, The Criminal Justice Information Authority, The Arts Council, The Department of Healthcare and Family Services, The Illinois Civil Service Commission, The Office of Appellate Defender, The Auditor General, The State Retirement Systems, and The Office of Appellate Prosecutor all reported using recycled ink cartridges in their offices.

Many agencies have also started purchasing other products made from recycled material whenever possible. Some of these products include paper, toilet paper, trash bags, paper towel rolls, envelopes, and other paper products. Some agencies that reported this purchase change are: The Office of the Lt. Governor, The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, The Office of Management and Budget, The Office of the Appellate Defender, The Illinois Civil Service Commission, The University of Illinois at Chicago, The Council on Developmental Disabilities, The State Universities Civil Service System, The Illinois Commerce Commission, The Office of the Appellate Prosecutor, The Department of Healthcare and Family Services, The Criminal Justice Authority, The Capital Development Board, The Environmental Protection Agency, The State Retirement Systems, The Illinois Department of Agriculture, and The Illinois Civil Service Commission. That is a lot of recycled material being utilized in offices!

The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority, The Illinois Workers Compensation Commission, The Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission, The Department of Revenue, The Board of Elections, and The Department of Commerce and Economic Development also reported an increase in purchasing supplies made from recycled materials, however these agencies

do this by utilizing the “Green Masters List” included in the CMS contracts and purchasing from “green” company providers.

#### RECYCLED OFFICE SUPPLIES

The Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board purchases Aurora Earthview Binders made of 70% recycled material; Smead Workhouse Recycled Expanding Files, Office Depot Recycled Hanging Pockets, and Office Depot Recycled Folders which are made of 30% recycled material. Even the Office Depot bubble mailers are made with 20% recycled material! To top it off, the agency uses refillable pens and pencils. Now that’s re-using your resources!

#### *ENERGY STAR UPGRADES*

Western Illinois University has purchased Energy Star computers, printers, and copiers. They have also upgraded their non-perishable food vending machines to Energy Star as well! And at the University of Illinois Chicago at Urbana-Champaign Energy Star purchases are required when upgrading appliances. The Criminal Justice Authority only purchases Energy Star units as well.

The Illinois State Board of Education upgraded four of their copiers to Energy Star units. The Board of Elections, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Arts Council have all purchased Energy Star printers and computers that automatically go into sleep mode when not in use.

#### *ORGANIZING TO BE GREEN*

The Illinois Department of Transportation and the Lt. Governor's Office have organized their supply storage areas and keep inventory to avoid purchasing supplies already available in the office. This not only saves the agency money but also saves materials and energy used to package and delivery these supplies.

### ***TAKING A BITE OUT OF YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT***

The Office of Management and Budget purchased 8,736 fewer bottles of water after leasing a water dispenser and having employees bring their own cups to use.

The Office of the Lt. Governor purchases organic and/or fair trade versions of food for meetings whenever possible. The University of Illinois at Chicago has been working with its food supplier, Sodexo, to establish sustainable food purchases and the use of biodegradable packaging for their food operations. Sodexo has also been working with the university to begin a food compost program on campus.

## **C. Transportation**

### ***REDUCING TRAVEL WITH TECHNOLOGY***

Many agencies have invested in videoconference equipment and have started relying on teleconference calls instead of traveling for meetings. This not only saves money for the company, but also helps reduce the amount of pollution that is associated with travel. Twenty one out of the thirty six agencies that responded to the Transportation section have reported that they have either recently purchased this equipment, or have increased its use significantly. (Please see attached chart.) With

all these agencies reporting a significant increase in the use of teleconference and videoconference calls it is safe to say that it is miles of pollution reduction!

Of course, it is not feasible to completely cut travel out, so some companies that still travel frequently have bought I-Passes for their fleet, including the Illinois Workers Compensation Commission and the Illinois Department of Transportation. Also, the Department of Revenue has purchased GPS systems to assist in travel planning.

### **DID YOU KNOW? Charitable Upgrades**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board has upgraded half of their fleet with new Chevy Impala's and one Dodge Grand Caravan. After replacing the rest of the fleet they plan to continue replacing these vehicles and passing their old upgrades to other state agencies that have been unable to upgrade their fleets! That's some mother earth love!

### ***MOTHER EARTH'S APPROVAL***

Many agencies have begun to update their vehicle fleets with more fuel efficient vehicles; in fact eighteen out of the thirty six agencies that responded reported significant upgrades to their fleets. The Illinois Department of Agriculture has decreased the overall number of vehicles in their fleet, but now has 156 flex-fuel vehicles and the Illinois Department of Transportation has increased the amount of flex-fuel and hybrid vehicles in their fleet by 16%. Northern Illinois University has upgraded half of their fleet to hybrid vehicles, and Southern Illinois University Carbondale has reduced their fleet by 13%. All the vans in the State Retirement System's fleet are now biofuel, and The Department of Natural Resources now has 297 hybrid and flex fuel vehicles compared to 21 the year before.

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
**Recycling Vehicle Waste**

Central Management Services recycles antifreeze in house at state garages, and sells thousands of retread truck tires. And The Department of Natural Resources recycles used motor oil in State Parks.

***PRIORITY PARKING, BIKE RACKS,  
AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION***

Public transportation is an easy way to cut back on travel costs. The Capital Review Board has seen a 10% increase in the use of the rail, the Board of Elections has also seen a 10% increase in the use of rail when traveling to Chicago, and the Department of Revenue has 88 of its employees registered for pre-tax public transportation benefit. Eleven of the reporting agencies mentioned an increase in public transportation usage by their employees.

To encourage carpooling some agencies offer priority parking as an incentive. The Environmental Protection Agency added 16 priority parking spaces for people that carpool at least 3 days a week, and the Department of Revenue took a similar route by allowing people to register as a carpool with at least 3 people to use priority spaces.

Some agencies have added bike racks to their facilities to encourage low impact transportation. The Department of Revenue added bike racks in their parking garage, and during good weather usually have about 10-12 riders a day! The Environmental Protection Agency also has bike racks in a covered area and usually has 4-6 riders a day. What a great way to decrease your carbon footprint.

***IMPRESSIVE NUMBERS***

The State Retirement Systems has reduced its fuel usage by about 3%. The Lieutenant Governor's Office decreased their fuel usage by 1,420 gallons, and traveled 49,911 less miles. The Department on Aging increased their teleconference use by 5%, and the Department of Revenue has seen a 28% increase. The Department of Employment Security has seen a 21% reduction of total miles driven, and the Capital Development Board has seen a 31% decrease. The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity keeps their fleet maintained by performing oil changes every 5,000 miles and tire rotations every 10,000. Every small change adds up to a big environmental impact!

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources won an award for its Motorpool Management System, created by Rich Winningham. This system consolidated multiple facilities into one central location, as well as implemented a travel data base used to track mileage, location, assignments, and other information. Also, through an email system, the IDNR is now able to confirm travel plans and coordinate car pooling, amongst other things. These changes have enabled the IDNR to reduce its fleet from 56 vehicles to 36, reduce the assignment of personal vehicles, and also coordinate traveling between different levels of the agency. Now that's a step in the right direction!

The Department of Revenue won the Springfield Sangamon Country Regional Planning Commission Curb Your Car Day challenge on Bike to Work Day. It had the highest amount of participants more than any other agency participating with 39 employees taking alternative ways to work! Sixteen rode bikes, fourteen walked, five took the bus, and four ran. What a great way to save the planet while being healthy!

## **D. Facilities**

### *CLEAN TO BE GREEN!*

An important way to go green is by using green cleaning supplies that do not harm the environment. Many agencies have started green cleaning practices that have been very successful! The Environmental Protection Agency uses environmentally friendly cleaners for general purpose, glass, and carpet cleaning tasks. They have also started using integrated pest management practices. The Office of the Appellate Defender and the University of Illinois at Chicago continue to purchase recycled and green cleaning products. Western Illinois University has purchased two floor strippers that can strip floors without using chemicals and a high pressure washer to clean sidewalks and buildings without using chemicals!

### *UPGRADES FOR A GREEN FACILITY*

The Illinois State Toll and Highway Authority have met with Solar Electric Inc. to discuss the implementation of a photovoltaic system in the reconstruction of its maintenance sites.

The University of Illinois at Chicago has created a Climate Action Plan. Part of this plan is installing new meters on its buildings to track its energy and water usage better. This has allowed them to utilize shadow billing, which tells each department how much energy it is using and how much it costs to help reduce its usage. UIC has also implemented an Integrated Pest Management program instead of chemical fertilizer and herbicide programs. UIC only uses recycled water for irrigation, has started an UNPLUG campaign to reduce energy usage, and is even monitoring green house gas emissions to start reducing its carbon footprint! The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has also been replacing and upgrading its meters as

well. UIUC has reported a 9.8% reduction in energy consumption in the past two years. UIUC will also be moving to a unit based billing system to help departments recognize their energy usage and subsequently reduce it.

Governors State University installed 220,000 square feet of permeable paving that allows water to be filtered before entering settling ponds. Western Illinois University has made a lot of upgrades to their facilities to conserve energy. WIC installed soft-start motor starters, a water softener with a “brine feature”, compressed air dryer systems, screw compressors, and has changed its firing operations to eliminate cooling water needed for back ash.

The Department of Natural Resources reuses wood chips for landscaping and trail surface. It has also started installing rain barrels at all five facilities and continues to mow less often and decrease the amount of acreage mowed. Leaf burning is being phased out as well and compost is being utilized instead. Finally, they recycle vegetable oil with its contracted vendors!

The Emergency Management Agency continues with its Green Environmentally Friendly Buildings and Environmentally Friendly Laboratory. IEMA uses a radiochemistry laboratory as a central location for solvent waste disposal. Here it is “lab packed” for disposal as fuel for cement kilns in Indiana.

## E. Construction and Renovation

### *DECREASING CARBON FOOTPRINTS ONE LIGHTBULB AT A TIME*

Agencies all over Illinois are including green practices into their renovations and new building projects. Even the littlest improvements, such as using energy efficient light bulbs, help.

The Illinois State Toll Authority has begun using reclaimed asphalt pavement during its construction projects to help reduce waste. All hot mix asphalt uses 10% or more reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP) in their mixes, and all new stone matrix asphalt overlays will contain over 15% RAP by weight. All new construction will now contain at least 75% recycled asphalt or concrete by volume. They have even incorporated used tire rubber into their mixes, and are conducting research on how to recycle asphalt roof shingles!

The Department of Human Resources has also been hard at work with green renovations. It has installed temperature controls in many of its facilities, and has replaced two roofs at its facilities with new “green” white PVC roofing. Energy efficient lighting has also been established at its facilities.

The Environmental Protection Agency has initiated an office consolidation project to utilize their space better, and even used recycled content carpeting and low emitting paint and carpet adhesive during this project.

The Illinois Department of Transportation has implemented changes to help keep their construction sites more environmentally friendly. IDOT installed air quality equipment at various sites, utilized proactive dust control, and diesel powered equipment was fitted with emission

control devices as well as restricted on how long they can remain idle.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?** **Here Comes the Sun!**

The Bureau of Nuclear Facility Safety, a part of the Emergency Management Agency, has installed solar powered Gamma Detection Networks, which monitor the environment for radiological releases. Now that’s a bright idea!

One of the easiest ways to begin going green is to use energy efficient light bulbs. Many agencies reported using this first step as the beginning of their green renovations, including Western Illinois University, and the University of Illinois at Springfield. Western Illinois University also just completed its first LEED facility on campus, and Southern Illinois University at Carbondale has also completed a LEED certified facility, congratulations to both!

The University of Illinois at Chicago has renovated a building with geothermal heating and cooling, and has ruled that all future construction projects over \$5 million will be LEED Silver Certified. And they aren’t the only ones! The University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana has implemented the same standard, and even though the University of Illinois at Springfield does not require their renovations to meet this standard, all of their renovations in the past six years have!

The State Retirement Systems tuck, pointed, and sealed their building with non toxic and green friendly products. This will not only save money, but will make the facility more energy efficient!

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana demolished its old dining facility and captured 77% of the materials for recycling. By doing so UIUC kept over 3 million pounds of material out of landfills! That's some intense recycling!

Some green renovations that agencies would like to begin are waiting for funding. Some projects you might see in the future include: the Historic Preservation Agency installing a geothermal heating and cooling system at the Lincoln Tomb site in Springfield; The Department of Revenue transforming the Willard Ice Building into a sustainable, green building; and the Illinois Department of Agriculture installing a "green" roof project that includes growing vegetation on the rooftop!

## **F.Education and Outreach**

### *OFFICES GO GREEN USING THE WEB*

The internet is quickly becoming the easiest way to go green. Illinois agencies are utilizing this everyday tool to help their offices go green. Many agencies have started using email instead of paper copies to communicate, and some have even set up message boards for their employees to discuss new green ideas.

The Pollution Control Board includes the message "Print Only When Necessary Green Government" at the end of all its emails to remind recipients that printing emails wastes paper. They also email daily news clips to employees to keep them up to date on the latest green news.

The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity not only emails information to its employees, but has also set up a web portal dedicated to sustainable information. This web portal can be accessed by employees at any time and also includes the "Sustainability DCEO Manual" which includes electronic copies of all State and DCEO policies concerning sustainability and going green. There is also a FAQ section on sustainability, and monthly emails are sent with tips on how to go green.

The Department of Revenue has really embraced using the internet to go green. They marketed two campaigns to promote filing taxes online during the filing season, and even attended various outreach events for universities, organizations, and tax professionals to encourage online filing. Director Hamer authorized emails to go out to over 40 state agencies and to all employees to encourage electronic filing, and even worked with the Office of the Comptroller to insert pamphlets about online filing into all W-2 forms. Along with helping tax payers going green, the Department of Revenue also started an electronic image archive. This program requests that scanned documents be sent instead of a paper copy to save time and resources. This also makes a more efficient filing system, which has even been approved to be the official state record! In the 2009 fiscal year it received 5.7 million images, now that's saving a lot of paper!

### **DID YOU KNOW?** **Tax Payers Go Green**

In 2008 3.1 million tax payers filed their taxes online. In 2009 the Department of Revenue did not send tax booklets to these online participants, saving tremendous amounts of resources and energy that go into the production and delivery of these booklets. That's 89.3 million sheets of paper saved in one tax season!

The Illinois Department of Transportation has created a website that provides information on fuel conservation, public transportation, and E-85/biofuel stations. IDOT also developed an intranet site that spotlights the green initiatives taken by the agency. Furthermore, IDOT emails its newsletter and includes green tips for its employees to implement green living in their own home.

The Illinois State Board of Education developed a “Go Green” website for its staff and even developed email addresses for all staff members! Other agencies that have switched to email communication are: The Arts Council, The Board of Higher Education, The Department on Aging, The Illinois Commerce Commission, The Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission, The Office of the Lt. Governor, and The University of Illinois at Chicago.

Even the Illinois State Police are on board with going green. They have used the internet to share sustainability tips with their employees, and even asked for employee ideas to help the agency go green. If an employee’s idea is used they get recognized for their creativity!

### ***KNOWLEDGE IS POWER***

Many agencies have begun training their employees in sustainability by sending them to conventions, or even providing the program themselves! The Capital Development Board had 10 staff members pass the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design accredited professional exam, and The Auditor General offers sustainability training annually.

### **FUN FACT**

The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity has set up an example of a ‘green office’ that their employees can visit and learn about how to make their own office space environmentally friendly!

Southern Illinois University Carbondale conducts annual tours for K-12 students highlighting its sustainability initiatives and teaching students ways to go green themselves. These tours are also given to college students, teachers, and professional groups. Way to help your fellow agencies go green!

Many agencies have taken to making ‘Green’ bulletin boards that educate their employees on how to go green and update them on the latest green news. Agencies that have done this include: The Department on Aging, The Emergency Management Agency, The Environmental Protection Agency, The State Retirement Systems,

The University of Illinois at Springfield has started having brown bag luncheons to educate the campus on initiatives on recycling, construction, and utility conservation. UIS also gives its incoming freshmen a sustainability presentation as part of their orientation, and brings in outside sources to give campus wide talks on conservation and environmental protection and efforts.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign offers over 100 courses with an environmental focus, and has even formed the School of Earth, Society, and the Environment as a branch of its science program. Furthermore, UIUC also has over nine student organizations dedicated to environmental causes, and each semester these organizations put on an Environmental Action Night to teach their fellow students about what they can do to help!

Western Illinois University hosted its 6th Annual Environmental Summit. The theme this year was “Healthy Planet, Healthy People” and it focused on how the environment and people’s health are correlated. They brought in keynote speakers and had discussion tables among other activities. Over 500 people attended! Now that is speaking to the masses!

### *GOING GREEN OUTDOORS*

The Department of Natural Resources installed a rain garden at its Springfield headquarters to educate the public about water conservation. It has installed rain barrels to collect rainwater to conserve water. Furthermore, this program is used to educate the public on how to use non potable water for things such as landscaping.

The Historic Preservation Agency has started a project to demonstrate that re-using historical buildings is “inherently green”. The Environmental Protection Agency made rain barrels available for purchase at its Earth Day event and sold 129 to its employees! Now that’s utilizing your resources!