

SUSTAINABLE CITIES NEWS & UPDATES



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MAY 21, 2012

Charging the State

Welcome to another electrifying edition of the “Sustainable Cities” newsletter. This month, in addition to sustaining your interest and sanity, we are pleased to announce new ways to sustain your pocketbook while saving the environment.

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) is thrilled to announce new electric vehicle infrastructure incentive programs. The full details and applications are available at IllinoisEnergy.org/EV. The program allows you to expand Illinois’s electric vehicle charging network to your home or community.

From DCEO’s [site](#):
DCEO is providing rebates toward the installation of Level II charging stations. Rebates cover 50% of installation costs (equipment and labor) up to a maximum of \$3,500 for publicly accessible stations or a maximum of \$3,000 for non-publicly accessible stations.

Eligible applicants include public/ commercial entities (e.g., units of local government, businesses,

educational institutions, and non-profits) and property owners of single- or multi-unit residential buildings.

Rebate applications will be processed on a rolling basis. The deadline for rebate applications is June 15, 2012. DCEO anticipates re-opening the rebate program again next fiscal year.

This announcement arrived just days after Governor Quinn unveiled [the nation’s largest electric vehicle fast-charging network](#) in Illinois on March 29th.

The State of Illinois offers additional electric vehicle incentives in addition to the charging station rebates:

- 1) Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) offers rebates toward EV purchases. Visit the [Illinois Alternate Fuels Rebate Program](#) website for more information.
- 2) Electric vehicle owners receive an \$81.50 annual discount from the Illinois Secretary of State on license plate renewal fees for electric vehicles as compared to conventional vehicles.
- 3) DCEO is providing industry development grants toward projects that support electric vehicle and electric vehicle supply equipment production. Proposed projects are eligible for grants covering up to 50 percent of eligible project cost. More details at IllinoisEnergy.org/EV

Many more green funding programs are available on the revamped Green.Illinois.gov [Funding Opportunities](#) page. So charge the state as you lead the charge toward sustainability!



Subscription Information

If you no longer wish to receive Sustainable Cities updates from the Office of the Governor, or wish to add a colleague to this list, please email Gabriel.Sulkes@Illinois.gov. For more information about Governor Pat Quinn’s sustainability initiatives and the Illinois Green Governments Coordinating Council, please visit Green.illinois.gov

Mr. Quinn Goes to Toronto



Governor discusses sustainability issues on trade visit to Canada



Pat Quinn: A Great Lakes Governor

"The public policy of the State and the duty of each person is to provide and maintain a healthful environment for the benefit of this and future generations."

- Illinois Constitution,
Article XI

Governor Quinn recently embarked on an unannounced trade mission to our neighbors up north. It was the first visit by a governor of Illinois to Ontario in 15 years and Quinn seized the opportunity by staging substantive conversations with Canadian officials on a variety of environmental issues. The Governor commented to *The Toronto Star*, "Clean energy, sustainability and investment in water. I see a lot of symmetry between Illinois and Ontario" ([Talaga, 3/5/2012](#)).

Asian carp dominated segments of the conversation with Quinn offering advice on how to transform the infestation into a resource. He suggested harvesting the crop and selling it to trade partners like China. Ultimately the conversation reenergized a critical dialogue between Ontario and Illinois that will pay dividends for years to come.

Governor Quinn attends State Ribbon-cutting at new Tollway Oasis Charging Station



On March 29th, 2012 Governor Pat Quinn and representatives from the Illinois Tollway, 350Green LLC and 7-Eleven, Inc. announced the availability of the nation's largest network of fast-charging electric vehicle (EV) stations. As part of Governor Quinn's commitment to increasing sustainability across Illinois, the initiative will support the use of electric vehicles and create jobs in sustainable transportation. Motorists can charge an electric vehicle in under 30 minutes using the current fast-chargers at 7-Eleven sites at four Tollway Oasis locations, and will soon be able to charge vehicles at all seven Tollway Oases.

American Lung Association in Illinois Launches DriveElectricIllinois.org Stages four Electric Vehicle Forums across State

The American Lung Association in Illinois launched its electric vehicle (EV) web headquarters at DriveElectricIllinois.org to promote four EV forums across the state. technology across the state.

Click [here](#) to register for a spot in one of these educational forums.

Electric Vehicle Forum

Register Now!

Springfield, IL - April 16, 2012

Palos Hills, IL - May 23, 2012

Belleville, IL - June 19, 2012

Champaign, IL area - TBD

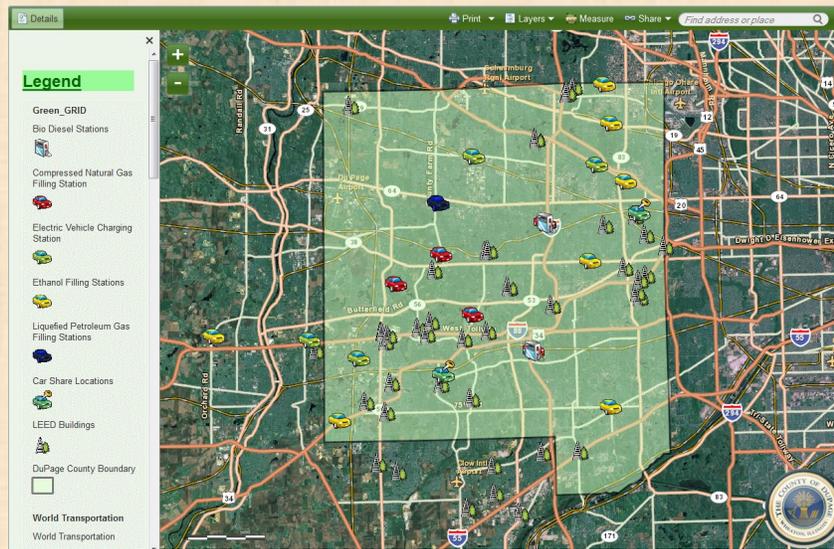
Drive *Electric* Illinois.org

 AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION.
IN ILLINOIS

Dupage County Launches *GreenGrid*

The [DuPage Green Grid](#) is a comprehensive GIS map, and free smartphone app, identifying sustainable projects around the County. The Green Grid provides commuters & fleet drivers with locations of the nearest alternative fuel stations and advanced vehicle technology programs.

The Green Grid also shows where [LEED-Certified buildings](#) are located throughout the County. LEED Certified buildings incorporate green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions. The Green Grid will expand as further county-wide sustainability efforts are completed. [Email us](#) with your feedback, or to add your sustainable project to the Green Grid.



LEED Green Associate Study Programs from USGBC

The USGBC - Illinois Chapter's LEED Green Associate Study Series focuses on the key information necessary to pass the LEED Green Associate exam, including: the LEED implementation process, project site factors, water management, energy impacts, synergistic opportunities, stakeholder involvement in innovation, project surroundings, public outreach, test taking tips and strategies, and review practice exam questions. The LEED Green Associate credential is for professionals who want to demonstrate green building expertise in non-technical fields of practice. This credential focuses on basic knowledge of green design, construction, and operations.

Click below for course dates and registration information:

[Saturday Session – Saturday, May 19th in Palatine](#)

[On-Day Session – Wednesday, June 6th in Elmhurst](#)

[Evening Sessions \(3 total\) – Wednesdays, June 6, 13 and 20 in Chicago](#)

Sustainable Grant & Opportunities

1) BOOST - Building Opportunities for Original and Sustainable Thinking

BOOST is a community driven platform for financing emerging innovations in Chicago's green economy.

Apply for a chance at \$3000+ of unrestricted funding for your green project!

Here's how it works: "Innovators" apply for a chance to present their project at a live event where "Boosters" spend the evening reviewing proposals and schmoozing with the Innovators behind each project. Boosters cast a vote for their favorite proposal and innovators receiving the most votes get a share of the night's proceeds plus \$2,500 and a slew of in-kind resources. share of the night's proceeds plus \$2,500 and a slew of in-kind resources.

[Apply](#) today and visit the [BOOST website](#) for more information.
Innovator applications are due **May 7th, 2012** at 9am



2) National Farmers Union Accepting Applications for the Beginning Farming Institute

(NFU) encourages individuals who are contemplating starting a career in farming or ranching to apply for the Beginning Farmer Institute. The program is also open to those across the nation who have just begun farming or are in the process of transferring an operation from a parent, relative, or non-relative. Applicants accepted into the 2012 program will attend three separate education sessions, to be held in April in Washington, D.C., November in Minneapolis, Minn., and at the NFU Convention in March 2013 in Springfield, Mass. Program topics will cover business planning, understanding U.S. Department of Agriculture programs, tax and record keeping, and marketing. A \$25 registration fee is required for accepted candidates. The NFU Foundation will cover the costs of materials, transportation, and lodging. This program is supported by the NFU Foundation, Farm Credit and CHS Foundation.

Click [here](#) for an application and visit [NFU.org](#) for more information

USGBC-Illinois: Illinois Green Schools Day of Service

JOIN THE CHALLENGE!

The USGBC-Illinois Chapter is inviting Illinois public and private schools to take action in their schools or communities on the first annual Illinois Green Schools Day of Service, **September 29, 2012**. We're encouraging K-12 students, teachers, and administrators to devise a school sustainability service project, and work with community volunteers to create positive environmental change. USGBC-Illinois is also inviting professional members of the green building community to serve as volunteer green schools mentors for each school. Green schools mentors will provide support for each project and work with schools to prepare a successful event.

SIGN UP

Apply as a School:

Please limit to one application per school.-

[School Project Application](#) (mail/fax submission)

[School Project Application](#) (electronic submission)

Apply as a Green School Mentor:

[Green School Mentor Application](#) (mail/fax submission)

[Green School Mentor Application](#) (electronic submission)



Spotlight

2012 Sustainable Schools: *Go Green Schools Symposium*



We are pleased to announce that the fourth annual K-12 Schools Symposium was held on **April 13th 2012** from **8:30am to 3:00pm** at **Eric Solorio Academy High School** located in Chicago's southwest side. This year's K-12 Schools Symposium is a collaborative venture between the Chicago Public Schools, the Governor's Green Government Coordinating Council (GGCC), and [Seven Generations Ahead](#).

This lively one-day event features Governor Pat Quinn and Karen Weigert, Chief Sustainability Officer for the City of Chicago; school awards and recognition; panel discussions with partners and school participants; hands-on training workshops; and relevant exhibitors. Coffee and organic lunch are provided.

Click [here](#) to register for the **Go Green Schools Symposium**.

Click [here](#) for more information.



1st Annual Illinois Green Business Summit

<http://www.illinoisgba.com/Summit2012.aspx>

The Illinois Green Business Association is hosting the 1st Annual Illinois Green Business Summit on **September 6th and 7th, 2012** at the Hilton Garden Inn in Champaign.

Join us to discuss practical sustainability practices, learn about the challenges of going green and demonstrated examples of successes and benefits from industry professionals that can be replicated in your business, learn about IGBA's certification program, green technology, academic research and technologies, new innovations, incentive programs, and much more!

Five Tracks will be featured: 1) Where's the Green? 2) Certification – Why it Makes Cents 3) Green Technology and Research 4) Managing Resources 5) Local Economy

A soiree will be held on the night of September 6th. The main Summit, exhibitors, speakers and more will be held on September 7th.

The Summit is open to businesses of all sizes, business leaders, academic leaders in sustainability, governments (state and local), community organizations, service and equipment providers.

Registration opens May 1st. If you would like more information, please email Cassie at cassie@illinoisgba.com with any questions or to be placed on our mailing list for conference announcements, sponsorship and exhibitor information, and registration info!

Attendee Registration

- Standard Summit Registration: \$145
- Early-Bird Registration (until June 15th): \$95
- Student Rate: \$25

[Register to be an Attendee now »](#)

Exhibitor Registration

- Standard Summit Exhibitor Cost: \$300
- Early-Bird Exhibitor Cost (until June 15th): \$200

[Register to be an Exhibitor now »](#)





Caught Green-Handed



Katherine Parkhurst

Senior Planner for the Village of Algonquin

In our first edition of “Caught Green-Handed” we honor Katherine “Katie” Parkhurst, Senior Planner for the Village of Algonquin.

Diane LaCalamita, Building Inspector for the Village, outlined Ms. Parkhurst’s stunning sustainability efforts in a submission to *Sustainable Cities News & Updates*.

Among Ms. Parkhurst’s accomplishments:

- Co-founded and currently administrates Algonquin’s water conservation program and directs educational and outreach components of program
- Developed annual Conservation Community Day
- Created community rain barrel and composter partnerships
- Chairs Algonquin ECO Committee and acts as liaison to Village Board
- President of Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
- Co-coordinator of Woods Creek Watershed Study
- Serves on various sustainable coalitions and workgroups
 - ⇒ [Project Quercus](#)
 - ⇒ [Kane County Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee](#)
 - ⇒ [Kane County Healthy Places Coalition](#)

Outside of her responsibilities for the Village, Ms. Parkhurst has also served as a member of the Environmental Defenders of McHenry County for over 10 years. Through this citizen organization, she facilitates community sustainability initiatives and promotes environmental advocacy.

Ms. Parkhurst—you have officially been caught green handed! Thank you for all that you do. You are an inspiration to your community and state.



Fresh Potpourri

1) 2012 Illinois Governor's Sustainability Awards Applications Open

Since 1987, the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (ISTC) has presented Governor's awards to organizations in Illinois that have demonstrated a commitment to environmental excellence through outstanding and innovative sustainability practices.

Apply for this recognition by **May 25, 2012** by visiting [this link](#) and completing the application requirements

3) IGEN's "Implementing Behavior Change for Energy Efficiency" Conference May 22nd, 2012, 8:30am — 4pm

I-Hotel and Conference Center, 1900 South 1st Street, Champaign, IL.

A conference bringing together key decision makers and implementers of behavior change for energy efficiency programs on the higher education campus.

Keynote speaker, Susan Mazur-Stommen, Director of Behavior and Human Dimensions Program, American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, will begin the day, followed by various professionals working within the field of behavior change for both building users and management. The afternoon will consist of breakout sessions facilitated by behavior change professionals - giving you the opportunity to strategize for campus implementation and share experiences with your peers.

For more information and to register, please visit www.igence.org/behavior.change. **REGISTER NOW, SPACE IS LIMITED!**

3) USGBC-Illinois Make it Right: Affordable Housing Lecture in Chicago June 7th, 2012, 8am — 11:30am

Roosevelt University, Congress Lounge Rooms 232/236, 430 S Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60605

Whether your organization manages or builds affordable housing in the Chicago area incorporating green building into your organization's construction program can be a challenge. Come hear Jon Sader, the former Construction Director of The Make it Right Foundation, who developed a process to build affordable net-zero housing in New Orleans' hurricane ravaged Lower Ninth Ward. Jon will discuss his paradigm (and repeatable process) for building affordable LEED Platinum homes for less cost than a conventionally built home.

For more details, please click the link below.

[Make it Right: Affordable Housing Lecture in Chicago \(2.0 GBCI & AIA hrs\)](#)

4) FREE Energy Efficiency & Management Training! Various dates, times

With generous support from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), the Illinois Green Economy Network (IGEN) is pleased to announce several unique educational opportunities to learn about energy efficiency and green business practices. These programs are designed to promote measurable energy demand reduction through education and training.

ALL CLASSES ARE OFFERED FREE OF CHARGE! Registration is required, visit. www.igence.org/temt.





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This resource is provided by the Office of Governor Quinn to Illinois elected officials, municipalities, counties, organizations, and individuals interested in supporting sustainability efforts in their communities. For more information on sustainability resources, please visit our website, www.green.illinois.gov.

If you would like to submit an item to be included in the newsletter please email Gabriel.Sulkes@illinois.gov.

Find us on Facebook 



Governor Pat Quinn honors state agencies and public institutions at the 2011 GGCC Green Governments Awards ceremony on December 17th, 2011 at the Executive Mansion in Springfield.