
Members

Dr. Jennifer Benning (Vice Chair)
Kevin Crosby (Secretary/Treasurer)
S. Allen Freeland
Eirik Heikes (Chair)
Eldene Henderson
David Johnson
Don Martinez
Kelly Moore
Nisa Schwiesow-Kerr

Liaisons

Beth-Anne Ferley (Recycling Education)
Jerry Wright (City Council)

Members Emeritus:

Shon Anderson
Mike Bender
Amy Gribb
Denise Livingston
Jay Pond
Dr. Barbara Preszler
Ron Rebenitsch
Ken Steinken



Awards Program

The Rapid City Standing Committee on Sustainability's awards program is designed to recognize the outstanding efforts of individuals, organizations, and businesses that are helping to make our community a more sustainable and livable place.

- A. **Rapid City Central H.S.** - Cobbler Café food donations
- B. **Fenske Printing** - Solar Panels
- C. **GCC Dakota** - Atlas Storm
- D. **General Beadle Elementary** - School Garden
- E. **Rapid City Parks Dept.** - Central Irrigation Control
- F. **Robbinsdale Entertainment**- Building Community
- G. **WHV Going Green** - Residents committed to sustainable practices
- H. **Light the Night** - Solar bike path lights



Anyone can nominate an individual, organization, or business for a sustainability award.

Awards Applications and additional information can be found on the City of Rapid City website.

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

300 Sixth Street
Rapid City SD 57701
605.394.9300

sustainability@rcgov.org

<http://www.rcgov.org/Community-Resources/sustainability-committee.html>



Rapid City Sustainability Committee



Mission Statement:

The purpose of the Rapid City Standing Committee on Sustainability is to encourage education, stewardship, and policy leadership that will make our community a leader in economic, social and environmental sustainability.

By taking action today, we can build a better, brighter, healthier community for our future.

About the Committee

What “sustainability” means to us...

We recognize there are limits on the natural, social, and developed resources upon which we depend. We all have important roles to play in protecting those resources by making sustainable development a reality. We also recognize that if we don't protect our resources now, we will lose them for ourselves and future generations. A healthy environment is essential for our personal health, but can also nurture social and economic vitality through opportunities such as tourism and recreational pursuits.



We are committed to economic, social, and environmental sustainability as illustrated by the three aspen leaves in our logo. Decisions made today on issues such as water resources, landfill capacity, land use, and energy will have a long-lasting impact on the sustainability of our community in the future.

Committee History

The City of Rapid City initially formed the Standing Committee on Sustainability in the Fall of 2011 in response to the work done by the Green Sustainable Cities Task Force and by approval of the Mayor and Council.

In the Spring of 2012 a group of nine members were selected in response to Citizen Interest Applications and have worked diligently since then.



Accomplishments

- 1) Create the Standing Committee on Sustainability.
- 2) Create a City Wide Recycling Advocate Post. [Beth-Anne Ferley, Recycling Education Coordinator]
- 3) Implement recommendations from the 2010 Solid Waste Management Plan. [Ex. Citizen Campus]
- 4) Develop “Green and Sustainable” recognition awards. Sustainability Committee will be advocate and be charged with administering the awards. [see panel on reverse]
- 5) Complete Bicycle Master Plan and begin implementation.
- 6) Implement Central Irrigation Control for all publicly irrigated facilities (RC Schools, Parks, Etc.).
- 7) Feature Local Food in promotions and provide Transit Access to Farmers Markets and Places where local food is sold. [ongoing]
- 8) Support Trinity Lutheran Park. [Groundbreaking - May, 2014]
- 9) Contribute to and support the Rapid City Comprehensive Plan. [<http://planrapidcity.com/>]



Future Plans

- Organize and host a Sustainability Conference in Rapid City.
- Encourage the City to establish a fulltime sustainability coordinator position to advance sustainability efforts.
- Endorse or facilitate ordinances for sustainable practices.
- Continue to focus on creating opportunities for to educate Rapid City citizens about all aspects of sustainability.
- Adopt the STAR Community Rating System to measure progress in strengthening the sustainability of the city government and broader community. STAR helps cities and counties achieve a healthy environment, a strong economy, and well-being for their residents by charting a clear path toward a sustainable future. Some of the components it evaluates are the built environment; climate & energy; economy & jobs; education, arts, & community; equity & empowerment; health & safety, and natural systems.



Get involved!

Meetings are currently at 5:30 on the 2nd and 4th Monday of every Month in the Community Room in the City Administration building. The public is always welcome to attend. Check out the website to stay up to date with meeting agendas and minutes. A “Vision Planning” meeting, when citizen input will be especially appreciated, is tentatively scheduled for June 8, 2015.

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