

Winter Green tips

“No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn”
-Hal Borland



SUSTAINABLE EAU CLAIRE AWARDS

Did you know you can now nominate a staff member for his or her exceptional contributions towards making this organization more sustainable?

Learn more by visiting the award program's [website](#).

ECO-MUNICIPALITY

The City in [resolution 2009-232](#) pledged to become a more sustainable community by applying [The Natural Step](#)© framework. In Wisconsin, almost 30 locales have pledged similar. In order to move towards a more balanced state, we essentially must follow all four of these scientifically-based “operating principles”:

- 1) we cannot dig stuff up from the Earth at a rate faster than it naturally returns and replenishes
- 2) we cannot make chemical stuff at a rate faster than it takes nature to break it down
- 3) we cannot cause destruction to the planet at a rate faster than it takes to regrow
- 4) we cannot do things that cause others to not be able to fulfill their basic needs



At the City's recent training day, several workplace and at-home action checklists were passed out to help employees make more sustainable decisions.

THE LIBRARY MAKES IT REAL

A real life example of working to meet the four operating principles is the City's library. Not only do its resources and staff help our community learn (#4), but relocation and renovation decisions made in the 1970s and 2009 helped to design and retain a facility that maximizes its downtown location rather than building over nature on the edge (#3). By using more environmentally-friendly cleaning supplies it pollutes less chemicals into the air and water (#2), and with a focus over the last several years on energy efficiency, it means less reliance on fossil fuels and cleaner air (#1). The table below demonstrates this success. Currently, the library is undergoing a \$150,000 lighting retrofit, half funded by a State grant, to install more energy efficient lighting. These outdated fixtures will be replaced with new modern LEDs.



Metric	Baseline (Feb 2006)	Current (Nov 2015)	Change
ENERGY STAR score (1-100)	Not Available	Not Available	N/A
Source EUI (kBtu/ft ²)	204.5	142.7	-61.8(-30.2%)
Site EUI (kBtu/ft ²)	83.5	70.2	-13.3(-15.9%)
Energy Cost (\$)	78,437.57	77,144.09	-1293.48(-1.6%)
Total GHG Emissions (Metric Tons CO ₂ e)	806.5	545.4	-261.1(-32.4%)

