

Sustainability Accomplishments 2014-2016

Energy Conservation & Facility Improvements

- Worked with consulting firm to complete energy audits for 9 County buildings and thermal imagery reports for 12 buildings.
- Established energy reduction goals of 10% for all Kane County's buildings, and reported regularly on energy and water consumption to executive staff and the County Board.
- Prioritized audit recommendations and identified funding sources for energy and water conservation projects:
 - *Implemented LED lighting retrofits at 3 facilities*
 - *Upgraded insulation and HVAC at the Animal Control facility*
- Trained Building Management Department staff on water conservation goals to ensure that low-flow plumbing fixtures are used during regular maintenance and repairs.
- Commissioned a *Solar Feasibility Study* to assess the benefits of solar power for County facilities, and explored alternative financing programs for a solar pilot project at the Animal Control building.

Green Fleet

- Facilitated a hybrid electric powertrain retrofit on 2 County vans, improving their fuel efficiency by 20%.
- Coordinated the purchase of the first electric vehicle for the County fleet.
- Adopted an *Idling Reduction Policy* for County vehicles and staff.
- Designed and installed idling educational signage at 4 County campuses.
- Expanded electric vehicle charging infrastructure on County properties.
- Joined the Chicago Area Clean Cities Coalition and began reporting annual fleet data.



Internal Communications & Training

- Re-built the inter-departmental Sustainability Action Team and coordinated quarterly meetings to facilitate task implementation from the *Kane County Operational Sustainability Plan*.
- Developed the “Sustain Kane” campaign—creating a new logo, bi-annual e-newsletter, and other internal educational materials for 1200+ employees.
- Designed and installed a rain garden at the Government Center, which included an employee planting day that was certified as a “Conservation @ Work” project by The Conservation Foundation.
- Held a green office supply vendor fair for all County departments.
- Developed *Zero Waste Guidelines* to minimize waste from County meetings and events.
- As an employee wellness initiative, designed and installed elevator signage at 5 County buildings to encourage using the stairs.



Public Outreach & Education

- Designed a sustainability page for the Kane County website: www.countyofkane.org/sustainability
- Launched the “Clean Water for Kane” campaign to educate the public on water quality and conservation—designed a logo and new education materials, built new website pages, and developed a Public Service Announcement to show throughout the community.



- Participated in community special events—such as the Green Fair on the Fox, Green Night Out, Sustainability Fair at Elgin Community College, “It’s Our River Day” in Algonquin, and monthly recycling events for the public.