



Minneapolis
greenprint

2007 Environmental Report



Minneapolis *greenprint*

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Creating a safe, healthy and environmentally friendly city is a top priority for the City of Minneapolis. In 2003, the Minneapolis City Council and Mayor R.T. Rybak launched the City's Sustainability Initiative, integrating these priorities into City decision making. At the heart of this commitment are 24 sustainability indicators, providing a blueprint upon which we will build a more sustainable city. Each of these indicators contains benchmarks and targets, allowing us to measure progress and match actions with goals.

The *Minneapolis GreenPrint* takes stock of 2006 work on the City's 10 environmental indicators and gives an account of where we are compared to our goals in reducing our environmental footprint.

We have many accomplishments to celebrate. The City:

- Achieved its first targets, exceeding two of the City's goals for Permeable Surfaces, implementing practices that protect the quality of our lakes, streams and the river.
- Had the lowest amount of combined sewer overflow on record.
- Greened its fleet by expanding the use of biofuels, car sharing and hybrid vehicles.
- Completed its third solar installation on City-owned buildings.
- Passed a new ordinance requiring all new City-owned buildings be built to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) national green building standards.
- Planted more than 6,000 trees and seedlings with community partners.
- Launched the Minnesota Energy Challenge, with Minnesota Center for Energy and the Environment and other partners, encouraging community members to save energy.
- Expanded the city's network of bike routes to 96 miles.

There is more to do. Global warming presents a real and serious challenge. The City is committed to reducing its impact upon this global climate crisis. Many actions within the *Minneapolis GreenPrint* help us reduce global warming pollution. We must continue building our tree canopy, improving our air quality, increasing bike routes and transportation alternatives, increasing our use of renewable energy, and decreasing the amount of energy we use.

Building upon our *GreenPrint*, the City of Minneapolis is creating a healthier, more sustainable future. This progress is only possible by working in partnership with our community. We are grateful to the many dedicated people who have made this report possible and who work towards a sustainable city. Thank you to the members of the Citizens' Environmental Advisory Committee, the Environmental Coordinating Team, City staff, Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak, members of the Minneapolis City Council and our many public, nonprofit and community partners for your leadership, contributions and commitment.

Learn more about *Minneapolis GreenPrint* and join us in achieving its vision.
www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability