

Irwin A. Bock Award for Excellence in Public Administration - Community Environmental Stewardship Award

2008 Award Nomination Form

Awards will be presented at NWMC Annual Banquet on June 6, 2008.

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Use additional sheets for answers if necessary

LIST SIGNIFICANT "GREEN ACTIVITIES" YOUR MUNICIPALITY/TOWNSHIP HAS ACCOMPLISHED OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS (i.e., community recycling, Tree City USA, etc.).

The Carpentersville Village Police Department has been engaging in extensive recycling and cleaning operations at their shooting range for several years:

- The brass casings are collected and picked up by a company that reuses them.
- The Police Department receives a credit from the company that helps purchase more ammunition.
- About every 6 months the Police Department has a company come and professionally clean the range.
- The accumulated lead bullets that are collected in the bullet traps are hauled away by a company and recycled. Hundreds of pounds of lead are not going into landfills.
- The ammunition that the Police fire on the range comes in boxes made out of cardboard and high-density polyethylene that are collected and recycled.
- Once all activity on the range ceases for the day all breakers are turned off. No lights are left on unnecessarily.
- The Police Department has an arrangement with a business to exchange soiled rags for clean ones. The business then takes the rags to a service to be cleaned for reuse. This eliminates solvent contaminated rags from being placed into the trash and ending up in landfills.

The Village provides recycling bins at Village Hall for residents for paper, plastic, glass, and metal.

The Public Works Department has an Adopt a Highway program with 11 active routes totaling 7 miles.

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Since 2000, the Village of Carpentersville has had a Tree Preservation Ordinance in effect. The Ordinance limits the amount of trees to be removed from a development site, provides replacement quantities based on existing tree diameter, and contains penalties for unapproved tree removal.

Many lights and thermostats throughout the Village owned properties are on timers.

The Village Wastewater Division recycles the plastic distilled water containers used for testing purposes.

The Village Water Division reviews usage from the meter readings and investigates spiking usage. This helps residents identify leaking toilets and services. By doing so, water and money are saved.

The Engineering Department supports the use of non-traditional parking lot materials, such as permeable brick pavers. The Village currently has two commercial properties with a combined total of 43,100 square feet of permeable brick paver parking lots. Pavers improve runoff water quality and helps recharge groundwater through infiltration.

LIST “GREEN ACTIVITIES” YOUR MUNICIPALITY/TOWNSHIP ACCOMPLISHED IN 2007 & 2008 (i.e., switching to recycling carts, joined Clean Air Counts, conducted an electronics recycling event, etc.)

The Community Development Department completely revamped Village Codes that went into effect in mid-2007. Part of that rewrite included an extensive change to Village Landscaping regulations. The amount of open space required has stayed the same, but the amount of plantings required has increased approximately 40%. Now, foundation, signage, and detention plantings are required. Also, included is a requirement for plantings between tiers of retaining walls.

The Village Plumbing Code was another part of the Community Development Department Village Code rewrite. These new, proposed regulations will go into effect by the middle of 2008. The changes include the following:

- The installation of High Efficiency Toilets (HET) in all new residential developments. The HET will have a flush volume that does not exceed 1.28 gallons per flush. The current State requirement is 1.6 gallons per flush.
- Kitchen faucets in new residential developments shall have aerators not to exceed 2.2 gallons per minute. The current State requirement is 2.5 gallons per minute.
- Bathroom faucets in new residential developments shall have aerators not to exceed 1.5 gallons per minute. The current State requirement is 2.5 gallons per minute.
- All hot water systems shall have balanced hot water return lines for all new construction, both residential and commercial/industrial, and substantially renovated plumbing systems, as determined by the Code Official. This provides hot water within 7 seconds of turning on a faucet, thereby reducing water loss while waiting for hot water.

Recognizing the need to reduce congestion, and therefore improve air quality, at one of the Village's busiest intersections, the Village applied for and received a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) for engineering design, right of way acquisition, and construction costs for intersection improvements at State Route 31 and Huntley Road. This is a multi-year funded program that obtained \$3,324,000 (80% of the overall cost of the project) for the Village. This intersection ranked 2nd highest out of 29 intersections included in this year's CMAQ program, in terms of cost per Kilo of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) eliminated. Upon completion of this project over 1150 kilograms of VOCs will be eliminated on an annual basis.

In 2008, the Carpentersville Engineering Department increased the allowed use of Recycled Asphalt Products in Capital Improvement Projects from 15% to 20%.

The Engineering Department created a handout with information on sediment and erosion control for the smaller developers that don't have access to consulting firms for the purpose of sediment and erosion control. This handout provides information on the Village Codes as well as guides for assisting with compliance.

As of fall 2007, the Engineering Department now has a Certified Inspector in Sediment and Erosion Control (CISEC) on staff. The Engineering Department also updated the Village Codes and Engineering Standards with respect to erosion and sediment control with better standards and enforcement ability.

Also, the Engineering Department began a grass roots initiative for rain gardens in 2008. A handout was created for homeowners to assist in the design and construction of rain gardens to help improve water quality and limit flooding.

The Village Budget for the 2007-2008 fiscal year included a new program for parkway trees. The Village included \$15,000.00 for a Village wide Tree Replacement Program. So far, Public Works have planted 66 trees in various parts of the Village.

In the summer of 2007 the Village switched to closed recycling totes for residential use.

The Spring and Summer 2007 newsletters to Village residents encouraged "green activities" by giving recommendations for water conservation, disposal of electronic equipment, tires, used motor oil, household hazardous waste, latex paint, and used syringes.

EXPLAIN WHY YOUR MUNICIPALITY/TOWNSHIP SHOULD BE AWARDED NWMC COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP RECOGNITION.

The Village of Carpentersville is a Village in transition. Over the past few years we have continued to take small steps towards encouraging environmental responsibility. This progress is important to the quality of life for our community. As we plan future programs, such as the proposed plumbing code changes, we realize how much more can be done. We look forward to another parkway tree planting program, additional codes to

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make commercial and residential construction more environmentally friendly, and continue to encourage homeowners and developers to use landscaping as an asset.

Receiving the Irwin A. Bock award would illustrate that small improvements in day to day operations can be just as valuable as more visible programs like replacing a fleet of vehicles with hybrid cars. It would also send a message to the Village Staff and Board that the work we are doing is good, and would encourage the continuation of this progress.