

Celebrating 10 Years of Sustainability Awards in Lakewood 2017



Lakewood
Sustainability

Lakewood's Sustainability Awards Celebrating 10 Years



The City of Lakewood Sustainability Awards was founded in 2008 by a group of volunteer employees who wanted to raise awareness about the importance of community sustainability. These dedicated employee volunteers from across the City envisioned an annual community event that would highlight projects and initiatives that embodied the principles of sustainability by protecting the environment, enhancing social wellbeing, and fostering local prosperity.

Ten years later, Lakewood's annual Sustainability Awards program has recognized 100 incredible projects and outstanding community leaders. These examples of innovation, leadership, problem-solving, coalition-building, and determination strengthen our community's commitment to sustainability by providing inspiration and guidance, and by challenging each of us to find our own project to champion. This book commemorating the 10th Annual Lakewood Sustainability Awards program highlights each of the 100 award-winning projects. It is our hope that these projects will continue to amaze and inspire, as we work to achieve our collective vision for a sustainable and prosperous future.

- The Employees' Committee for a Sustainable Lakewood

Award Categories



Community Sustainability Award: Honors projects and initiatives from residents, businesses and organizations that promote a more sustainable Lakewood.



Defender of the Planet Youth Award: Celebrating the accomplishments of Lakewood's youth by acknowledging those who demonstrate leadership and embrace the spirit of sustainability.



The Bruce Peoples Eco-Employee Award: Created to recognize the efforts of City employees who show initiative in incorporating the spirit of sustainability in their daily activities. This Award was named to honor the memory of Bruce Peoples, a longtime Lakewood employee committed to environmental awareness during the course of his work. We are proud to have his memory live on in other projects undertaken by city employees.



Special Recognition Award: During the years 2009 to 2014, nominations that were not selected to receive an award, but still merited acknowledgement for their efforts were given a Special Recognition Award. This award category was dissolved beginning in 2015 with the revision of the award evaluation process.



Bruce Peoples was employed by the City of Lakewood in the Department of Community Resources for 37 years. He started in 1974 in park maintenance, moving up to assistant parks manager and finally to the planning and construction manager, a position he held for 17 years. His responsibilities encompassed the design and development of many beautiful parks in Lakewood; construction and remodeling of City facilities and building maintenance and custodial services for City-owned buildings. Bruce was also a founding member of the Employees' Committee for a Sustainable Lakewood. The Lakewood community lost Bruce in 2011. That year, the Eco-Employee Award was renamed as the Bruce Peoples Eco-Employee Award to honor Bruce for his work and involvement in sustainability and his outstanding efforts to reduce energy consumption within the City-owned facilities.



Recognizing Award Winners

The City honors award recipients at an annual Sustainability Awards ceremony, which includes a reception where City Council, staff, and community members can mingle with award winners and their families and learn about their projects and achievements. The reception is followed by a presentation at City Council, at which winners receive their awards from the Mayor and City Council. The City also showcases award winners with a plaque that hangs in the atrium of the Lakewood Civic Center and with the City's Sustainability Garden located on the west side of the Public Safety Center dedicated in recognition to each year's award recipients. Winners are also featured on the City of Lakewood website.



The Coyote Gulch Stream Restoration

Achievement Areas: Innovation in Environmental Technology

The Coyote Gulch Stream Restoration project was led by Jefferson County, the Bear Creek Watershed Authority, Urban Drainage and Flood Control District and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers working in partnership with the City of Lakewood. The project realigned and restored Coyote Gulch, resulting in better water quality, erosion control and educational, ecological and recreational benefits.

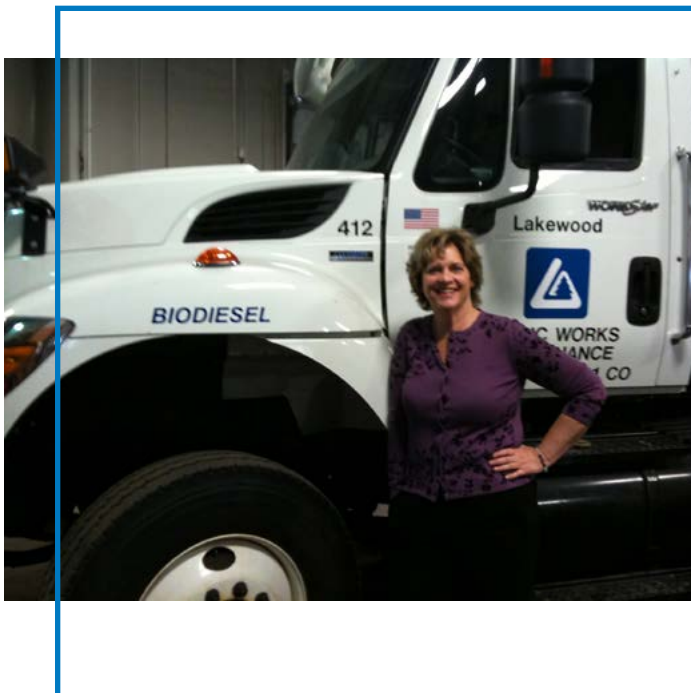
The Bruce Peoples Eco-Employee Award



Bear Creek Lake Park Recycling Program

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling

Mike Towner went beyond his daily responsibilities as a Maintenance Technician at the Park to initiate the park's recycling program for aluminum, glass, plastic, cardboard, paper, wood and scrap metal. This program was expanded to other City recreation areas, including, reservoirs and open space areas. Additionally, Mike focused on increasing Energy Efficiency at the Park Visitor's Center by installing low flow toilets, energy efficient lights, and participated in the Coyote Gulch Restoration project.



Biodiesel Alternative Fuels Program

Achievement Areas: Climate Change – Innovation in Environmental Technology

Thanks to Nina Hoffert's expertise and effort the City of Lakewood's street maintenance fleet was running on a blend of Biodiesel made from domestically grown oilseeds and used restaurant grease. Nina made arrangements with Jefferson County Schools to have them use the City's fueling facility rather than constructing their own, eliminating the need for additional underground fuel tanks, which are a potential source of groundwater contamination, and providing funding to improve the City's leak detection system. The change to the use of Biofuels on this City's fleet has prevented the release of more than 27,075 pounds of Carbon Dioxide into the atmosphere over a period of five years.

2009



Community Sustainability Awards



Belmar Solar Parking Structure *Achievement Areas: Climate Change – Innovation in Environmental Technology – Green Design*

The Belmar Solar Parking Structure was one of the many sustainable features that Continuum Lakewood Development Company included in the Belmar mixed-use development in downtown Lakewood. The project featured a 1.75 megawatt solar system constructed on three parking garages and was installed

by SunPower using more than 8,000 photovoltaic solar panels. The system was built with the capacity to generate approximately 2.3 million kilowatt hours of electricity per year, offsetting 5 percent of total power consumption at Belmar.



Goodwill Industries of Denver - Sustainable Operations *Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling*

Goodwill Industries of Denver is one of the largest recyclers in the state of Colorado. In one year, the store on Wadsworth and Florida collected 2 million pounds of clothing, housewares, sporting goods, electronics and computers, keeping them out of landfills. Companywide, it kept nearly 30 million pounds out of the landfill, thus avoiding 6,400 tons of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere. In addition, Goodwill supported a sustainable, growing economy through a model that provides education, training, and programs for the disabled and working poor to attain self-sufficiency.



Denver Federal Center PV Solar Array

Achievement Areas: Climate Change – Innovation in Environmental Technology – Green Design

With the goal of becoming one of the most sustainable business parks in the country, the Denver Federal Center installed a 1 megawatt photovoltaic solar array. Power produced during sunny parts of the day from the solar array reduces the Federal Center’s peak power demand by 10%, reducing reliance on fossil fuels to power the site. The annual expected reduction in emissions is equivalent to removing 228 cars from the highway per year.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Denver Federal Center

The Denver Federal Center continues its pursuit to be the most sustainable U.S. government campus by 2020. Since its 2009 award, the DFC has installed an additional 7 megawatts on its solar array, providing 22 percent of the campus’ electric needs annually. You can discover the solar park for yourself by taking a self-guided tour of the solar park during public opening hours, available at GSA.gov.



Green Campus Initiative & Energy & Environmental Technology Programs (MP)

Achievement Areas: Climate Change - Innovation in Environmental Technology - Green Design – Preservation of Ecological Diversity – Waste Reduction & Recycling

Red Rocks Community College made a commitment in 2007 to lowering the college’s carbon footprint. The 2007 Green Campus Initiative was made up of students, faculty, and staff, who provided the leadership and coordination to align a variety of independent conservation efforts and create a unified vision for the Greening Red Rocks project. Project highlights included the installation of a new three-stage main boiler resulting in decreased use of natural gas and a 30% reduction in carbon emissions, and the development of the first State of Colorado accredited renewable energy program designed to prepare students for careers in renewable energy technology.

Defender of the Planet Award



Dennison Cares

Achievement Areas: Climate Change – Waste Reduction & Recycling

The Dennison Elementary School Student Council promoted community stewardship and sustainability through the implementation of recycling programs, the development of an educational video on water conservation, promotion of Lakewood’s “Engines OFF” campaign, and fundraising to provide support for the Action Center.



Bear Creek Reservoir & Large Soda Lakes Cleanup

Achievement Areas: Preservation of Ecological Diversity

Eagle Scout Ian Johnston, Troop 199, organized and led the Bear Creek Reservoir and Large Soda Lake shoreline cleanup to enhance and protect waterfowl and other wildlife species’ habitat. Ian and 32 volunteers removed fishing line and hooks, which can cause injury to local wildlife, along with plastic bags, cans, bottles, and other debris from 2.17 miles of shoreline around Bear Creek Reservoir and 1.5 miles of shoreline around Large Soda Lake. The cleanup resulted in the collection of four cubic yards of trash, which was then sorted in order to separate recyclable materials.

The Bruce Peoples Eco-Employee Award



Environmental Educator

Achievement Areas: Preservation of Ecological Diversity – Waste Reduction & Recycling

Over the course of her years as a park naturalist, Jody Morse has developed and implemented environmental initiatives that have contributed to ecological health and long-term sustainability of Lakewood's parks. In her role as an environmental educator, Jody has shared her commitment to the environment with residents of all ages and backgrounds, and as a result, contributed to a culture of environmental stewardship and sustainability in Lakewood.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Environmental Educator Jody Morse

Jody Morse is retiring from the City of Lakewood in 2017 after a remarkable career engaging Lakewood community members of all ages and backgrounds. Over the course of her career, Jody has led 2,736 programs, connecting 114,248 participants with Lakewood's natural wonders. Her dedication to the natural environment, the community and her co-workers is inspiring to all who cross her path.



Setting an Example

Achievement Areas: Climate Change – Innovation in Environmental Technology – Waste Reduction & Recycling

Christina Rotella demonstrated her commitment to the environment by her choices at work and at home. Christina facilitated her department's switch to a filtration water system, allowing employees and guests to utilize reusable pitchers and bottles and preventing the purchase and disposal of more than 120 water bottles per month. Christina worked to expand her department's commitment to recycling and advocated for the implementation of organic waste recycling and vermiculture for the department's kitchen. She also set an example by commuting to work on bicycle once a week when possible.

Special Recognition Award



Bear Creek Lake Park Earth Day Clean-up

Achievement Areas: Preservation of Ecological Diversity – Waste Reduction & Recycling

Sara Schweitzberger received recognition for her efforts to coordinate volunteers for the annual Earth Day cleanup at Bear Creek Lake Park. Sara's efforts and outreach helped recruit more than 120 volunteers who completed projects including wetland restoration, bridge building, invasive weed eradication, trail improvements and a butterfly garden.





Devinny Knights are Going Green

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling

The Devinny Elementary School Student Council promoted sustainability through waste reduction by selling reusable grocery bags. The bags were sold to students' friends and families to encourage using reusable bags in place of plastic sacks. The student council sold over 250 bags in one year.



Recycling at Jefferson County Open School

Achievement Areas: Climate Change – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling

Stephanie McDaniel set an example for sustainable practices in school activities and at home. Stephanie managed her school's recycling program, taught a class on how to be green and led sessions to teach others about environmental issues. Stephanie's personal transportation, water use and food choices demonstrated her commitment to sustainability.



Environmental Club

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling

The Lakewood High School Environmental Club formed in 2005 with the goal of providing recycling services for the entire high school. Between 2007 and 2009, the club expanded to include an inter-club street cleanup and a partnership focusing on conservation with the Federal Center. In 2009, the club created an environmental week that included a variety of activities for students to become aware of environmental issues.



2010



Community Sustainability Awards



The Greening Lakewood Business Partnership

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Engagement – Economic Sustainability

The Greening Lakewood Business Partnership was developed in partnership with the City of Lakewood as a citywide energy efficiency partnership that provided hands-on education and job development. The program was designed to connect students, trained professionals, and volunteers from local organizations with eligible property owners to calculate the costs and benefits of energy efficiency retrofits. More than 1,300 buildings with a total of 26

million square feet of commercial space were eligible to participate in the program. Participating partners included Alameda Corridor Business Improvement District, Alameda Gateway Community Association, Red Rocks Community College, Veterans Green Jobs, Better Business Bureau and Jefferson County Workforce Center.



Sixth Avenue Sound Wall Project

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity - Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Engagement – Economic Sustainability

The Sixth Avenue Sound Wall Project was a joint research project led by Lakewood resident Sue McMahon that turned 4,048 recycled tires into three new types of sound walls along the north side of West Sixth Avenue. The project included a wide range of collaborators including the Colorado School of Mines, Colorado Department of Transportation, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Jefferson County Library, elected officials, nonprofit organizations and private contractors. The total wall length exceeding 1,000 feet not only put recycled tires to use, but also enhances the community by reducing traffic related noise in the residential area. You can see this wall today on the north side of Sixth Avenue between Alkire and Coors streets.



Defender of the Planet Award



Lakewood Green Living Fair

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Engagement – Economic Sustainability

Junior Achievement Business Week is a summer program that lets high school students develop leadership skills and gain business experience. Students attending the program worked with Wal-Mart and other Lakewood organizations to host the Lakewood Green Living Fair to engage residents in learning about sustainable living. The students helped with the promotion and planning for the event, created a viral marketing video, led

activities for children, planned the musical entertainment and even provided the event mascot by having one of the students dress up in plastic bags. The students were instrumental in the event's success, which engaged nearly 200 people in sustainability education.



Volunteer Leadership

Achievement Areas: Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Community Engagement

Jalil W. Lassey-Burdeen gave up both his spring break and summer vacation to work on volunteer projects at Bear Creek Lake Park. Over two years, Jalil donated more than 100 volunteer hours to various natural area volunteer projects across Colorado, enduring early morning start times, adverse weather conditions and tough physical labor to accomplish his goals. Volunteer project leaders who worked with Jalil appreciated his thoughtfulness, enthusiasm and passion for Colorado's public lands.



The Bruce Peoples Eco-Employee Award



Sustainable Landscapes

Achievement Areas: Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Green Design – Community Engagement

Greg Foreman and Mollie Fendley created many of Lakewood's beautiful, pollinator friendly and waterwise landscapes in public spaces across the city. Their creative and sustainable landscapes can be seen in the City's medians, parks and golf courses. Besides making Lakewood a beautiful place to live, Greg and Mollie's gardens are living classrooms, engaging anyone interested in learning how to create sustainable landscapes. Mollie and Greg helped Fox Hollow Golf Course convert its clubhouse landscape beds into low water-use perennial beds and provided their expertise to the Bear Creek Lake Park Visitor's Center to create a butterfly and hummingbird garden. Lakewood residents and visitors also can view one of the best xeriscape gardens in the metro area thanks to their work at Kendrick Lake Park.



Reduction & Recycling at Lakewood Heritage Center

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Engagement

Andrea Miller, Julie Elam, Jeff Fields, Jim Griffin, Greg Lovell and Jamie Wilms demonstrated their commitment to sustainability by making waste reduction and recycling a priority on a daily basis, as well as an important component of their volunteer programs and public events. Their efforts included:

- Collecting office recycling to be dropped off at the Civic Center on a weekly basis
- Recycling at the Sounds Exciting! Summer Concert Series
- Arranging for the donation of 75 reusable water bottles for use by volunteers, preventing the use of more than 500 disposable bottles per year
- Using compostable cups for hot beverages served at volunteer meetings
- Using recyclable materials for packaging at the Emporium 20th Center Gift Shop
- Ordering a separate roll-off to collect recyclable metal during a major cleaning project



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Lakewood Heritage Center

This project was just the beginning of the Lakewood Heritage Center's leadership in zero waste. Learn about their other award-winning zero waste effort by reading about the 2012 Defender of the Planet Award for Cider Days Recycling (page 24) and the 2015 Eco-Employee Award for Zero Waste (page 39).



Building Recycling Awareness

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Waste Reduction & Recycling

Sharon Blackstock took on responsibility for the single-stream recycling awareness and collection for the Civic Center, Public Safety Center, four recreation centers and three other City facilities. Additionally, Sharon coordinated the shredding of confidential documents and media through the Civic Center. The positive impact to sustainability at Lakewood facilities resulting from these programs included the recycling of an estimated 100 tons of materials each

year through single-stream recycling, the equivalent of saving 196 trees. Sharon was an active member of the Employees’ Committee for a Sustainable Lakewood and actively planned for future expansion of the recycling program, including ways to increase employee participation.

Special Recognition Award



Whole Foods Belmar’s Participation Earth Week Activities

Achievement Areas: Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Engagement

In 2009, Whole Foods Belmar promoted Earth Week by organizing a fundraiser to support upgrades at the playground at Belmar Park, educating residents about at-home composting during the Earth Day Expo at Civic Center Plaza and providing breakfast and lunch to almost 200 volunteers at Bear Creek Lake Park.



Metro West Housing Solutions Headquarters

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Engagement – Economic Sustainability

Metro West Housing Solutions purchased a 34,000 square feet office building in 2008 to serve as the organization’s headquarters. Renovations began with the goal of obtaining Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certification for existing buildings from the U.S. Green Building Council. The project included remodeling, energy efficiency, responsible purchasing, recycling and waste management, indoor environmental quality and transportation.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Metro West Housing Solutions

The project was successful, achieving LEED Certification and remaining Energy Star Certified to this day. Metro West continues to lead the way in sustainable development with three LEED certified developments, affordable housing for people of all ages and historical preservation efforts. For more examples of its commitment to sustainable building, see the 2011 Community Sustainability Award for Creekside West (page 15) and 2014 Community Sustainability Award for Lamar Station Crossing (page 32) and visit MWHolutions.org.



Parc Belmar Residential Recycling & Green Initiative

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Engagement

Parc Belmar Apartments provided convenient and easy-to-use recycling for 512 residential units. The initiative was started by Parc Belmar property manager Chad Forbes and included additional waste and energy use reduction measures.



Homestead Golf Course Environmental Program

Achievement Areas: Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity

Mark Krick and Robert Kramsvogel demonstrated a strong commitment to the Homestead Golf Course environmental program, maintaining high standards of environmental stewardship and ensuring that the course continues to be designated as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. Certification in this program requires course managers to take stock of environmental resources and potential liabilities, and then develop and implement an environmental plan that fits the course’s unique setting, goals, staff, budget and time. In 2017, the City renewed its certification for another three years.



Fox Hollow Golf Course Environmental Program

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Engagement

As an employee at Fox Hollow Golf Course for 17 years, Joe McBurney took an environmentally sensitive approach to maintenance and operations of the 400-acre facility. Projects include recycling organic materials, managing trails and wildlife corridors, installing aquatic plants and working with various community youth programs.

2011



Community Sustainability Awards



Creekside West

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

Creekside West is one of Metro West Housing Solutions' innovative, sustainable, and affordable housing complexes in Lakewood. Located just north of Pierce Street and West Colfax Avenue, Creekside West is Colorado's first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum rated multi-family building. Sustainable features include the following:

- Mixed-use including residential, office, civic, education, and outdoor recreation space
- Water efficient fixtures and drip irrigation system
- Renewable energy systems including 101kW photovoltaic system
- Disposal rooms on each floor for easy recycling for residents
- Multimodal transportation options including bus and light rail
- Community partnerships and outreach including art displays from Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design and educational signage on area history and building's green features



Learning Source Energy Retrofit

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

The Learning Source is an 11,442 square-foot building originally built in 1968 as one of the libraries in Lakewood. The Learning Source was the first organization to participate in the award-winning Greening Lakewood Business Partnership (page 10) in which trained professionals, students, and volunteers from local organizations work directly with eligible property owners to calculate the costs and benefits of energy efficiency retrofits. After receiving the program's recommendations, The Learning Source partnered with Sholar Architecture and Sholar Construction to complete the energy retrofit. Sustainable project features include the following:

• Certification as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified school building

- Near net-zero building
- 10-year return on investment through energy cost savings
- 25 tubular day lighting devices provide direct sunlight directly to the interior through dome lenses and reflective tubes
- All eligible construction waste recycled



Pickering's Automotive Service Center

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Economic Sustainability

Pickering's Automotive Service Center demonstrated how a local business can create a positive impact for both a business and the community through energy efficiency and recycling. In 2010, Pickering's Automotive installed a 55.55 watt photovoltaic solar system on the roof of the automotive service center,

allowing the business to reduce its energy footprint and reduce its energy costs. Additionally, Pickering's Automotive Service Center turns waste into energy by using waste oil from the cars it services to heat the building.



St. Anthony Medical Campus

Achievement Areas: Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Healthy & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

In 2011, St. Anthony Medical Campus in Lakewood included St. Anthony Hospital, OrthoColorado Hospital, medical office buildings and a parking garage. The design and construction of the campus utilized Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) criteria for energy savings and pollution reduction. The campus also participates in the Energy Star Program by benchmarking energy consumption with other similar hospitals across the country. Other sustainable project highlights include the following:



- Light harvesting technology to reduce energy consumption
- Use of local and regional building materials
- Use of low emitting adhesives, carpets, and paints to protect air quality
- Wellness services for patients and staff
- Projected \$336 million each year in economic activity for the area
- Projected 2,400 jobs created



Garrison Station Development

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Healthy & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

Garrison Station is located on West Colfax Avenue near the Garrison Street light rail station. Designed to meet the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold standard, the project was Lakewood's first sustainable transit-oriented development project. The 32,000 square feet of office space featured a GreenGrid® roofing system. Other sustainable project highlights included the following:

- Energy Star performance rating of 100 (on a scale of 1-100)
- Environmental remediation completed on-site prior to redevelopment
- 80 percent of demolition materials were recycled
- Landscaping with native and adaptive plant species
- 10 - 20 percent of construction materials contain recycled content
- 10 percent of construction materials sourced from local resources
- 50 percent of new construction materials were Forest Stewardship Council certified

Defender of the Planet Award



Jefferson County School Sustainability Program

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy

Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Green Design – Community Healthy & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

The Jefferson County School Sustainability Program began by offering students the opportunity to learn about energy efficiency, peak oil and technologies such as solar, wind, hydrogen, geothermal and biofuels. The program has blossomed into a full program taught at both Warren Tech and Lakewood High School. The program partnered with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory to conduct community outreach on sustainability and with

NASA to teach students about urban farming and food production. Students also designed an urban farm in cooperation with the Colorado State University Cooperative Extension and the Red Rocks Community College Institute for Sustainable Education.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Jefferson County School Sustainability Program

The Sustainability Program continues to grow and engage students in sustainability projects at Warren Tech and Lakewood High School. From engineering projects to special education students, the program has taken a truly collaborative approach to sustainability education. For more student achievements as a result of the program, see the 2015 Community Sustainability Award for The Center at Warren Tech and the 2015 Defender of the Planet Food to Table, Greenhouse & Sustainable Nutrition Project.



Soaring Eagles Garden Club

Achievement Areas: Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Community Healthy & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

The Soaring Eagles Garden Club at Stein Elementary School broke ground on three student gardens in the spring of 2010. Approximately 25 students from K-6th grade designed the gardens based on plants and themes, creating the vegetable, butterfly and salsa gardens. Throughout the spring and summer, members of the Soaring Eagles Garden Club not only tended and weeded, but cultivated produce to share with family and Stein staff members. Many students planted their own seeds for the first time and began to see themselves as part of an urban ecosystem, full of consumer choices and responsibilities. Through the process of growing food, students in the club learned that it takes all of us to be fearless stewards of planet Earth.



The Bruce Peoples Eco-Employee Award



Development Assistance Team (DAT) Communication Group

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Economic Sustainability

The DAT Communications Group was formed in March 2010 with the goal of streamlining the land development application submittal, routing and approval process. After examining the process, the group determined that by using existing electronic tools and programs it could convert a significant portion of the process to an electronic format. This phase of the project was accomplished by people from different departments and divisions with zero budget in under six months. As a result of this effort, applicants submit documents electronically, eliminating thousands of paper plan sheets and documents annually. Additionally, electronic documents are used for internal review, eliminating the need for staff to copy, collate and deliver applications to various departments, and approved plans are scanned resulting in a reduction of paper maintained as City records.



Informal Bicycle Sharing Program (I-Cycle)

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Community Health & Engagement

Ken Hargrave in Lakewood's Engineering Division of the Public Works Department started an informal bike sharing program in September 2010. His idea brought the international bike-sharing movement down to a micro-level by providing a few bikes that can be used by employees to ride somewhere for lunch without needing to get into a car. Ken donated one bike and several bike locks and found two other employees to donate bikes to the program. The "I" in I-cycle is for "informal" and the program uses the honor system. There is no elaborate checkout or check in process. Ken assumed responsibility of keeping the bikes in working condition, so riders don't have to worry about upkeep.

Special Recognition Award



Lean and Green Company Initiatives

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling

CaridianBCT, now Terumo BCT, is headquartered in Lakewood and is a global provider in the blood banking, transfusion medicine and cell therapy industries. In 2010, CaridianBCT took numerous steps to advance sustainability, taking on 39 “lean and green” company initiatives. Highlights of these initiatives include the following:

- Free drop-off area for employees’ personal recyclables
- Energy conservation initiatives for older buildings
- White roof initiatives to cool buildings and conserve energy
- Completion of the largest solar installation by a medical device manufacturer in the state of Colorado
- Xeriscape projects using 9,000 cubic yards of RTD’s unneeded top soil generated as a result of the FasTracks light rail construction



Colorado School of Trades Solar System

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Green Design – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

The Colorado School of Trades is a gunsmith training school located in Lakewood. The school is housed in a 20,000 square foot building built in 1962. In 2010, the School of Trades installed a flexible thin film photovoltaic system on its roof after learning that the structure could not support a traditional array. This new technology is manufactured in the United States and was developed to directly adhere to the

roof’s existing membrane. The system produces approximately 40,000 kWh per year. Additionally, a display screen in the school’s lobby shows real-time production of the system and graphics depicting the positive impact of the system on the environment.



Gold Crown Enrichment Community Garden

Achievement Areas: Community Health & Engagement

Gold Crown Enrichment staff and Computer Clubhouse members, ages 10-18, began an initiative to build a community garden in April 2010. The project provides Lakewood's most underserved youth population with the opportunity to eat fresh vegetables, grow a sustainable community garden, learn about the importance of using the land in an environmentally friendly way and give back to their community by sharing their knowledge and produce with others.



Earth Day Recycling Program

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling

Dennison Elementary School held an Earth Day event on April 22, 2010. The school's Boy Scout Troops along with the PTA worked with area businesses to offer "drive-thru" recycling for parents dropping off and picking up their children during the event. Aluminum cans, paper, plastic, video games, ink cartridges, used cellphones, laptops and digital cameras were collected.



Shampoo Recycling Program

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

Warren Tech students studying hospitality, travel and tourism developed a shampoo recycling program in 2010. Students collected partially used shampoo bottles (approximately 1,000 every two weeks) from area hotels, filled them up and donated them to the Action Center. The students from Sharon Usher's Warren Tech class hope that the project will encourage others to collect unused shampoo and toiletries from their hotel stays and donate them to those in need.

2012



Community Sustainability Awards



Business Energy Education Program

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Green Design – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

The Learning Source, in partnership with the City of Lakewood and the Alameda Gateway Association, introduced the Business Energy Education Program (BEEP) in 2011. BEEP provides mentoring and education in the form of commercial building energy evaluations. In 2011, more than 100 commercial buildings received energy evaluations. BEEP energy coaches conducted evaluations and presented recommendations that range from no-cost opportunities to complex retrofits.



Employee Recycling Program

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement

The Denver Federal Center implemented an employee recycling program that encourages all campus employees and visitors to bring in their recyclable materials from home. The 6,000 federal employees who work at the Denver Federal Center Campus were provided with free and convenient disposal, diverting waste from going to area landfills. Employees shared their experiences by engaging with local schools, home owners associations, and off-campus federal office buildings. In the first year of the program, Denver Federal Center Employees recycled 616,000 lbs. of single-stream recycled materials, 19,638 lbs. of electronic waste, 2,134 lbs. of batteries and 330 lbs. of light bulbs.



Farm Yard CSA

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

Farm Yard is a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) partnership. CSAs allow members to purchase shares of a farm's harvest, which is distributed by the farm to the members each week throughout the growing season. Farm Yard is unique in that instead of a single location farm, produce is grown in 18 urban and suburban yards by owners called shareholders. Each of the 18 yards produced certified naturally grown heirloom

vegetables and herbs grown without the use of herbicides or pesticides and watered by a carefully designed drip system. Farm Yard's contribution to Lakewood's sustainability included the following:

- Reduced greenhouse emissions because produce does not need to be transported long distances
- Protection of ecology and biological diversity through the use of genetically diverse heirloom seeds and amended soils
- Waste reduction through composting
- Community engagement through volunteer opportunities, education and social events



St. Anthony's Medical Plaza Buildings

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement

St. Anthony Medical Campus in Lakewood includes two medical plazas designed and constructed to include significant sustainable design elements. In addition to environmentally friendly design, the buildings contribute to community sustainability through waste reduction and recycling programs and by engaging Lakewood residents in health and wellness programs. Innovative sustainable design elements include:

- Light roof colors to reduce heat gain
- Energy efficient air conditioning units, perimeter insulation and high performance windows
- Use of locally manufactured materials including masonry brick
- Use of low-emitting adhesives, sealants, paints and carpets to protect indoor air quality
- Controlled lighting systems
- Integrated access to the RTD Park & Ride and light rail station



Defender of the Planet Award



Youth Tobacco Prevention

Achievement Areas: Community Health & Engagement

Students from the Lakewood High School Breathe Easy Team (LHS BE Team) volunteered their time to address tobacco use among their peers, educate students and the community on the health risks associated with tobacco use and advocate for policies that reduce tobacco's toll on the community. Significant accomplishments of the Breathe Easy Team included the following:

- Annual activities around the Great American Smoke-out, Through with Chew Week, and World No Tobacco Day
- Developing educational modules and sessions for elementary and middle school students
- Several Earth Day activities conducted in partnership with organizations such as Exempla Lutheran Medical Center and the Environmental Club at LHS
- Developing skills in public speaking, community outreach and advocacy for policy change to benefit community health





Cider Days Recycling

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling

Students from the Green Mountain High School Key Club and Senate helped the staff at the Lakewood Heritage Center hand sort recyclable materials from every bag of mixed waste collected during the annual Cider Days festival. The efforts of these students helped recycle more than 75 percent of the waste generated at the event.

The Bruce Peoples Eco-Employee Award



Career Achievement for Community Recycling

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

In 1988, Brian Nielsen and another employee placed two small recycling bins at the City Shops for limited neighborhood collection. By 2012, thanks to Brian’s persistence and planning, the Quail Street Recycling Center had expanded to a 14,500 square foot site where more than 2,000 vehicles a week drop off recyclable materials. Between 1994 and 2012, the center recycled more than 3.5 million pounds of material, and the Quail Street Recycling site is just one of Brian’s many contributions to community sustainability in Lakewood. Brian was a driving force behind the creation of the Rooney Road Recycling Center, a multijurisdictional site that provides recycling of household hazardous waste, electronic waste and in the past also provided yard waste collection. Over his career Brian also provided the City of Lakewood with sustainability related services including environmental assessments, EPA grants and inspection services for environmental compliance and stormwater quality.





Energy Efficiency & Conservation Project

*Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation
– Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health
Engagement – Economic Sustainability*

John Vaughn, Bob Price, Chris Younger, Paul Hickson and Pam Browning worked tirelessly to improve the energy efficiency of the Public Safety Center, Civic Center Commons Buildings and the four recreation centers. Their combined efforts in City buildings have resulted in reduced overall energy demands, lowered emissions of greenhouse gases, decreased water consumption and improved mechanical systems, lighting and various other systems.



Monofilament Recovery & Recycling Program

*Achievement Areas: Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Waste
Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement*

A passion for fishing and the outdoors inspired Jennifer Standlee and Erik Nilsen to research and implement a fishing line or monofilament recovery and recycling program at various lakes throughout the city. Recycling containers were placed throughout the city and recycled fishing line is then sent to a recycling center in Iowa. Thanks to their efforts, shore birds, fish and many kinds of animals were spared the pain and death associated with getting wings and limbs entangled in fishing line or ingesting fishing line and the hooks that are on it.



Sheila Lynch and the Employees' Committee for a Sustainable Lakewood

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

Sheila Lynch was one of the founders of the Employees' Committee for a Sustainable Lakewood. Formed in 2008, the committee established a mission of encouraging the coordination of City operations, establishing educational programs and enhancing sustainability through municipal policy. In the five years since the committee formed, Sheila played a key role in many of the committee's accomplishments including the following:

- **Earth Week Events:** Sheila contributed to the concept, planning and execution of many of the City's Earth Week activities, including the 2008 Speaker's Panel "New Energy Economy on the Front Range."
- **Sustainability Inventory:** In 2008 and 2009 Sheila chaired a committee tasked with identifying the sustainability efforts of every City department. Her leadership in this role provided the first comprehensive snapshot of sustainability within Lakewood's municipal operations and resulted in the City's first sustainability report.
- **Sustainability Awards:** Sheila was a key member of the team that initiated the awards concept in 2008 and has been a major contributor to their success each year. The City of Lakewood is proud to recognize Sheila for her many contributions to community sustainability through her role on the Employees' Committee for a Sustainable Lakewood.

Special Recognition Award



Energy Performance Contract

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Economic Sustainability

Jefferson County Public Library participated in an energy audit program offered by the Governor's Energy Office. Based upon the recommendations of the audit, Jefferson County Public Library implemented several upgrades that increased energy efficiencies at the Belmar and Lakewood libraries, as well as the administration office, and increased the sustainability of these buildings. In the first year after the improvements were completed, the library system estimated it would realize more than \$145,000 in energy savings countywide.



2013



Community Sustainability Awards



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Solar Array

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Green Design – Economic Sustainability

In 2012, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, led by its sustainability committee, partnered with Renewable Energy Ventures to install a photovoltaic system designed to supply 85 percent of the church's electrical power. Prior to the project, St. Paul's performed two energy audits and implemented recommendations including new lighting and repairs to the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems. As a nonprofit organization, St. Paul's was unable to take advantage of federal tax incentives that make similar installations cost effective for individuals and for-profit companies. The partnership with Renewable Energy Ventures allowed St. Paul's to finance the project through a 25-year power-purchase agreement.



Eaton Senior Communities

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Economic Sustainability

Eaton Senior Communities (ESC) provides apartments and on-site support services for low- to middle-income seniors. ESC participates in sustainable practices and activities aimed at preserving the environment for future generations including the following:

- Construction of raised garden planters and compost collection
- Resident-led initiative to provide recycling collection for each floor
- Weatherization and energy-efficiency upgrades including replacement of boilers and installation of energy-efficient appliances, air conditioning units, and lighting
- Water conservation measures including replacement of all 240 toilets with low-water-use fixtures, installation of faucet aerators, redesign of landscaping using drought-tolerant plants, and upgraded landscape irrigation systems
- Installation of resting benches along property walking paths and participation in "Walk across Colorado" to encourage health and wellness





Village Roaster

*Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy
Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity –
Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement –
Economic Sustainability*

For Jim and Kathleen Curtis, owners of the Village Roaster, commitment to sustainability is at the core of every decision. At the forefront of local sustainable small-business practices, Jim and Kathleen care about reducing their ecological footprint while also giving back to the community through donations to civic organizations and volunteer time. Featured sustainability efforts include the following:

- New energy efficient, low polluting, and U.S.-made Diedrich coffee roaster
- New eco-friendly to-go cups
- Retrofitted lighting resulting from the Business Energy Education Program (BEEP)
- A sustainable network of suppliers and ecologically conscious growers
- Coffee ground compost donations
- “Rinse and return” milk bottles
- Cardboard, paper and glass recycling



Sustainability Dashboard

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

St. Anthony Medical Campus includes 700,000 square feet of hospital, medical offices and other associated facilities. The medical campus developed a sustainability dashboard to track important metrics related to sustainability efforts. These efforts include more than 50 energy conservation strategies,



waste reduction and recycling goals, public health partnerships, and various economic sustainability efforts. Examples of sustainability outcomes include the following:

- Energy Star certification placing St. Anthony in the top 25 percent for energy efficiency in the nation compared with other similar hospitals
- First in the state to use the TransVac system, which automates the waste handling process, reduces risk of infection and increases recycling rates
- “Healthier America” meal program designed to bring healthier food options to patients and guests

Defender of the Planet Award



Lunchroom Recycling

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement

Summer Marquis, a 10-year old student at Devinny Elementary School, made lunchroom recycling her personal project after noticing that hundreds of milk cartons and other recyclables were being carelessly thrown in the trash each day. Positioning herself between the recycle and trash bins each day at lunch, Summer encouraged her fellow students to recycle, and if they forgot, personally moved their products from one can to the other. Summer's sister, 7-year-old Autumn, joined the cause shortly after. Being younger and considerably shorter, Autumn had to occasionally ask her classmates to lift her up or tilt the can to reach far enough into the trash to remove items. Even the school's staff and principal admit that what Summer and Autumn do is "gross"; yet both girls took on the task everyday as conscientious young environmentalists and residents of Lakewood.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Summer and Autumn Marquis

Although Summer and Autumn are no longer monitoring the cafeteria waste bins, you can still find the pair staying active in their community. Summer and Autumn have become frequent performers in school musicals and church events and are focused on social justice issues including women's and LGBTQ rights.



Alameda Clothing Closet

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme students from Alameda International High School launched the Alameda Clothing Closet in February 2012. Designed, operated and marketed by students, the Alameda Clothing Closet reduced waste through recycling while providing parents and families of students in need from Alameda International High School, O'Connell Middle School, surrounding elementary schools and other community families with clothing free of charge. Seniors taught underclassmen how to operate the clothing closet including advertising, clothing drives, and working at the store. In addition to helping the community, the students also learned intrinsic values that will sustain them throughout their lives.



The Bruce Peoples Eco-Employee Award



Head Start LEED Certification

Achievement Areas: Green Design – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

In 2009, the Community Resources Department's Division of Family Services envisioned building a sustainable Head Start facility in the Two Creeks neighborhood. A land donation on 11th Avenue by Metro West Housing Solutions encouraged the initiation of the project, leading to the City's first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certified project. Sharon Keith Zamora, John Paliga and the late Bruce Peoples worked collaboratively with EJ Architecture, to complete the project from start to finish. The building provides



the City an overall long-term low cost ownership because of lowered operating costs and low maintenance, repair and replacements costs. The building and site design focused on sustainable design and construction practices to achieve LEED certification that included the following:

- Density, connectivity and proximity to alternative transportation
- Water efficient landscaping and irrigation
- Innovative "thermal mass" wall systems for temperature control
- Low-emitting building materials
- Efficient thermal control systems
- Day lighting
- Local and recycled-content building materials



Paperless Payroll

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling – Economic Sustainability

In 2012, a City project team headed by Richianne Sullivan, Nancy Rhode and Nicole Kendrick began the implementation of paperless direct deposit for the City payroll. The City of Lakewood has a payroll that averages 1,500 paychecks every two weeks. Each paycheck or direct deposit was consuming one piece of paper and one envelope. Over the course of one year, going digital saves 80,000 pieces of paper envelopes, which amounts to nearly 400,000 pieces of paper and envelopes saved between 2012 and 2017. In addition to saving paper, this project reduced manual labor, lowered operating costs and eased access to payroll information for employees through the City's intranet.





Green Mountain Recreation Center Green Purchasing Initiative

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

Clients at the Green Mountain Recreation Center did not appear to notice that something was different during the winter of 2012 and 2013, which was exactly what Sara Livingston



and Kerry Clannin were hoping would happen. In mid-December 2012, the center replaced supplies with more sustainable and environmentally friendly products including typical personal hygiene products such as foam hand soap, hand sanitizer and body wash; cleaning products such as glass cleaner and disinfectant; and paper products including paper towels and toilet paper. The project, led by staff from the City's Purchasing Division, Green Mountain Recreation Center, and Community Resources Department, was highly successful and served as a model for other City recreation centers. All of the products cost less while providing a less toxic environment for residents and employees.

Special Recognition Award



Lutheran Church of the Master Solar Installation

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Green Design – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

Joan Jacobson and the Green Team members of the Lutheran Church of the Master in Lakewood promoted environmental sustainability within the neighborhood by encouraging residents to use renewable energy sources. Leading by example, the team worked to successfully install a 21.6 kW solar array on the roof of the church. These 80 solar panels were projected to generate enough electricity to offset 100 percent of the church's historical electrical needs and have a viable service life of 50 years.



Lakewood Church of Christ Solar Installation

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Green Design – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

With support of pastor Reg Cox and church leadership, Gary Southern led a successful effort to implement a solar array for his congregation at the Lakewood Church of Christ. The 79 kW solar installation consisting of 351 solar panels is generating over 112,000 kWh annually which can supply 100 percent of the church's typical annual energy use. The solar array not only reduces carbon emissions but puts the church on a solid financial footing by reducing long-term operating costs and serves as a commitment on the part of the congregation to be a sustainable member of the community.

2014



Community Sustainability Awards



Lamar Station Crossing

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Sustainability – Economic Sustainability

Lamar Station Crossing built by Metro West Housing was the first new apartment community to be constructed along the W Line. The project was also the third project west of the Mississippi River to attain Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Neighborhood Development certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. Highlights of the project include the following:

- Environmental cleanup and redevelopment of a former vacant industrial site
 - Construction using a high percentage of recycled materials and reclaimed products
 - The diversion of 80 percent of construction waste from landfills
 - Energy Star appliances and other efficiency features that reduce utility costs by 43 percent
 - Efficient irrigation systems designed to reduce water use by 55 percent
 - A 78 kW solar photovoltaic system and wind energy credits
- The creation of 12 full-time jobs and housing for more than 200 residents directly adjacent to public transit



IDEA Class & Aquaponics Project

Achievement Areas: Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Sustainability – Economic Sustainability

The chapter of Engineers for a Sustainable World at Red Rocks Community College designed an aquaponic system in the school greenhouse to grow plants that don't require any pesticides, maximizing production in a small space and conserving water. The aquaponics project "grew" out of the Introduction to Design and Engineering Applications (IDEA) class, a partnership between the Red Rocks Institute for Sustainability in Education and the Colorado School of Mines. This project was accomplished through collaboration among departments on campus that assisted with the design and construction. The project allowed the classes to conduct research and donate the produce to the school cafeteria. The result was a unifying interest in sustainability across the Red Rocks campus.





Eiber Community Garden

Achievement Areas: Green Design – Community Health & Sustainability – Economic Sustainability

Lois Witte and the Eiber Garden Committee partnered with Eiber Elementary School and Denver Urban Gardens to build a community garden on the grounds of the school with the goal of building community through volunteerism, education and growing healthy produce. As one of many initiatives that residents of the Eiber neighborhood identified as part of the Lakewood Sustainable Neighborhoods Program, the garden is improving the health and quality of life for Eiber Elementary students by connecting them to gardening, fresh vegetables and the outdoors. This garden also has improved the quality of life for the neighborhood by making plots available to residents, serving as a location for educational workshops and providing numerous volunteer opportunities. The Eiber Garden Committee worked to coordinate key agencies, secure grant funding and design the garden, working tirelessly to build this great resource for the neighborhood and Lakewood community.



Defender of the Planet Award



Bonnie Plant 3rd Grade Cabbage Program

Achievement Areas: Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability



As part of the Bonnie Plants 3rd Grade Cabbage Program, Addison Brigner cared for her cabbage plant all summer. When Addison, a student at Glennon Heights Elementary School, finally harvested the cabbage, it weighed almost 8 pounds. The experience taught Addison about the source of her food, and as a result, she has now started caring for ducks in order to have her own eggs. A member of 4-H, Addison would wake up early to help collect eggs and provide fresh water and food to her ducks. Through her hard work, Addison gained an appreciation for the hard work required to care for and grow healthy sustainable foods.

The Bruce Peoples Eco-Employee Award



Christmas TreeCycle

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity

What do you do with your Christmas tree once it no longer serves its purpose? You recycle it! Thanks to Luke Wilson's Christmas TreeCycle program, not only did Lakewood residents have a place to recycle their Christmas trees, but they also helped enhance habitat for fish and other aquatic species. After visiting with those fishing along the shores of Bear Creek Reservoir and with the park's resource specialist, Luke learned that there was a need to improve fishing habitat. He had heard that strategically placing trees, limbs and other structures in the water could

give insect populations the protection they need to establish healthy populations. So his TreeCycle began! Recycled trees were strategically placed on the ice so that when the ice melted, the trees sank, enhancing the reservoir's aquatic habitat, ecology and overall biological diversity. Luke's effort resulted in compliments from the park's anglers and users, not to mention Lakewood residents who found a rewarding way to recycle their Christmas trees and continue to use the program to this day.



Recycling Initiative, Lakewood Park

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement

Recreation Coordinator Kyle Parker went above and beyond the responsibilities outlined in his job description by purchasing recycling bins to place in strategic areas around the softball field dugouts and throughout Lakewood Park. Kyle personally collected materials from containers when they were full, loading them into the back of his truck and bringing them to the Charles Whitlock Recreation Center, where he could place them into a large recycling container. Kyle's efforts demonstrate a commitment to promoting sustainability in the community by diverting waste, encouraging patrons to be environmentally responsible and inspiring his co-workers to find their own ways to make a difference.



Special Recognition Award



The Back Fence Newsletter

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Green Design – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

For two years, Eiber neighborhood resident Bill Spriggs produced a weekly e-newsletter that focused on community living and highlighted happenings along the West Corridor. The Back Fence newsletter provided followers with updates on the planning and construction process for the West Corridor Rail line, event reminders, articles of interest and much more. Hundreds of Lakewood residents and stakeholders benefited from Bill's friendly and passionate newsletter updates and from his tireless advocacy for alternative transportation in Lakewood.



Box and Ship Express

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

Bill Wright's Box and Ship Express store is an example of how one small business owner can make a notable contribution to the environment. By making sustainable business practices a core value, Bill grew his company's profitability and created jobs, all while diverting waste through reuse and recycling and providing new, unique computer services to customers. Box and Ship Express generates a significant amount of packing material and cardboard, and Bill made it his mission to reuse or recycle every bit of that waste and expanded his business to include the refurbishing of used computers for use by residents and other businesses. These efforts have set an example for Lakewood businesses on how sustainability and business go hand in hand.



2015



Community Sustainability Awards



Shoe Recycle Program

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling

At Runners Roost Lakewood, not only can you find a new pair of running shoes, but also give your old pair a second life. Led by Sonya Estes and the Runners Roost Lakewood Staff, the store's Shoe Recycle Program accepts used running and walking shoes and repurposes them through a variety of local and global donation programs. The program began after staff noticed customers leaving old shoes at the store when purchasing a new pair. Runners Roost began partnering primarily with the More Foundation Group, which sells the shoes to vendors in other countries, creating jobs and using the proceeds to empower rural farmers with training and tools. Runners Roost created a system, which prevents hundreds of Lakewood shoes from entering the landfill and demonstrates the value of repurposing.



ReFrame Creative Reuse Center

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling – Economic Sustainability

ReFrame Creative Reuse Center invites community members to reframe the way they think about art supplies and recycling, proving that creativity and sustainability can combine to form a strong community asset. ReFrame Creative Reuse Center, previously located in Lakewood, creates a convenient alternative to disposal by collecting donated craft materials and returning them to the community through an affordable and accessible craft shop and studio space. The organization is the first public nonprofit creative reuse center in the Denver area and makes it a mission to educate the community about the benefits of creative reuse and recycling. ReFrame Creative Reuse Center demonstrates that the reuse of materials not only diverts trash from the landfill, but is also an economically viable model that gives back to the community.





Jefferson County Open School Community Garden

Achievement Areas: Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Green Design – Community Health & Engagement

The Jefferson County Open School (JCOS) Community Garden allows students to follow their food from farm to fork. Produce from the garden provides healthy meals in the school cafeteria and is shared with the community through a weekly Youth Farmers Market. The garden was created by parents, students, and staff who wanted to improve the nutritional value and quality of the food that students consumed while providing

a hands-on educational environment for sustainable living. After extensive research, exploration and creative fundraising, JCOS began to build the permaculture garden, and in 2014, JCOS launched the Garden to Cafeteria program. This project opened the door to a living world, allowing students to learn about nature and nutrition, incorporating concepts of ecosystem balance and sustainability. It is an example of how shared passion and commitment can bring a community's vision to life.



The Center at Warren Tech

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling

The Center at Warren Tech revitalized a long unused greenhouse and remediated old farmland to serve as a living laboratory where food is grown organically and sold to the local markets. Students learned lessons in sustainable food systems that will follow them after graduation, enabling them to enter the growing sustainable food movement. The center was a collaboration between Warren Tech High School and the Squeaky Bean Restaurant that resulted in an educational resource for multiple Warren Tech programs and the broader residential and business community through demonstrations, hands-on lessons, and opportunities to purchase produce

from local food markets. The center demonstrates how food grown in a sustainable way can prepare our youth to be leaders in sustainability, benefit local community members and businesses, and prove the power of collaboration and partnership.

Defender of the Planet Award



A Journey in Sustainability

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement

Lucy Preston was a co-leader in the South of 6th Sustainable Neighborhood Youth Initiative and shared her thoughts and insights on sustainable living through her blog called "Everyday Eco." Her leadership in the classroom and the community inspired youth and adults alike to consider what it means to choose sustainability daily. In 2014, Lucy decided to take an active role in reducing her environmental impact and increasing awareness in her community.

When assigned an independent study for school, Lucy chose environmentalism and recycling, generating discussion in her classroom about the benefits of reusable containers and the concerns with cafeteria waste. Lucy actively volunteered in her Sustainable Neighborhood program, including door-to-door outreach, Earth Day activities and park cleanups. Lucy is an example of what can happen when you decide to get involved in your community to make the world a more sustainable place for us all.



Food to Table, Greenhouse & Sustainable Nutrition Project

Achievement Areas: Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

Students in the Warren Tech Sustainability Program and Consumer & Family Sciences Program at Lakewood High School (LHS) discovered how they can produce their own local, healthy food and use it to plan healthy, nutritional meals. By creating an aquaponics system, the students supported the school's garden to cafeteria program and created conversation around what sustainable nutrition really means. LHS students ran the aquaponics system, monitored water quality and other factors and kept records of the produce. Through continuous experimentation and collaboration, the students continuously find ways to increase energy efficiency and production, as well as ensure safe food preparation and sustainable nutrition. By exploring where their food comes and getting their hands dirty, the students were able to create a healthier, more sustainable food environment.



The Bruce Peoples Eco-Employee Award



Compost Pilot Program

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Economic Sustainability

In 2014, Toby Erxleben joined other members of the Employees' Committee for a Sustainable Lakewood in an effort to bring compost collection to the City of Lakewood. Through extensive research, constant collaboration and efficient follow through, Toby facilitated the smooth launch of the Compost Pilot Program in the Civic Center North and South buildings. Toby combined personal initiative and his knowledge as an employee in the Purchasing Division to find the best solutions to financial limitations and logistical challenges. His research included talking to other departments and multiple companies to make sure the appropriate bins and bags were selected at a reasonable price. His passion for the project extended to education as other employees around him learned how to properly dispose of their waste. Toby's work ethic and collaborative efforts demonstrate his commitment to creating a more sustainable Lakewood.



Lakewood Heritage Center – Zero Waste

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling

Spearheaded by Julie Elam since the earliest phases of this project, the Lakewood Heritage Center's (LHC) approach to zero waste has been a gradual endeavor since 2008, and in 2014 it reached new levels of success, especially with regard to composting. At the 2014 Cider Days event, attended by 10,500 patrons, 3.7 tons of waste was diverted from the landfill. From the outset, Julie has recognized that by reducing LHC's footprint and educating Lakewood residents about reducing theirs, she could cultivate awareness and generate sustained and impactful change. Julie's passion for sustainable waste management is felt both by her fellow employees as well as the broader community. Zero waste at LHC consists of day-to-day operations and event-based waste sorting stations. These components serve to educate others on how to properly dispose of their waste and show what can be accomplished when initiative and commitment combine around a worthy cause.





Electronic Docket Board

*Achievement Areas: Waste
Reduction & Recycling*

The Electronic Docket Board that hangs in the Municipal Court today is a true example of what can happen when initiative and collaboration collide. Switching from paper to a digital system required the vision of Violations' Bureau Manager Tammy Smith, the cooperation of Information Technology (IT) staff,

coordinated through acting IT co-directors Tom Charkut and Chris Heck, the programming knowledge of Adrienne Holmes, Pieter Brintjies and Justin Balog and the knowledge of facilities staff under Bob Price. The project was led by Tammy, who recognized an opportunity to create a more efficient and up-to-date system, reducing waste and saving money. Without her consistent advocacy, the paper system would have continued, consuming a ream of paper each week. Tammy's efforts are a great example of how proactive and committed leadership can transition us toward a more sustainable society, ensuring change is happening across the board.



Special Thanks to Tom Quinn

During the 2016 Sustainability Awards Ceremony, the Employees' Committee for a Sustainable Lakewood thanked City Council member Tom Quinn for his guidance and support and recognized his leadership and vision for Lakewood's sustainable future.

2016



Community Sustainability Awards



Leaf Composting Project

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement

In 2014, the newly formed Southern Gables Sustainable Neighborhood group and the Southern Gables Neighborhood Association teamed up to provide compost collection for leaves and other yard waste in an effort to reduce the volume of organic waste going to local landfills. The project funded a large dumpster for a one-day collection event where residents could deposit their yard waste so that it could be hauled to a regional composting facility. In 2015, building off of the success of the previous year, the neighborhood held its second annual leaf collection composting day. This time, the groups expanded their operation by providing volunteers who made themselves available to assist neighbors who couldn't easily rake, collect, and transport the leaves themselves to the collection site. More than 40 volunteers from Sustainable Southern Gables, Westwoods Church and the DU Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity raked leaves for 14 neighbors in need of help. An additional 44 neighbors brought their own leaves, resulting in more than 4.7 tons of waste diverted from the landfill. This project shows how one neighborhood can make a big difference and provides a model for waste diversion that can be replicated by neighborhoods across the city.





Yard Partners Program

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability



A passion for nature, urban agriculture, and an entrepreneurial spirit came together to form Micro Farms Colorado. By taking underutilized space, such as lawns and backyards, and transforming them into vegetable gardens, Micro Farms' "Yard Partners Program" brings fresh, local food to the community, using food to connect people to nature. The Micro Farms model uses biointensive, chemical free gardening practices to produce food that is sold in shares through a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) model to local residents and ultimately aspires to provide local produce for restaurants and farmers markets. Community members have the opportunity to be involved by becoming yard partners, purchasing CSA shares, and financially supporting the expansion of the local food mission. Micro Farms supports the goals of Lakewood's Sustainability Plan by increasing local food production, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and contributing to a self-reliant local economy through the power of an entrepreneurial spirit and community support.



Jovial Gardens

Achievement Areas: Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement – Economic Sustainability

Jovial Concepts has brought together 14 Lakewood homeowners and more than 200 Lakewood volunteers to address hunger, health, and education through the Jovial Gardens Project. Volunteers transform their neighbors' yards into productive, organic gardens to feed themselves and others in need. Using the gardens as classrooms, participants learn principles of sustainable agriculture, environmental awareness, nutrition and food systems. The project focuses on low-income neighborhoods, increasing access to nutritious food, combating chronic diseases and empowering the community. All of the food collected goes to the nearest area of need, reducing the environmental impact of transportation and building our local food system and self-reliance. In 2015, more than 2,500 pounds in donations went to Lakewood food banks. Jovial Gardens is a living example of how innovation and cooperation helps our community thrive, becoming more equitable and more sustainable by serving and growing together.



TerraCycle School Recycling Program

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling

Like most schools, Hutchinson Elementary produces tape, glue, pens, energy bar wrappers and other waste streams that may be common, but are difficult to recycle and can't be placed into a typical single-stream recycling program. When Lindsey Rankin, a mother of two and an avid recycler, discovered there was a program that would recycle these difficult items, she launched the TerraCycle School Recycling Program. By working with the school to place a variety of collection bins in the facility, and through education and training of students and teachers, Lindsey used personal initiative to keep more than 50 pounds of writing utensils, 2,500 ink and toner cartridges and more than 544 baby food pouches out of the landfill. The program also has inspired our future leaders. A year after the program was launched, Lindsey started an environmental club with third graders at the school, in which the students garden at the school and continue to grow the recycling program.



Food Rescue Program

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling

The Action Center's Food Rescue program supports its mission to provide an immediate response to basic human needs and to promote pathways to self-sufficiency for Jefferson County residents by collecting leftover, high quality food items from community grocers and restaurants and providing them to individuals and families in need. In 2015, more than 1.15 million pounds

of food were rescued by the Action Center and provided to the local community through the organization's self-select grocery. Action Center volunteers sort through the donated food to ensure that only healthy, fresh food is provided. When the amount of rescued food exceeds the available storage space, the Action Center partners with other agencies to ensure the food reaches plates instead of trash cans. The Food Rescue Program supports equity and upward mobility and demonstrates how partnerships benefit our community and contribute to a more sustainable future.

Defender of the Planet Award



Habitat Awareness & Action

Achievement Areas: Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity

Recognizing the importance of protecting biodiversity and the value of healthy native wildlife, the Green Mountain Area Homeschoolers used their service learning project to improve local habitat and spread awareness throughout the community. The students demonstrated their leadership abilities by coordinating with city and county officials and other

community agencies, including the Jane Goodall Institute to complete their project. Implementation of the project included two phases. In the first, the students put their mission into action by pulling invasive weeds, planting thousands of wildflower seeds and building nest boxes. In phase two, they continued their project through a monthlong educational display at the Belmar Library. The leadership and hard work of the Green Mountain Area Homeschoolers has provided the entire community with an example of how we should strive to protect and improve our natural environment.



Kids Working Towards a Better Environment Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling

Achievement Areas: Waste Reduction & Recycling

In 2015, student leaders at South Lakewood Elementary took a holistic and comprehensive approach to thinking about sustainability by developing an outreach and education plan that covered renewable energy, water conservation, and waste diversion. Student leaders first taught themselves about the programs and technologies in use at the school and then educated their fellow classmates about how they can reduce the school's environmental impacts. The students spent time with the school's building engineer to learn about the amount of energy saved through the school's solar panels, as well as how weather affects energy use. They also learned about smart irrigation systems, water conservation and how to expand recycling to each classroom. The student leaders then used educational programs to inspire nearly 1,000 members of the school community, including students, parents, and faculty. These student leaders proved that leadership in community sustainability comes from community members of all ages.



The Bruce Peoples Eco-Employee Award



Sustainability Champion

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Energy Conservation – Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity – Green Design – Waste Reduction & Recycling – Community Health & Engagement

In 2008, Rachel Griffin became one of the founding members of the Employees' Committee for a Sustainable Lakewood. The committee established a mission of encouraging the coordination of sustainability across City departments, establishing outreach programs and exploring opportunities to enhance sustainability through policy. Rachel's dedication to the committee was a catalyst for creating a robust, diverse group of employees that has grown in number and influence since its founding with representatives from every City department. Rachel was influential in creating the Sustainability Awards program as a way to recognize innovations and advancements by the local business community, and her understanding of the critical

connection between sustainability and economic development helped frame the community's vision for a sustainable economy in Lakewood's first Sustainability Plan. Rachel's passion and values provided the City of Lakewood an outstanding example of how to create meaningful change through collaboration, volunteerism and team building.

2017



Community Sustainability Awards



Lakewood Bicycle Advisory Team

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Adaptation – Sustainable Transportation

In 2014, a group of bicycle enthusiasts came together to form the Lakewood Bicycle Advisory Team (LBAT) with the goal of improving bicycling conditions in Lakewood. Through community engagement, education and policy advocacy, LBAT has accelerated Lakewood's journey to becoming a bicycle friendly city and built community along the way. LBAT has been seen engaging residents across the city by leading neighborhood bike rides, hosting the Lakewood Earth Day Celebration bicycle valet, advocating for extended bicycle paths and teaching bicycle safety courses. Most

recently, LBAT has championed the Cycling Without Age Initiative, which enables volunteers to provide rides to older adults who are no longer able to ride a bicycle. By promoting bicycle use in Lakewood, LBAT is reducing Lakewood's carbon footprint, improving community health and advancing the goals of the City's Comprehensive and Sustainability Plan.



CityScope at Belmar

Achievement Areas: Energy, Water & the Built Environment – Zero Waste – Community Cohesion & Public Health – Natural Systems – Sustainable Transportation

Metro West Housing Solutions' CityScope at Belmar Senior Apartments minimizes environmental impacts, enhances the character of the community and protects Lakewood's natural resources. The project achieved Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum Certification and is within walking distance to public transit and promotes an active community by providing bike storage, community gardens, and easy access to the outdoors. CityScope's landscaping showcases native plants that support wildlife and



pollinator species while saving an estimated 46,000 gallons of water each year. Inside the building, efficient fixtures result in 44 percent less water consumption compared to similar buildings. With Colorado's largest on-site photovoltaic (PV) solar system for a residential building and efficient HVAC and lighting, CityScape is experiencing more than 50 percent savings in energy use. Indoor materials were chosen to promote a healthy living space. The development diverted 92 percent of construction waste from the landfill and installed dual recycling and trash chutes on each floor. Metro West's integrated design approach to sustainability demonstrates that sustainability and innovation go hand in hand.



Volunteer Green Team

Achievement Areas: Zero Waste

The Volunteer Green Team for the City of Lakewood's Heritage, Culture & the Arts Division made major contributions to the Lakewood Heritage Center's zero waste vision in 2016. Together, this group of dedicated volunteers tackled several projects aimed at reducing the environmental footprint of large scale community events and educating the public on the benefits of waste reduction. In the summer of 2016, the Green Team achieved nearly zero waste (for an event to be considered zero waste, 90 percent of materials must be diverted from the landfill) at the Sounds Exciting Concert

Summer Series by diverting 88 percent of waste from the landfill. At the 2016 Cider Days event, Lakewood's largest annual community event with 12,000 attendees, the Green Team took on the challenge of achieving a zero waste event and was successful. The team, diverted 90 percent of the total 5.35 tons of waste generated. The Green Team also contributed its time and expertise to outreach projects in 2016 including the construction of mini-compost educational displays for Denver Urban Gardens and Denver Recycles, which use them for demonstrations, teaching composting classes and educating students in the region about composting yard and kitchen waste to keep it out of the area landfills. The Green Team's innovation and creativity along with its teamwork are a perfect example of passionate individuals working together and achieving amazing and measurable results.



Gold Crown Field House LED Lighting Retrofit

Achievement Areas: Energy, Water & the Built Environment

In 2016, the Gold Crown Foundation made its biggest investment in sustainability to date by re-lamping the Gold Crown Field House with a high efficiency LED lighting system. Facilities Director Elisha Gilb led the effort to retrofit the field house by gathering figures on costs and savings and seeking funding approval from the board of directors. In total, 410 fixtures and 1,246 bulbs were replaced during the project. The foundation estimates that it will save nearly \$180,000 over the life of the new LED lighting system due to the reduction in energy use and long life of the LED fixtures. The project also improved the facility's appearance and user experience through better lighting, increased the safety of the parking lot and enhanced the functionality of security cameras. The success of this project can serve as a model for other organizations with large gymnasiums or community spaces and demonstrates Gold Crown Foundation's commitment to sustainability.





South of 6th Sustainable Neighborhood Leadership

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Adaptation – Energy, Water & the Built Environment – Zero Waste – Community Cohesion & Public Health – Sustainable Transportation

Jen Teeuwen has been a leader of the South of 6th Sustainable Neighborhood initiative since it applied to the City’s Sustainable Neighborhood Program in 2013. As a charter member of the group, Jen helped provide guidance on neighborhood projects and initiatives, while working diligently to connect neighborhood residents and build community to ensure the neighborhood’s success in the program. Some of the many projects Jen organized in 2016 include a light rail community ride, a water treatment plant tour and many monthly meetings that allowed neighbors to come together to discuss topics important to their community. After three years of effort, Jen helped lead South of 6th to achieve certification as an “Outstanding Sustainable Neighborhood.” From the beginning, Jen took charge of this new program, and her hard work and dedication has resulted in opportunities for residents throughout the neighborhood to have ownership of projects that contribute to a more sustainable community.



Defender of the Planet Award



Water Conservation and Cleanup

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Adaptation – Energy, Water & the Built Environment – Natural Systems

From project research to project implementation, a group of 20 students combined curiosity and personal initiative to address water conservation and clean up waterways in Lakewood. The Green Mountain Area Homeschoolers began their latest service learning project by touring a local water treatment plant, watching the documentary “The Great Divide” about Colorado water history and issues, learning about Bear Creek

watershed monitoring and interviewing Lakewood City staff and elected officials. These investigations allowed them to identify ways they could advance water conservation, water quality and public education. Using funding from the Jane Goodall Institute, the students planted willows along Bear Creek to prevent erosion, picked up trash along the riparian corridor and distributed native, low-water seeds to local residents. The students also created an educational art display at Belmar Library to share information on how to protect water resources. As a result of their hard work, these students not only learned a great deal about water issues, but also taught the community how discovery, education, determination and direct action come together to make significant impact.



Earth Day Eco Fair

Achievement Areas: Zero Waste

The Environmental Club at Hutchinson Elementary decided to celebrate Earth Day by helping others recycle materials that cannot go in typical recycle bins. Drawing inspiration from their concern for environmental health, the students planned the event from beginning to end, overcoming financial obstacles through funding from the Jane Goodall Roots & Shoots grant program and the school's Parent Teacher Organization. The event provided a variety of recycling and repurposing opportunities for miscellaneous and hard-to-recycle items including shredded paper, paint, electronics, cosmetic containers, clothing and household items.



The Bruce Peoples Eco-Employee Award



Two Creeks Renaissance

Achievement Areas: Community Cohesion & Public Health – Sustainable Transportation

In northeast Lakewood, the Two Creeks neighborhood is undergoing a renaissance championed by Lakewood Principal Planner Alexis Moore. The transformation began in 2013 with a neighborhood planning effort led by Alexis and her team focusing on pedestrian and bicycle connectivity, improving access to healthy food and creating a safe community gathering space. The planning effort led to creation of Mountair Park

Community Farm in 2014, a community farm in the heart of the Two Creeks neighborhood and has continued with the vision and development of the 40 West ARTline, an interactive four-mile art route, which will provide even more opportunities to connect residents and visitors to outdoor spaces. Over the years, Alexis has helped the City to forge meaningful relationships and build trust with residents by meeting and engaging with residents where they were – places like schools, churches and community events. By ensuring that bilingual team members were available, listening to resident feedback and communicating about how everyone will benefit from activities, Alexis and her team have been successful in engaging a broad spectrum of the community and creating a movement in which the entire community can take part.



In-Office Recycling

Achievement Areas: Zero Waste

After years of watching plastic film fill up office trash cans, Principal Planner Stephen Wilson decided to do something about it. Because plastic film and single-use grocery bags cannot be recycled in the typical single-stream recycling bin, Stephen created a recycle station in his own office by taking advantage of the Trex® plastic film recycling program. Trex® takes plastics that are clean, dry and free of food residue and recycles them into long-lasting and durable outdoor products like decking and benches. By keeping the recycling containers in his office, Stephen monitors what is collected and can ensure all the collected materials are eligible for the Trex® program. Stephen's initiative serves as an example to those who want to find a solution to everyday problems by demonstrating creative problem-solving and dedicated follow-through.



Leadership in Sustainability

Achievement Areas: Climate Change & Adaptation – Energy, Water & the Built Environment – Resilient Economy – Zero Waste – Community Cohesion & Public Health – Natural Systems – Sustainable Transportation

Jo Donaldson joined the Employees' Committee for a Sustainable Lakewood in 2009, just one year after the committee was formed. Most new committee members start their service by attending a few meetings, quietly observing as the team discusses various projects and ideas, and then slowly getting involved by volunteering for a task or two. Not Jo, she jumped right in. Within a few weeks of joining the committee, Jo was taking meeting minutes, had volunteered to help plan an Earth Day Expo and had joined the Sustainability Awards committee. For the next eight years, Jo worked tirelessly behind the scenes to grow the Employee's Committee for a Sustainable Lakewood and its various programs. The Sustainability Awards program is celebrating its 10th year in 2017 due in great part to Jo's tireless work and vision behind the scenes. The positive impacts of Jo's efforts can be seen in the leadership and inspiration she passed to the community through her hard work organizing Lakewood's annual Earth Day Celebration and annual Sustainability Awards Program. Jo's years of action should inspire each of us to find a project that we are passionate about and make a meaningful contribution to the community.



[LAKEWOOD.ORG/SUSTAINABILITYAWARDS](https://www.lakewood.org/sustainabilityawards)



Lakewood
Sustainability