



2025 annual sustainability report

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tomorrow. together.

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Please note: this report is not intended to serve as a comprehensive document of community-wide sustainability actions, nor does it include all of the City’s sustainability actions.



message from Mayor Tim Busse



During an intensive community engagement process to develop the *Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.* strategic plan, community members shared a clear vision: a healthy environment is essential to the well-being of our people and our city. The City of Bloomington stays committed to this vision through changing conditions locally and globally. We're taking measurable action to reduce greenhouse gases, improve water quality, restore our natural resources, reduce waste and conserve water. This essential work creates an enduring and remarkable community where people want to be. To learn about programs, progress and ways to get involved, visit the City's sustainability webpage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Busse". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tim Busse

Mayor

City of Bloomington

message from the Sustainability Coordinator



This report highlights actions the City of Bloomington led or supported in 2025 to work towards the *Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.* strategic outcome of *Improved Environmental Health*. Our 2025 sustainability achievements reflect the dedication and hard work of our residents, City leaders and staff and community partners. Thank you to everyone who participated and to those who continue to move Bloomington towards a more sustainable future!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emma Struss". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Emma Struss

Sustainability Coordinator
City of Bloomington



awards and
recognition

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AWARDS and RECOGNITION



GREENSTEP CITIES STEPS 4 AND 5

The City of Bloomington received an award for being a Steps 4 and 5 city in the Minnesota GreenStep program. The GreenStep Cities award reflects the City's sustained commitment and continuous improvement in the area of Sustainability. The award shows community members and other cities across Minnesota that the City of Bloomington is taking great steps in the direction of energy and resource conservation and innovation.



PETA COMPASSIONATE CITY AWARD – EAST BUSH LAKE ROAD TURTLE TUNNEL

The City Council accepted the PETA Compassionate City Award in September, recognizing the turtle tunnel built under East Bush Lake Road near Richardson Nature Center. The tunnel is meant to help turtles and other wildlife cross the busy road safely.

AWARDS and RECOGNITION



NATIONAL AWARD – NINE MILE CREEK CORRIDOR RENEWAL RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT

Bloomington received a first-place national award for resident engagement from the City-County Communications and Marketing Association in August 2025. In November 2023, voters approved a sales tax to fund \$20 million in improvements in the Nine Mile Creek corridor, an amenity with trails and natural areas that residents value and enjoy. Staff brought stakeholders in during the beginning stages of development, working to inform, involve and connect at every step of the process. The project demonstrated how transparent communication, active listening and consistent outreach can align environmental goals with community values.



CONSERVATION MINNESOTA BLAZING STAR AWARD - TIME OF SALE ENERGY DISCLOSURE

Bloomington received a Blazing Star Award from Conservation Minnesota at the City Council meeting in June 2025. The award acknowledges exceptional local government projects that advance conservation, climate resilience, environmental protection or outdoor recreation opportunities. Bloomington received a Blazing Star Award for the impactful energy disclosure reports that have been included in the City's Time of Sale Housing Evaluation program.

“To see such an innovative approach to energy efficiency and strategic outreach from a city is very exciting. Bloomington is showing how communities can work with residents to achieve energy use reductions,” said Avery Hildebrand, public engagement program manager at Conservation Minnesota.



2025 by the numbers

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2025

BY THE NUMBERS



how we ENHANCED NATURAL RESOURCES

- City staff and volunteers planted **200 trees**.
- Crews seeded **5 acres** of turf into native prairie.
- In 2025 Forestry and Natural Resources staff **cleared 10 acres of buckthorn** at multiple parks throughout Bloomington.



how we IMPROVED WATER QUALITY

- Over **130 rebates** were issued for water saving devices in Bloomington homes as a part of the water rebate program.
- More than **600,000 gallons of water** were saved through the installation of water saving appliances and devices in single family homes.
- When comparing data to a similar weather year, the irrigation system at Civic Plaza saved approximately **360,000 gallons of water** in 2025.



how we REDUCED GREENHOUSE GASES

- **347 households** participated in the Home Energy Squad program, leading to immediate and longer-term energy saving opportunities.
- The City issued more than **20 business and nonprofit** energy efficiency grants.
- The City added **6 Ford Lightning electric trucks** to its fleet, reducing the fleet's carbon footprint through elimination of greenhouse gases emitted by formerly gas-powered trucks.
- Over **50,000 people** attended Bloomington farmers markets and chose to save greenhouse gas emissions through purchasing local food.



how we REDUCED SOLID WASTE

- **645 households** signed up for curbside organics recycling, bringing total participation to **33% of eligible households**.
- The Bulky Item Reuse and Recycling program diverted over **86.5 tons of bulky items** from the landfill – a **58% increase** in diverted waste from 2024.
- Solid Waste staff connected with residents at over **30 community events** and in public spaces throughout the year.



how we CONSERVED WATER

- **4,000 pounds of debris** were collected through the Adopt-a-Drain program, protecting lakes, rivers and streams from pollution.
- **24 ponds** were assessed under the City's surface water quality monitoring program.



how we
reduced
greenhouse
gas emissions

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HOW WE

REDUCED GREENHOUSE GASES

Greenhouse gas emissions are a significant contributor to climate change. These gases slow the rate at which heat from the sun escapes into space. This increases the Earth's temperature like a giant blanket. Greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, methane and fluorinated gases. Activities such as producing energy for buildings and transportation emit greenhouse gases. The City focuses on making buildings and transportation more energy efficient. This means that buildings will use less energy and emit less greenhouse gases. Additionally, electrification is a high priority. Renewable energy sources such as solar and wind can power electricity. Solar and wind do not emit greenhouse gases. Climate change affects Bloomington residents in their daily lives. It leads to extreme heat, increased flooding and warmer winters. Reducing greenhouse gases can make sure we do not experience the worst effects of climate change.



SOLAR ON PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING

Last year, the City installed more than 700 solar panels on the Public Works building. The system size is over 400,000 watts. This is enough to power almost two thirds of the maintenance building's yearly electricity usage. The system will pay for itself in nine years by the energy savings it will generate. The project cost approximately \$700,000. To help pay for the panels, the City received a federal tax credit of over \$200,000 through the direct pay program. Additionally, the City will receive more than \$300,000 in solar credits from Xcel Energy over 25 years. The panels will save over 7,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide over 25 years. This is the same as taking 1,500 passenger vehicles off the road for a year.



BLOOMINGTON ICE GARDEN

The City completed renovation of the Bloomington Ice Garden last year. Significant energy efficiency improvements were made, earning a \$94,000 rebate from Xcel Energy. All but one of the rooftop units were replaced. Contractors installed insulation, performed air sealing and replaced all exterior doors. The mechanical systems below the ice and dehumidification systems are also all more efficient. With these and many other upgrades, the building is expected to save 360,000 kilowatt hours of energy. This is the same as taking 50 gas-powered passenger vehicles off the road for one year. Natural resources improvements were also a part of the project. The south side of the building was converted to prairie grass and surmountable curbs were installed, allowing for easier turtle travel.



HOW WE

REDUCED GREENHOUSE GASES



BRYANT PARK RENOVATION

A new 2,500-square-foot park building was built at Bryant Park. It was completed in fall of 2025. The design was inspired by Minnesota B3 sustainability guidelines. The building includes solar panels as well as geothermal heating, meeting net-zero carbon emissions. The building incorporates sustainable site design and construction practices. These include flood resiliency, daylighting and low flow plumbing fixtures. When the project is completed, sustainable site improvements will include the addition of 10 acres of native plantings. Improvements will also include 250 new trees and a wetland expansion. Two-thirds of mowed turf grass area were converted to native plantings.



BLOOMINGTON JOINS ELECTRIFY EVERYTHING CAMPAIGN

Last year, Bloomington joined Electrify Everything Minnesota, which is a regional initiative that helps residents electrify their homes. Home electrification is the process of upgrading gas-powered appliances to efficient electric alternatives. It is a practical and impactful way to improve health and comfort. Electrify Everything Minnesota connects residents to home electrification information, incentives and contractors. This helps make choosing electric options easier. In 2025, the City held an online electrification workshop and sent a mailer. The mailer encouraged residents to replace their air conditioners with an air-source heat pump. Residents who electrify their homes reduce their carbon emissions. They also enjoy long-term energy savings.



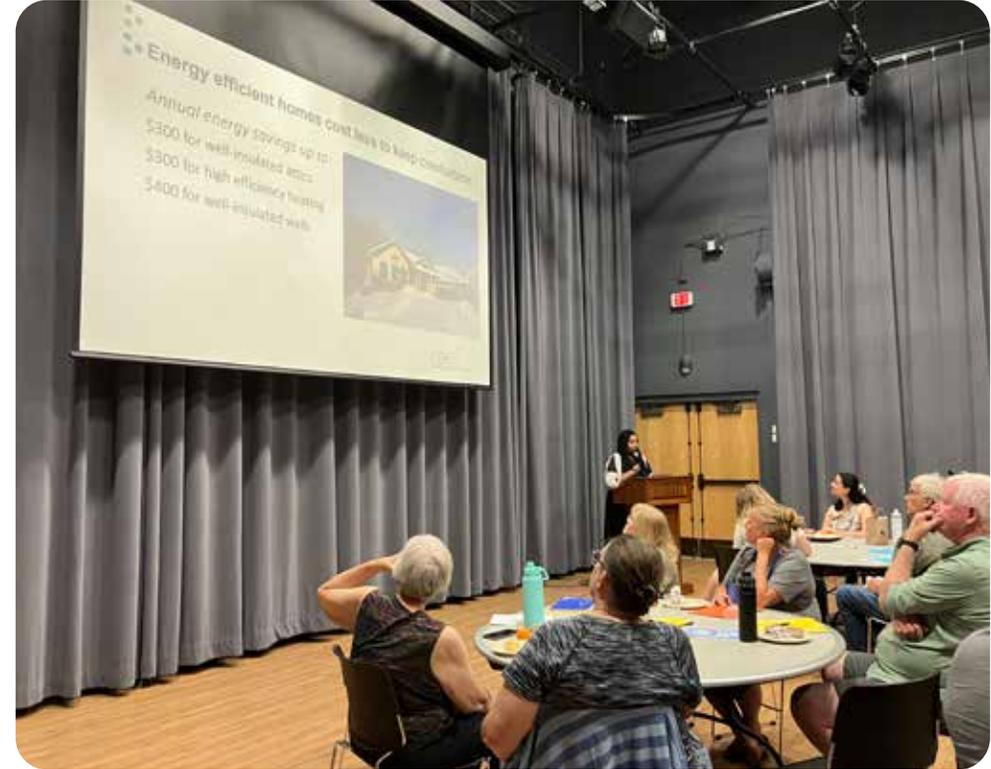
how we

REDUCED GREENHOUSE GASES



HOME ENERGY SQUAD®

The Home Energy Squad® installs energy-saving products in homes and provides energy audits. Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy sponsor the program. It is available for homeowners and renters living in one- to four-unit dwellings. The Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority pays for half the cost of the visit. In summer 2025, Sustainability contributed to make the visits completely free from May to August. Sustainability conducted targeted outreach in areas of low program participation in the summer. Public Health and the Office of Racial Equity, Inclusion and Belonging collaborated. Bilingual Home Energy Squad staff also helped with outreach. Two hundred and six households scheduled visits during the campaign period. This led to a major increase in participation. Bloomington surpassed 2024 participation numbers in summer months alone. In 2025, 347 households were served by Home Energy Squad. Hundreds of Bloomington residents are now more prepared than ever to save energy at home.



TIME OF SALE ENERGY DISCLOSURE

At the end of 2025, the fourth year of the Time of Sale Energy Disclosure program, 3,824 homes in Bloomington had received an Energy Disclosure Report. Energy Disclosure Reports give a basic outline of the conditions of a home from an energy efficiency standpoint at the time of sale. The program also offers free support services to implement recommended upgrades. Residential energy use accounts for one-third of energy-related greenhouse gas emissions. Programs like this help to make residents aware of energy-saving opportunities and additionally make energy-saving improvements.



how we

REDUCED GREENHOUSE GASES



ENERGY EFFICIENT BUSINESS REBATE PROGRAM

Last year the City continued issuing rebates to energy efficient businesses. The City partnered with Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) to do this work. Businesses received free energy audits through CEE's One Stop Energy Efficiency Shop®. Bloomington rebates covered 20% of project costs up to \$2,500 for projects qualified for utility rebates. Twenty-two businesses received rebates in the 2024-25 program term. Commercial energy use is responsible for approximately two-thirds of energy-related greenhouse gas emissions.



FARMERS MARKETS

The Bloomington Farmers Market ran every Saturday morning from June 7 to October 18. The market is one of the largest suburban markets in the metro area, featuring up to 45 vendors most Saturdays. Located in the east parking lot of Civic Plaza, the market includes a diverse mix of products. All are grown or made locally. This is a very important place for Bloomington residents seeking healthy food options. It is also accessible for people who use the state Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Electronic Benefits Transfer (SNAP EBT) program.



how we **REDUCED
GREENHOUSE GASES**



SOUTH LOOP DISTRICT PLAN UPDATE

In October 2025, the Bloomington City Council approved an [update to the South Loop District Plan](#), first adopted in 2012. The update describes several projects to make the district more sustainable. Central to this vision is a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The update supports this goal by investing in walking and biking paths. The update also highlights projects that improve connections to public transit. These connections would make it easier for residents and visitors to reach local destinations. They would also make it easier to reach nearby natural areas in the Minnesota River Valley. The update also goes beyond transportation and promotes natural resource protection. It calls for a thorough review of bluff protection standards to look at how current standards affect development near bluffs and identify ways to improve them.



AMERICAN BOULEVARD TRANSIT STUDY

American Boulevard is an important transportation corridor in Bloomington. The boulevard runs parallel to Interstate 494 across the northern side of the city. The expansion of I-494 created an opportunity to look at the future of American Boulevard. The American Boulevard Transit Study explored whether a dedicated bus rapid transit system could work on the corridor. The study looked at ways to improve land use and infrastructure to better support walking, biking, rolling and transit. The City identified two potential transit routes in coordination with transit partners. In addition, the study developed land use recommendations that the City will consider adding to its Comprehensive Plan. It also includes recommendations for future roadway improvements such as upgrades to intersections and pedestrian infrastructure. The goal of these changes is to create a safer, more accessible street for all users. [The City Council adopted the final plan in December and it is available online.](#)



how we

REDUCED GREENHOUSE GASES



BLOOMINGTON FERRY ROAD CORRIDOR VISION STUDY

The Bloomington Ferry Road Corridor Vision Study aims to develop a long-term plan for the roadway. The goal is to repurpose the existing public roadway area to better serve the current and future needs of residents, businesses and visitors of the corridor. The study recommended a future-focused corridor design that reduces the roadway to one-lane in each direction. This design has turn lanes at intersections and provides an off-road, two-way bikeway and sidewalk on both sides of the road. Additional space will be used for stormwater management and other sustainability features. The City Council adopted the recommendations of the study at the end of 2025. The vision study will be used to guide future pavement preservation and reconstruction projects. Staff will also begin identifying funding and opportunities for interim safety improvements. Striping changes and modified intersections could address safety concerns in the near term. [Learn more about the Bloomington Ferry Road Corridor Vision Study.](#)



METRO MICRO LAUNCH

Metro Transit’s new Metro micro service began in Bloomington in August. Metro micro is a door-to-door ridesharing transit service. It uses ADA-accessible minibuses. The service covers a part of Bloomington that has little to no access to transit. Users can schedule a pickup using an app or by calling a phone number. They can arrange a pickup to and from any location in the service area. Increasing transit service helps to make public transportation more accessible for Bloomington residents and visitors. It can encourage more people to use public transit as well, leading to greenhouse gas emission reduction from people who may normally drive cars. [Learn more about Metro micro.](#)



how we

REDUCED GREENHOUSE GASES



NEW BRIDGES OVER INTERSTATE 494

As a part of the Interstate 494 reconstruction project, four new bridges have been built over the highway. Three of the bridges will have major improvements for bicycle users and pedestrians. The fourth bridge will be for bicycles and pedestrians only. These bridges will improve regional connectivity for local roadway, trail and sidewalk users by reducing the impact of the barrier created by I-494. The City is also investing in new trails and sidewalks connecting to these enhanced bridges. These changes will make the region more connected as a whole for people who walk, bike and roll.



PEDESTRIAN INFRASTRUCTURE ENHANCEMENTS

The City worked on several projects last year to enhance pedestrian infrastructure. At Valley View schools, new sidewalk and an enhanced crosswalk were installed. This makes it safer and easier for students to walk or bike to school. The City was also awarded funding to construct a sidewalk on Stanley Avenue. This project will close a sidewalk gap within a school walking boundary. The project aims to preserve the trees on the boulevard through narrowing the road to incorporate sidewalk. The Stanley Avenue sidewalk will be constructed in 2026.



HOW WE

REDUCED GREENHOUSE GASES



BIKE MAPPING PROJECT

In 2025, three interns were hired to enter data into a GIS-based inventory of bike racks across Bloomington, Edina and Richfield through a partnership between Bloomington Public Health and Sustainability, with support from the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership. Just like drivers need convenient places to park their cars, people on bikes need safe, easy-to-use bike racks at their destinations. This project mapped where bike racks currently exist and what kind of racks are being used. That information will help the City see whether our current bike parking meets the needs of the community and identify existing gaps. Biking to work is a low-carbon travel option, reducing greenhouse gas emissions from short car trips. Understanding the city's current bike parking infrastructure will help to build a more connected, bike-friendly future and reduce the negative health and environmental effects of cars.



WARM MIX ASPHALT COMES TO BLOOMINGTON

The City recently tested a new, more eco-friendly way to pave streets using warm mix asphalt instead of traditional asphalt. This method uses lower temperatures, which saves fuel while keeping the pavement just as strong and long-lasting. Because of this change, the project reduced air pollution, including carbon dioxide and other harmful gases, and made working conditions safer and more comfortable. In total, the project cut carbon dioxide emissions by over 5,000 kilograms. This is the same as taking a gasoline-powered passenger vehicle off the road for a year. The City finished paving in early October and will now watch how the road performs compared to regular asphalt.



how we

REDUCED GREENHOUSE GASES



how we
enhanced
natural
resources

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HOW WE ENHANCED NATURAL RESOURCES

Enhancing natural resources improves water quality and increases climate change resilience. Adding to the tree canopy can provide crucial shade during extreme heat events. It has energy benefits as well, decreasing the need for residential cooling. Native vegetation with deep roots can absorb excess water from flooding. At the same time, native plants are more drought tolerant. For these reasons, the City prioritizes improvements to natural resources in its work.



URBAN FOREST MASTER PLAN

In 2025, the City began work to develop its comprehensive Urban Forest Master Plan. This plan will guide urban forest management decision-making in Bloomington. The City hosted several engagement events in August, including a community meeting. A smart car was also available for viewing at the Midweek Music and Market. Consultants used the car to conduct a Smart Tree Inventory later that month. Urban trees provide many benefits to residents. They make neighborhoods cooler and more resilient to extreme heat events. This work will benefit residents for the next 20 years and beyond.



NINE MILE CREEK CORRIDOR RENEWAL PROJECT

Last year, work continued on the Nine Mile Creek Corridor Renewal Project. The City hosted several community engagement events. Work began with schematic design and evolved to 90% design completion. The City hosted a schematic design engagement event in March and an open house in August. The City hosted a conversation to discuss accessible playground equipment options in September. Online feedback opportunities were also available. Final plans were approved in January of 2026 and construction will begin in spring 2026.



HOW WE **ENHANCED
NATURAL RESOURCES**



TARNHILL PARK OAK RESTORATION

The City performed eight acres of oak habitat restoration at Tarnhill Park last year. A Minnesota Conservation Partners Legacy grant funded the work. This project will improve habitat for native oak tree species and wildlife. It will remove invasive brush and less desirable tree species. Additionally, it will enhance ground layer vegetation and increase oak regeneration and habitat. Work began in fall of 2025 and will finish in June 2028. This project is an expansion of the 11.5 acres that are currently managed at Tarnhill Park. The restoration aims to create a more connected and resilient ecosystem.



TURTLE TUNNEL

Bloomington installed a new turtle tunnel beneath East Bush Lake Road. Turtles use this road to cross between two wetlands on either side. As a result, this area has a high number of turtle deaths each year. When the County planned to resurface the road, the City saw an opportunity. The pipe underneath the road was aging and in need of replacement. With slight modifications, they could make it usable both for its original function and as a wildlife crossing. The City constructed the tunnel in 2025. Now, turtles have a better option to cross the tunnel down below the road. The tunnel has radial grates to allow sunlight through and ensure turtles can see the other side. Barrier fencing will be built in summer of 2026, guiding turtles toward the tunnel and away from the road.



how we **ENHANCED
NATURAL RESOURCES**



how we
reduced solid
waste

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how we **REDUCED SOLID WASTE**



CONNECTING COMMUNITIES TO ORGANICS RECYCLING

Staff conducted targeted outreach to inform people about organics recycling through information sessions. Staff held tailored sessions for faith community leaders and multifamily property managers. The goal was to ensure these leaders had tools to participate and understand the benefits of organics recycling. Staff hosted the May Organics Challenge and held events in libraries and parks. These events provided hands-on opportunities for residents to learn, connect and be a part of waste reduction. These broad and inclusive engagement efforts reduce waste and greenhouse gas emissions. Beyond that, they develop community ownership of sustainability initiatives. When we're in it together, long-term climate and waste reduction goals are easier to achieve. At the end of 2025, 33% of Solid Waste customers had a curbside organics recycling cart.



FUNDING A NEW ORGANICS DROP-OFF SITE

Hennepin County awarded Bloomington funding to create a new organics drop-off location at Smith Park. Staff selected Smith Park because it's close to large apartment buildings. This new site will provide apartment building residents with easier access to organics recycling. The park is also in an Environmental Justice Zone: an area where people will be most affected by the negative impacts of climate change. The City will build the Smith Park organics drop-off in 2026. Building this site will advance the City's climate goals. It will also help meet state and county targets to send less waste to landfills and incinerators.



how we

REDUCED SOLID WASTE



NEW PAY-AS-YOU-THROW GARBAGE RATES

City Council approved final Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) garbage rates to start in 2026. Council also approved a new every-other-week small garbage service option. Before making these changes, the City conducted a comprehensive solid waste rate study. They asked residents their opinion through surveys and public meetings. Resident opinion helped shape the updated service options and rate structure. The new PAYT rates and every-other-week service option connect behavior with impact. Households that generate less garbage save more money. This reinforces the benefits of reducing, reusing and recycling. These changes help Bloomington meet state and county goals and reduce the negative impacts of sending waste to landfills and incinerators.



FLEET GARAGE SITE DECONSTRUCTION

The City is building a new fleet garage. As a part of this process, the City will demolish two buildings on the site. Typically, building waste goes straight to landfill through the demolition process. Instead, Better Futures will be deconstructing at least one of the buildings first. They will salvage usable parts of the building, such as interior doors, space and water heater, cabinetry and other miscellaneous wood. This will be the first time the City has deconstructed a site. Deconstruction has many sustainability benefits, including reducing landfill waste. Additionally, it preserves the carbon used to construct the building materials.



how we **REDUCED
SOLID WASTE**



how we
improved
water quality

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how we

IMPROVED WATER QUALITY

People's actions in cities and suburban environments can impact water quality. Construction, using de-icing salt, and fertilizing lawns all have an effect. These chemical changes affect which plants can survive in these habitats and disrupt natural ecosystems. The changes also upset the environment and harm human health by polluting places where we get drinking water. Chemical changes also make lakes and rivers where people swim and play unsafe. The City wants to reduce the negative impact of human activities on water quality. Bloomington works with partners and participates in projects to protect water resources, including efforts to restore polluted lakes and streams.



CANTERBURY OAKS RESTORATION

Last year, the City began work to restore the wetland area around Canterbury Oaks Pond. The goal of the project is to improve long-term water quality and ecosystem health. City staff plan to convert two-thirds of the turf grass next to the pond to native prairie. The restoration activity is a part of the University of Minnesota Pond Characteristic and Aquatic Vegetation Study. The project began in 2025 and will end in 2026.



WINTER SALT USE AND MANAGEMENT

Last year, the City continued to reduce salt use in winter maintenance work to protect water resources. Additionally, they performed a City Code review that explored ways to reduce or completely remove salt use through code changes. Staff also created a Geographic Information System mapping tool to help predict winter pavement conditions and prioritize winter maintenance service levels. This helped the City identify areas to consider reducing salt use. The City continues to focus on these efforts in order to protect water quality while maintaining public safety.



how we

IMPROVED WATER QUALITY



BRYANT PARK POND RESTORATION

During the renovations at Bryant Park, City staff used the opportunity to dewater Bryant Pond to excavate sediment that had accumulated in the pond over time due to stormwater inflow. Staff took advantage of this unique access to the bottom of the pond and took action to reduce algae growth. They took spent lime, a byproduct from the City's water treatment plant, and spread it across the pond bottom. The spent lime helps to bind phosphorous to the pond bottom. Phosphorous is a necessary ingredient in algae growth. Binding this nutrient to the sediment at the bottom of the pond means phosphorus has reduced availability which can reduce algae growth. Staff have noted that now, water is much clearer visually. This project was unique as it reused a waste product from the City's water treatment process that the City pays to dispose of. Instead, it repurposed the leftover lime as something beneficial for the community. The City made other water resource improvements at the park, adding five rain gardens. They also put in five sediment collection devices to help remove dirt and debris from stormwater.



MASTER VEGETATION MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

The City has launched several projects under the master vegetation management contract. Locations for 2025 projects were Canterbury Oaks Pond, Oxboro Lakes and Dewitt Pond. Work included native vegetation restoration and invasive cattail management. The City reconstructed rain gardens in the South Loop. Staff accessed a Nine Mile Creek Watershed District cost share grant to help fund the work. The master contract helps the City work efficiently and ensures that maintenance activities are properly prescribed and implemented in coordination with qualified contractors. Through this work, contractors can restore sites to a sustainable condition that City crews are then able to maintain over time.



how we

IMPROVED WATER QUALITY



how we
conserved
water

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HOW WE CONSERVED WATER

Freshwater is a limited resource. Water sources can be easily overused or polluted, making them unable to be used. In order to protect our water resources, the City takes steps to conserve water in City activities and incentivizes residents to reduce their water use.



WATER CONSERVATION REBATE PROGRAM

Bloomington's water conservation rebate program helps Bloomington residents conserve water and save money through installing water-saving devices, such as irrigation systems, toilets, clothes washers and dishwashers. In 2025, 135 rebates were issued. Funding for the rebate program is provided by the Metropolitan Council and Clean Water, Land & Legacy Amendment's Water Efficiency Grant, the Bloomington Sustainability Commission and the Bloomington Water Utility.



INSTALLATION OF TORO DXI CENTRAL CONTROL SYSTEM

Last year, the City installed water use control devices at Dred Scott Playfields and Brookside Park. These Toro DXi irrigation control systems help staff to remotely access the sprinklers. They do this using a water management software and mobile app. These tools allow staff to track water flow in real time and identify leaks much faster. The systems help conserve water while maintaining healthy plant growth. Before, staff had to drive out to the site to make adjustments to irrigation systems. Now, remote access allows staff to adjust from anywhere. When staff can manage water flow in real time, it is easier to reduce water use. Additionally, remote access leads to lowered greenhouse gas emissions due to less driving.



RAIN BARREL SALE

In 2025, the City of Bloomington partnered with the city of Richfield and the Recycling Association of Minnesota to provide rain barrels to residents at a discounted cost like they did in 2024. On May 3, 64 residents picked up rain barrels at the Richfield Farmers Market. In addition to conserving water, the use of rain barrels decreases stormwater runoff and improves runoff water quality.



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appendix A:
additional 2025
sustainability
accomplishments

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL 2025 SUSTAINABILITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HOW WE REDUCED GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TIMELINE
Solar on Fire Station 4	In December 2025, the State of Minnesota awarded the City a Solar on Public Buildings grant to cover 70% of the cost to install a 40 kW solar system on Fire Station 4.	The project began in 2025 and will be completed by the end of 2026.
New fleet garage	Construction of the new fleet garage will begin in summer of 2026 and will have many energy efficiency features. Kalwall panels will allow natural light to come in, saving energy on lighting in the daytime hours. The outside of the building will have motion-sensor lights. Additionally, the utilities are being placed on the lower roof. This will allow the upper roof space to be available for solar. The roof faces south and will be slanted to optimize for solar.	Construction begins in summer 2026.
Commercial and industrial audits	Staff began work to launch a discounted commercial and industrial audits program. The City signed a contract with Frontier Energy in late Spring of 2025. Frontier Energy provides natural gas energy analyses on behalf of CenterPoint Energy. Staff expect to launch the program in 2026. Discounted electric audits will also be available. Many businesses in Bloomington will qualify for completely free audits (a \$500 value).	Program launch expected in 2026.
Engineering rooftop unit	In July, contractors installed a new 30-ton rooftop unit (RTU) in Public Works. The RTU supplies heating, ventilation and air conditioning to City staff. The old unit used R22, which is a chemical that depletes the ozone layer. The new unit has a more sustainable refrigerant and a variable speed compressor. The new compressor allows the unit to operate at different speeds. This means it can use an appropriate amount of energy based on the need. The old model had only one option - operating at full speed. The new RTU is a win for sustainability and for the comfort of Engineering staff!	Rooftop unit was installed in July of 2025.

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TIMELINE
<p>City facility building automation</p>	<p>In 2025, staff transitioned the lighting in Civic Plaza from manual time clocks and switches to full automation. The lighting can now be computer controlled. Occupancy sensors have been installed throughout the building, so that lights will turn off when no one is around. In 2026, there will be a recommissioning study done on Civic Plaza. The study will ensure all equipment and building controls are functioning properly. The goal is to set the computer controls up optimally support the needs of staff that work in the building, while running as efficiently as possible.</p>	<p>2025 – lighting automation, 2026 – recommissioning study.</p>
<p>City park lighting modernization</p>	<p>Staff have done significant work over the past several years to modernize lighting in parks. Before LEDs, City facilities were lit with many types of fixtures. These included fluorescent, halogen and high-pressure sodium. They were not only inefficient, but also difficult to maintain and replace. Staff have been working to replace lighting fixtures as they fail with LEDs. They also standardize the equipment, making it easier to maintain. Standardizing and modernizing lighting has led to major cost savings for the City. Not only are LEDs efficient, they also allow for the increased ability to automate lighting. This means bulbs are burning only when they're needed. Residents who live near parks have noticed a difference as well. Their neighborhoods feel much safer with the improved exterior lighting.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Summer sustainability outreach</p>	<p>Over the summer, Sustainability staff engaged in a large-scale outreach campaign. The goal was to have one-on-one conversations with residents about energy. Residents learned how to save energy at home. Additionally, they learned how to make their homes more comfortable and healthier. They learned how to access energy efficiency programs to do this. Staff knocked on doors at 336 homes and attended five festivals and three farmers markets. The City also hosted three fairs and attended several other events. Staff spoke with over 1,000 residents in the process. See appendices B and C for more information.</p>	<p>May-August 2025</p>
<p>Public Health solar battery</p>	<p>Instead of purchasing a gas generator, Public Health staff purchased a portable solar panel with an attached battery. In addition to emergency use, staff plan to use the solar panel and battery at outreach events.</p>	<p>Panel was purchased in summer 2025.</p>

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TIMELINE
<p>Bloomington Affordable Homeownership program</p>	<p>The Minnesota Housing Finance Agency awarded Bloomington \$3,199,500 in 2024. The award was to support the building of 27 new construction single-family homes. This work is a part of the Bloomington Affordable Homeownership program (BAHP). The Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) selected developers in 2025. They will develop eight lots, and 11 units of housing in the first phase. In 2025, staff also identified locations for 16 units that will be built in the second phase in 2026. The grant award includes a requirement for meeting Green Community criteria for sustainability. The HRA integrates energy-efficient designs and renewable energy sources. They aim to reduce the environmental impact while making homeownership accessible. This project addresses the need for affordable housing. Additionally, it promotes healthier living environments and creates long-term cost savings for residents.</p>	<p>Funding award – 2024; selection of phase one developers – 2025; Phase Two begins - 2026.</p>
<p>Energy upgrades in HRA-owned properties</p>	<p>The Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) owns several rental properties. As part of ongoing capital improvement and property maintenance programs the HRA upgrades appliances and materials with more energy efficient appliances and sustainable materials. The maintenance program ensures appliances are energy efficient leading to less energy and water consumption.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Home Improvement Loan Program</p>	<p>The Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority operates the Home Improvement Loan Program. This program provides low-cost loans to residents for maintenance needs on an income-qualified basis. The loan supports weatherization, energy efficiency and water efficiency projects that may not otherwise be completed due to high upfront cost. In 2025, five new loans were issued.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Co-living ordinance</p>	<p>In April, the City passed a co-living ordinance. The ordinance aims to create opportunity for short term, flexible living spaces that can be targeted to residents earning less than 60% of the area median income. Under this ordinance, units are allowed to have shared kitchen and living spaces, similar to housing styles commonly found near colleges and universities. Co-living units contribute to reduction in greenhouse gas emissions through the sharing of appliances and overall reduction in footprint.</p>	<p>April 2025</p>

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TIMELINE
<p>Energy code review</p>	<p>From 2021-2023, the City of Bloomington was part of an energy code support pilot program. This program was a partnership with Center for Energy and Environment (CEE). CEE helped to support the city with code review for larger and more complex projects. The full code support program began in 2024 and ended in mid-2025 due to elimination of funding. However, staff still have access to technical assistance through BuildUp MN. Additionally, they use a code review checklist provided by CEE. This helps to conduct energy code reviews more efficiently.</p>	<p>Pilot began in 2021, code support program began in January of 2024 and ended in mid-2025.</p>
<p>ARTBOX Projects</p>	<p>Creative Placemaking’s 2025 ARTBOX Projects continue to add vibrancy to Bloomington. Partnering with Xcel Energy on a pilot program, selected artist hand-painted utility boxes at four locations. ARTBOXes are located close to sidewalks, trails and transit, and are a popular way for cities to add to walkability and add vibrancy to pedestrian areas.</p>	<p>Summer 2025</p>

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TIMELINE
<p>Commuter Services</p>	<p>In 2025, Commuter Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with 263 companies about implementing and expanding commuter programs. • Held 107 commuter fairs with large employers and multi-tenant properties. • Assisted 2,963 drive alone commuters with sustainable commuting resources including carpooling, transit, bicycle commuting and telework. • Received pledges from 2,779 drive alone commuters who pledged to try a sustainable mode of transportation to work. • Followed up with those who pledged and learned 91% fulfilled their pledge and an impressive 22% switched from driving alone to work to full time use of their sustainable mode. • Conducted outreach with 568 multi-family residential properties and highlighted the \$14 residential transit pass with unlimited rides. • Heavily promoted the new Bloomington Metro micro service to employers, commuters and residents. • Held a webinar called Get to Know Bloomington Metro micro. • Held a webinar on the new transit route along American Boulevard by SouthWest Transit called Arriving Soon: Expanded Bus Service Along I-494. • Hosted a webinar on the new Metro E Line service. • Heavily promoted new transit route 345 to Mall of America. • Held a webinar with Minnesota Department of Transportation on the I-494 construction from the Airport to 169. • Hosted a webinar on the principles of bicycle safety. • Conducted four telework surveys with 1,200 employers and 6,300 commuters about their telework and hybrid work arrangements. • Sent bike trail updates to over 1,200 bicycle commuters on a quarterly basis. • Managed preferential carpool parking for 24 large employers. • Provided free outdoor bike racks to companies who needed one. • Created a walking resource guide with safety tips for walk commuters. • Created a new residential transportation resources newsletter sent to 104 multifamily residential property managers. • Sent a monthly commuter newsletter to 4,690 people who opted-in to receive it. • Sent a quarterly newsletter to 1,200 employers about commuter programs and resources. • Sent a quarterly telework newsletter to 300 employers who opted-in to receive it. • Created a new www.commuter.org website. 	<p>Ongoing</p>

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TIMELINE
PMP reconstruction	As part of the 2025 pavement management projects there were sections of new sidewalk built to fill in gaps. These locations included along East 90th Street from east end of the road to Old Cedar Avenue and along East 84th Street connecting Wrights Lake Park to the Nokomis Minnesota River Regional Trail.	Spring 25 - Fall 25
School zone speed limits	In 2025, the City continued to advance the installation of school zone speed limits. Staff set zones around Valley View Middle and Elementary schools and installed signage. The City also conducted an engineering study and developed plans for school zones on county roads at the two high schools. Staff will use these plans for future implementation in these complex locations.	Ongoing
Bike infrastructure	New dedicated bike lanes were installed along Nine Mile Creek Parkway.	Bike lanes were installed in summer 2025.
84th Street and Normandale Boulevard Pedestrian Study	The City performed a pedestrian study at 84th Street and Normandale Boulevard. The study goal was to improve pedestrian comfort and safety at this intersection. The preferred alternative will include modified right turns that will lower vehicle speeds. The study also proposed wider median refuge islands.	Study approved by council in October of 2025.
2025 Traffic signal retiming project	The 2025 traffic signal retiming project included retiming 34 intersections in Bloomington. Staff implemented and fine-tuned the new signal timings in November. Signal retiming usually occurs every five years. Retiming helps to keep up with changing traffic patterns. It also helps to reduce fuel consumption and vehicle emissions. A project benefit analysis indicated that retiming reduced vehicle delays by 7%. It also reduced fuel consumption and vehicle emissions by 1%. The analysis estimates the project will save 30,000 gallons of gasoline each year. It will also save 70,000 hours of vehicle delay.	Fall 2025
ADA Right-of-Way Transition Plan	<p>Bloomington completed a self-evaluation of almost 5,000 City-owned pedestrian ramps in 2022. This work was a part of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Public Right of Way Transition Plan. Ongoing inspections continued in 2025. Staff inspected nearly 260 pedestrian ramps. They installed 33 new ramps, and removed and replaced 151 ramps to meet ADA standards. They did this through construction projects such as the Pavement Management Program. Staff will continue to upgrade non-compliant ramps as part of scheduled infrastructure improvements.</p> <p>Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) are another focus of the plan. APS provide non-visual crossing information at signalized intersections. Of the 68 signal locations operated by the City, 12 currently include APS, with nine added since the plan began. The ADA Public Right of Way Transition Plan was approved in 2016. It was updated in 2022. It remains a living document that will be routinely reviewed and improved.</p>	Ongoing

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TIMELINE
<p>Hybrid pursuit vehicles</p>	<p>In 2021, the City ordered a test hybrid pursuit vehicle to try one out. At the time the vehicle had an upcharge of \$3,151 vs. the standard V-6 gas-only vehicle. Over 100,000 miles, the hybrid averaged 17 miles per gallon during its use and used 5882.32 gallons of unleaded fuel. Over the same period, the average V-6 vehicles averages 11 miles per gallon and uses 9,090.90 gallons of unleaded fuel. Based on current fuel costs of unleaded fuel (\$2.4339), the gas savings over 100,000 miles for using a hybrid vehicle would be \$7,809.37 dollars. In 2026, the hybrid vehicles cost the same to purchase as the V-6 powered vehicles. They also require much less maintenance and have higher resale prices. The City has 10 hybrids on order for 2026. Each hybrid is estimated to save 28.5 metric tons of Co2e over time, which is equivalent to the emissions from burning 31,674 pounds of coal.</p>	<p>First hybrid purchased in 2021, 10 hybrids on order for 2026.</p>
<p>New level 2 electric vehicle chargers</p>	<p>To continue supporting fleet electrification, staff installed two new dual level 2 chargers in the Public Works storage building and one dual level 2 charger at Western Maintenance.</p>	<p>New chargers installed in 2025.</p>
<p>Mobile Health Hub</p>	<p>New batteries were installed on the City's Mobile Health Hub. The batteries replace the old gas generator. They will be able to supply air conditioning and lighting to the trailer for a full day. This eliminates the need for fossil fuels to power a generator. Additionally, it prevents users of the trailer, sometimes suffering from conditions like asthma, from being exposed to exhaust fumes.</p>	<p>Batteries ordered in 2024, installed in 2025.</p>
<p>New paint truck</p>	<p>An electric-powered paint sprayer was installed on the Public Works paint truck last year. It is powered by batteries and an inverter. Staff charge the batteries overnight by plugging into a wall outlet. The new batteries eliminate the need for a gas-powered engine to run the paint sprayer. Staff have reported that the setup works very well.</p>	<p>Electric paint sprayer built in 2024, placed in service 2025.</p>
<p>Bloomington Stewards Program</p>	<p>Staff started meeting and thinking about creating a platform to foster community and promote sustainable behaviors for residents in 2023. The idea transformed into the Bloomington Stewards Program. Currently, staff are working on a beta version of website design. A pilot program will begin in 2026.</p>	<p>Web platform identified in 2025, pilot program in 2026.</p>

HOW WE ENHANCED NATURAL RESOURCES

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TIMELINE
<p>Hanté (Cedar) Healing Bridge Mural & Indigenous Garden</p>	<p>Creative Placemaking partnered with local artist Sandy Spieler and Dakhóta cultural educator Tara Perron on a project at the Old Cedar Avenue Bridge Trailhead. The goal was to create a space for art and learning. The project included a mural and Indigenous garden. This project enhances natural resources by featuring native and culturally significant plants. The thriving habitat that serves as a living classroom. It allows all to explore the deep connections between land, culture, and healing.</p>	<p>Summer 2025</p>
<p>Nature Fest</p>	<p>Nature Fest returned for its third year in Bloomington. This event involves a partnership between many groups. These groups include the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Creative Placemaking, Indigenous Roots and Huellas Latinas. Almost 600 attendees enjoyed nature, art and community with a focus on water. This event provided an opportunity to educate and celebrate water and natural assets. Activities included cultural performances, wildlife and nature presentations, food trucks, music and more.</p>	<p>Summer 2025</p>
<p>Civic Plaza landscaping</p>	<p>The outside of Civic Plaza had landscaping improvements in October. The new design includes native species that need less water and maintenance. These plants provide habitat for pollinators and small wildlife. They will also offer shade to keep the building cooler and improve drainage. Landscapers installed over 1,300 plants and shrubs such as Serviceberry and Prairie Dropseed. Hardscape updates improve drainage, accessibility and gathering areas near building entries. The project also included new lighting. The refreshed Civic Plaza landscape is set to become a greener, more welcoming space for all.</p>	<p>October 2025</p>
<p>Great River Greening Marsh Lake East Restoration</p>	<p>The City is partnering with Great River Greening to restore 13 acres of land at Marsh Lake Park. This project seeks to restore oak savanna and moderate-to wet prairie habitats. Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council is funding this initiative. The project will reduce invasive species and increase biodiversity. The restoration will impact Marsh Lake and Nine Mile Creek. Work began in fall of 2025 and will end in 2030.</p>	<p>2025-2030</p>

HOW WE REDUCED SOLID WASTE

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TIMELINE
Plastic-Free Challenge	<p>Bloomington returned as a participant in the month-long Twin Cities Plastic-Free Challenge. Multiple Bloomington teams formed, amplifying our efforts to reduce single-use plastic.</p> <p>Bloomington is proud to have contributed to the over 21,000 actions taken by challenge participants and plans to participate in the challenge again in February 2026.</p>	February 2025
Winter Sporting Gear Swap	<p>On Saturday, February 8, more than 120 people stopped by the Winter Sporting Gear Swap at Bloomington Ice Garden. In just two hours, 350 pounds of used winter sports gear was swapped. Leftover gear was donated to the United Heros League to outfit youth athletes, Goodwill and Salvation Army.</p>	February 8, 2025
Baby Gear Swap at the Early Childhood Expo	<p>Solid Waste staff teamed up with additional City divisions to host a Baby Gear Swap in tandem with the Early Childhood Expo. Over 130 expo attendees stopped by the Baby Gear Swap in the Civic Plaza Black Box Theater, swapping over 740 pounds of gently used baby gear.</p>	April 2025
YSEALI international exchange	<p>A joint project proposed by the City of Bloomington Solid Waste team and Vietnamese sustainability professional Giao Ding was selected for funding through the U.S. Department of State's YSEALI Professional Fellows Program Reciprocal Exchange. YSEALI is a highly competitive award with approximately 25% percent of proposals funded. As part of the exchange, Solid Waste staff traveled to Vietnam in May 2025 to present Bloomington's waste diversion programs. Staff participated in four peer-to-peer knowledge exchange community events on best practices in solid waste management.</p>	May 2025
National Night Out block leader packets	<p>New in 2025, Solid Waste staff created a flyer for Block Leaders of free waste reduction resources available for National Night Out celebrations. Six residents picked up resources and had conversations about organics recycling with their neighbors at National Night Out, amplifying the City's waste reduction programs and efforts.</p>	August 2025

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TIMELINE
<p>Citywide Recycling Drop-off Event</p>	<p>Staff organized a Citywide Recycling Drop-off Event at Western Maintenance on Saturday, September 20. That day, 1,011 vehicles brought items for recycling.</p> <p>Staff collected nearly 42 tons of material at the event, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper for shredding: 9.2 tons. • Mattresses: 3 tons. • Electronics: 12.56 tons. • Bikes: 1 ton. • Tires: 1.52 tons. • Scrap metal: 4.91 tons. • Appliances: 9.6 tons. 	<p>Saturday, September 20, 2025</p>
<p>Organics Recycling at Bloomington Ice Garden</p>	<p>Staff installed organics recycling containers at the newly remodeled Bloomington Ice Garden (BIG). BIG attendees can now use organics recycling containers in restrooms to recycle paper towels. Additionally, they can use organics recycling containers in common areas outside of the rinks for food waste and compostable paper products.</p>	<p>October 2025</p>
<p>Centralized purchasing of compostable products for City staff</p>	<p>Staff collaborated with the NAPA warehouse located on-site at Public Works to stock a variety of certified compostable paper products. Items are now available for divisions to purchase for City-organized events.</p>	<p>November 2025</p>

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TIMELINE
<p>Multifamily recycling outreach and engagement</p>	<p>In 2024, an estimated 90% of multifamily properties in Bloomington had established recycling service. In 2025, Solid Waste staff focused on reaching out to the remaining properties that did not have recycling. Staff offered assistance to add recycling and informed property managers and owners that providing recycling services to tenants is a requirement in Bloomington.</p> <p>In 2025, 11 properties responded to City staff to verify recycling service during an in-depth recycling site visit. Two properties requested and received free recycling resources and/or informational presentations. An estimated 93% of multifamily properties in Bloomington meet minimum requirements by providing recycling service to tenants.</p> <p>Staff also mailed annual recycling guide to all rental dwelling units in Bloomington.</p>	<p>Year-round</p>
<p>Bulky Item Reuse and Recycling pickup service</p>	<p>The City continued to offer its Bulky Reuse and Recycling service during the first full week of each month. In 2025, the City’s contracted service provider, Better Futures Minnesota, collected 3,888 items from 2,100 households. This resulted in 86.5 tons of material diverted from landfills—a 58% increase in tonnage diverted compared to 2024. All items collected through the Bulky Reuse and Recycling service are reused or recycled.</p> <p>Curbside Cleanup was not held in 2025. It will be offered again in spring of 2026.</p> <p>Learn more about how to manage bulky and hard-to-recycle items at blm.mn/bulkies.</p>	<p>Year-round, monthly pickup</p>

HOW WE IMPROVED WATER QUALITY

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TIMELINE
Penn Lake Management Framework	In 2024, the City approved the Penn Lake Management Framework. This framework sets clear goals for improving the quality of the Penn Lake ecosystem. It also provides a process for adapting and improving management over time. In 2025, the City partnered with Nine Mile Creek Watershed District. The goal of the partnership was to remove invasive carp and goldfish in Penn Lake. Removal work happened in spring, summer and fall of 2025.	Adopted by City Council in 2024; Implementation in 2025.
Bush Lake cattail removal	In 2025, the City completed work to significantly reduce the population of non-native cattail around Bush Lake. Non-native cattail had started to take over a larger area each year around Bush Lake. They have been dominating and pushing out other plants. The City knew that removing them completely was not possible. However, they used known techniques to reduce cattails as much as possible. The City successfully achieved this goal. One result of the project is that plant diversity increased in all management zones.	2022 cattail management on north half of lake; 2023 south half of lake; 2024 spot treating restoration; 2025 project completion.
Water Quality Report	Staff issued their annual Water Quality Report in the spring. The goal of the report is to communicate with the public how the City ensures safe drinking water. The City performs testing every year to ensure water quality standards are met. The City has an approved lead service line inventory showing no lead service lines or galvanized lines needing replacement. The City’s corrosion control program further provides protection from lead and copper sometimes found in plumbing fixtures.	June 2025
New salt shed	The City is building a new salt shed. The new shed will have two areas for washing off vehicles. There will be a dedicated building for salt trucks to wash off after plowing. With the new salt shed design, wash water will be better contained in the sanitary sewer. The new shed will also have an outdoor wash off area to clean street sweepers and mowers. Debris, organics and dirt will be caught in a filter and water from the wash off will go into retention ponds. This new design will help to reduce pollution in Bloomington water bodies.	Will be built in spring 2026.
Water quality maintenance work	City staff performed regular small projects to maintain water resources throughout Bloomington. In the spring, they removed sediment at Smith Park Pond. In winter, they did this work at West Hampton. Sediment, dirt and debris from the storm sewer system accumulates in ponds. The City removes it from time to time. This prevents sediment from building up and causing issues in ponds and storm sewers. Near Bush Lake, they removed a small sediment collection pond that was no longer working. Additionally, they redesigned the area to make water quality treatment easier by adding a treatment structure closer to the street.	Spring and winter 2025

HOW WE CONSERVED WATER

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TIMELINE
<p>Design and specifications for pump replacement at 82nd Street and Poplar Bridge Road</p>	<p>Staff continued to make progress on redesigning two major city water pumping stations. These high service pumps distribute water from storage facilities to the public. The redesign will include rightsizing of pumps and motors, including the possible elimination of one pump along with improved efficiency. Variable frequency drive motors will power the new pumps. Consultants completed design for the 82nd Street pump in 2025. Staff are expecting to bid the project in early 2026. Design for the Poplar Bridge Road pump station will continue in 2026. Construction for the pump station will likely be at the end of 2026 or early 2027. This important infrastructure update will ensure sustainable water delivery in Bloomington for years to come.</p>	<p>Design in 2024 and 2025, bid and construct in 2026 and 2027.</p>
<p>Drought management</p>	<p>Many droughts have occurred in the past several years. During each drought, the City follows statewide drought plans. This ensures source water protection and availability. The City follows an approved water supply plan. The plan has water reduction strategies for City operations. Staff also conduct water conservation education and outreach. The City also has a water rebate program. The rebate program encourages residents to buy efficient appliances.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Automated metering infrastructure</p>	<p>In 2025, City staff continued to work to plan for the replacement of water meters with smart meters. Currently, water meters are manually read every eight weeks for residential accounts. With automated metering infrastructure, meters will have the ability to be read remotely and more frequently. The new meters will allow for almost continuous reads ultimately providing customers with real-time usage information. This will enhance the City’s ability to detect leaks or odd use patterns. In early 2026, the City will bid for the construction of a base station and the updating of commercial meter equipment. The base station is a radio tower that will collect data from the smart meters. It will be constructed in Savage, so that more properties can be in its line of sight.</p>	<p>2024 and 2025 – budgeting and planning, 2026 – bidding and installation.</p>
<p>New water supply well</p>	<p>The City completed construction of a new water supply well last year. This well replaced a non-functional well that reached its end of life. The distribution main and site development work will begin in spring of 2026. The well will begin pumping water in early 2027.</p>	<p>2024 – design and bid, 2025 – construction, 2026 – distribution main and site development, 2027 – New well begins serving Bloomington residents.</p>



appendix B:
highlighted
outreach events

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APPENDIX B: HIGHLIGHTED OUTREACH EVENTS

JANUARY 28 AMERICAN BOULEVARD TRANSIT STUDY OPEN HOUSE

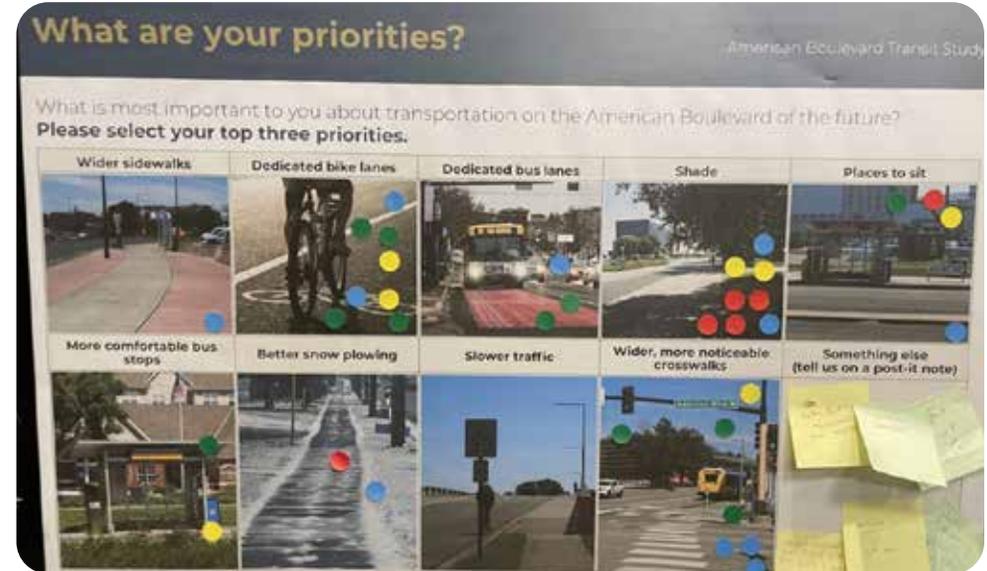
An open house was held at the Embassy Suites on American Boulevard on January 28. Staff from Engineering and the Community Outreach and Engagement Division were in attendance, along with consultants from SRF. A total of 25 people participated in the open house. Material was presented to the public on boards, while the project team attended to explain the study and answer questions. Two participation boards and comment cards were used at the open house to gain feedback from attendees. Participants were asked to identify their priorities by placing stickers on a board with various improvements and tell us how they imagined a more livable American Boulevard by writing on sticky notes. This feedback is shown below.

JANUARY 29 AND FEBRUARY 19 – ENERGY FAIRS AT PENN LAKE LIBRARY

City staff hosted two energy fairs at Penn Lake Library. Representatives from Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County, Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota and Bloomington Solid Waste and Sustainability were present. Residents enjoyed coffee and energy bars while getting connected to resources to help them start composting, save energy and money on their utility bills and make their homes healthier and more comfortable.

FEBRUARY 4 - SUSTAINABILITY INFORMATION SESSION FOR FAITH LEADERS

Sustainability and Solid Waste staff hosted an information session for Bloomington faith leaders to learn about rebates, grants, signage, and additional resources to help them reduce waste and save energy at their properties. Leaders from nine different faith-based organizations attended the presentation and had an engaging discussion of various sustainability initiatives they were interested in enacting with their communities.



APRIL 27 – ST. STEPHEN’S ECO FAIR

Sustainability and Solid Waste staff tabled in between services at the St. Stephen’s Eco Fair. Worshipers learned about recycling and organics and how to make their homes more energy efficient.

MAY 17 – PUBLIC WORKS OPEN HOUSE

Sustainability Commissioners tabled at the Public Works Open House, showcasing the new solar panels on the Public Works roof. Additionally, staff from Sustainability, Solid Waste, Traffic and Transportation, Natural Resources, Forestry and Water Resources shared information about the important work they do to make our city more sustainable.

JUNE 25, JULY 15 AND 23, AUGUST 12 AND 13 – HEALTHY LIVING AND SUSTAINABILITY RESOURCE FAIRS AT PENN LAKE AND OXBORO LIBRARIES

Staff from Sustainability, Solid Waste and Public Health partnered to host five resource fairs over the summer. Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and Center for Energy and Environment also attended to share important information and resources with residents.

AUGUST 20 – AMERICAN BOULEVARD TRANSIT STUDY OPEN HOUSE

Engineering and Sustainability staff along with consultants from SRF hosted an open house for the American Boulevard Transit Study. Fifty-one people attended and gave feedback on the proposed improvements to American Boulevard.

OCTOBER 7 AND 15 – BUSINESS BLITZ

City Staff and partners at Center for Energy and Environment’s One Stop Efficiency Shop® went out to businesses to let them know about Bloomington’s Energy Efficient Business Rebate program.



OCTOBER 15 – TABLING AT FLU SHOT CLINIC AT SOUTH-GATE APARTMENTS

Staff from Sustainability and Solid Waste partnered with Public Health staff and tabled at a flu shot clinic at Southgate Apartments.

OCTOBER 29 – SUSTAINABLE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SESSION

Sustainability and Solid Waste staff hosted an information session for multifamily property owners and managers to let them know about rebates and grants, free energy audits, bonus rebates, recycling signage and additional resources to help them improve recycling and save energy at their properties.

NOVEMBER 26 – SUSTAINABILITY PRESENTATION AT SAKAN COMMUNITY RESOURCE HOMEBUYER WORKSHOP

Sustainability staff presented about pathways to home energy audits at this workshop, geared at prospective homeowners.





appendix C:
full calendar or
outreach events

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APPENDIX C: FULL CALENDAR OF OUTREACH EVENTS

WINTER

- January 28 – American Boulevard Transit Study Open House – Embassy Suites on American Boulevard
- January 29 – Energy Fair at Penn Lake Library (Sustainability and Solid Waste)
- February 4 – Sustainability Information Session for Faith Leaders (Sustainability and Solid Waste)
- February 15 – Solid Waste tabling at the Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge candlelight trail & community night
- February 19 – South Central Sanitary Sewer Project, Neighborhood Open House
- March 11 – Solid Waste tabling at Metro South Adult Basic Education Fair
- March 11 – Sustainability tabling at VEAP
- March 25 – Solid Waste and Sustainability tabling at Normandale Wellness and Resource Fair
- March 26 – Nine Mile Creek Corridor Renewal Project, Neighborhood Open House



SPRING

- April 24 – Creekside Tabling
- April 25 – Tabling at Zawadi
- April 27 – St. Stephen’s Eco Fair
- May 2 – Organics Recycling 101 webinar
- May 3 – Rain Barrel Sale
- May 13 – Doorknocking in Bloomington Neighborhoods – Free Home Energy Squad Visits Campaign
- May 13 – Organics Recycling 101 in-person workshop
- May 14 – Bloomington Ferry Road Corridor Visioning Study, Open House
- May 14 – Tabling at Creekside Community Center
- May 15 – Early Learning Picnic
- May 17 - Public Works Open House
- May 24 - Time of Sale Energy Disclosure program realtor outreach at open houses in Bloomington
- June 5 – Doorknocking in Bloomington Neighborhoods – Free Home Energy Squad Visits Campaign
- June 7 – Time of Sale Energy Disclosure program realtor outreach at open houses in Bloomington
- June 11 – Doorknocking in Bloomington Neighborhoods – Free Home Energy Squad Visits Campaign
- June 14 – Tabling at Welcome to Bloomington event
- June 18 – Doorknocking in Bloomington Neighborhoods – Free Home Energy Squad Visits Campaign
- June 21 – Tabling at Juneteenth
- June 22 – Tabling at Pride
- June 25 – Nicollet Avenue Reconstruction Project (Hennepin County), Open House
- June 25 – Healthy Living and Sustainability Resource Fair – Penn Lake Library
- June 28 - Solid Waste tabling at Farmers’ Market
- June 28 – Tabling at Aquatic Center



SUMMER

- July 9 – Doorknocking in Bloomington Neighborhoods – Free Home Energy Squad Visits Campaign
- July 15 – Healthy Living and Sustainability Resource Fair – Oxboro Library
- July 16 – Tabling at Midweek Market
- July 23 – Healthy Living and Sustainability Resource Fair
- July 26 – Tabling at Nature Fest
- July 30 – Tabling at Midweek Market
- August 2 – Tabling at Farmers’ Market
- August 6 – Tabling at Midweek Market
- August 12 – Nine Mile Creek Corridor Renewal Project, Open House
- August 12 – Healthy Living and Sustainability Resource Fair – Oxboro Library
- August 13 – Healthy Living and Sustainability Resource Fair – Penn Lake Library
- August 20 – American Boulevard Transit Study Open House – Council Chambers, Bloomington Civic Plaza
- August 23 – Tabling at Learning Link-up
- August 27 – Solid Waste tabling at Midweek Market
- September 13 – Tabling at Welcome to Bloomington
- September 16 – Tabling at VEAP
- September 23 – Bloomington Ferry Road Corridor Visioning Study, Open House
- September 23 – Time of Sale Energy Disclosure Webinar



FALL

- October 1 – Electrify Everything Webinar
- October 7 – Business Blitz
- October 14 – Nicollet Avenue Reconstruction Project (Hennepin County), Open House
- October 15 – Tabling at Flu Shot Clinic at Southgate Apartments
- October 16 – Business Blitz
- October 21 – Tabling at VEAP
- October 22 – Stanley Avenue Sidewalk Project, Open House
- October 23 – Solid Waste tabling at Flu Shot Clinic at Jefferson High School
- October 28 – Solid Waste tabling at Flu Shot Clinic at Civic Plaza
- October 29 – Sustainable Property Management Information Session
- October 30 – Solid Waste tabling at Flu Shot Clinic at Civic Plaza
- November 5, 6 and 7 – Solid Waste tabling at Frattalone’s Hardware Store
- November 8 – Solid Waste tabling at Welcome to Bloomington
- November 8 – Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County tabling at Welcome to Bloomington
- November 18 – Tabling at VEAP
- November 18, 24 and 25 – Solid Waste informational cart tagging – Pay-As-You-Throw rates
- November 26 – Sustainability Presentation at Sakan Community Resource Homebuyer Workshop
- December 1, 8, 9, 15 and 16 – Solid Waste informational cart tagging – Pay-As-You-Throw rates
- December 16 – Tabling at VEAP



