

Non-governmental organizations Green Tier Legacy Communities 2012 Annual Report

1000 Friends of Wisconsin (1000 Friends), the League of Wisconsin Municipalities (LWM), the Center on Wisconsin Strategy (COWS), the Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation (WECC) and the Municipal Environmental Group are nongovernmental organization (NGO) signatories to the Green Tier Legacy Communities (GTLC) Charter. The NGOs collaborated with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the municipal signatories to advance the goals of the charter in a number of ways over the past year. This report will highlight the major activities of these organizations and a brief description of how those activities advanced the goals of the charter and contributed to the progress of individual communities.

Management and Coordination

Executive Committee – The Executive Committee meets monthly to provide overall management of the Charter. Specific activities include:

- providing agendas and materials for regular quarterly meetings
- conducting research and following up on suggestions on programs and policies that come up in meetings
- recruit new community members
- provide information to communities between meetings
- Resolve issues related to the governance of the Charter (amendments to the Charter, recommend specific actions and policies for the Steering Committee.)
- oversee interns working on projects that advance the goals and policies of the Charter
- Seek grants to fund projects of charter participants
- Coordinated a strategic planning session for the Steering Committee in September

Members of the Executive Committee:

- 1000 Friends of Wisconsin
- League of Wisconsin Municipalities
- Wisconsin DNR
- City of Fitchburg (joined March 2012)
- WECC (joined November 2012)

Special Projects

1000 Friends of Wisconsin

- Hosted website dedicated to GTLC: <http://greentiercommunities.org/>
- Wrote and published article on GTLC in 1000 Friends newsletter Landscapes

- Helped recruit new municipal members
- Mentored UW Students working on analysis of and recommended changes to Appendix 3
- Hosted monthly Executive Committee meetings in 2012
- Worked with DNR to provide agendas and program content to GTLC quarterly meetings
- Gave presentations about GTLC to several organizations including: Wisconsin Towns Association; Dubuque Sustainability Conference, Tri-state Sustainability Collaborative; the Local Government Institute; the Executive Committee of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Planning Association
- Worked with Executive Committee to conduct strategic planning session for GTLC and do follow-up work on recommendations

League of Wisconsin Municipalities

- Wrote and published article in League's monthly magazine updating the membership about the GTLC charter and who to contact if interested in participating in the charter.
- Helped recruit new municipal members.
- Established online registration system for quarterly meetings of GTLC steering committee.
- Drafted amendments to GTLC charter and communicated the approved charter changes to DNR staff.
- In 2010 and 2011 GTLC executive committee members and DNR staff presented at League conferences on the GTLC charter.
- The League hosts and updates a GTLC page on its Website: http://www.lwm-info.org/index.asp?SEC=927028DF-21E5-4234-A853-88028D256226&Type=B_BASIC

Center on Wisconsin Strategy

- Created capacity chart of GTLC non-governmental partners