

Non-governmental organizations Green Tier Legacy Communities 2015 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 (Wastewater) 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 variety of ways in 2015. This report highlights 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:

- Recommending and preparing agendas and materials for regular quarterly meetings.
- Recruiting speakers for quarterly meetings.
- Conducting research and following through on program and policy suggestions made at quarterly meetings.
- Recruiting new local governments and local government associations to the charter.
- Providing information to communities between meetings.
- Resolving issues related to the governance of the Charter (amendments to the Charter, recommend specific actions and policies for the Steering Committee.)
- Seeking grants to fund projects of charter participants and helping coordinate joint applications for grants.
- Organizing meeting and round table discussions with relevant organizations or individuals.
- Advocating before DNR water division staff for bolder implementation of the water resources management component of the GTLC charter.
- Conducting surveys of GTLC members and reporting findings to the members.

Members of the Executive Committee:

Wisconsin DNR

1000 Friends of Wisconsin

League of Wisconsin Municipalities

City of Fitchburg

WECC

City of Eau Claire

Special Projects

1000 Friends of Wisconsin

- Hosted and administered website dedicated to GTLC: <http://greentiercommunities.org/>
- Helped recruit new municipal members
- Worked with DNR to provide agendas and program content to GTLC quarterly meetings
- Worked with Executive Committee to conduct survey of GTLC communities
- Presented a webinar on the “**Impacts of Local Codes and Ordinances on Green Infrastructure Implementation**” for GTLC members.
- Secured funding to assist in the development of the GTLC Energy Task Force from the Carolyn Foundation.

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.
- Helped recruit monthly webinar speakers.
- Worked with Executive Committee to support GTLC communities.
- Participated in meetings designed to educate counties and other cities about benefits of PACE and participating in a PACE intergovernmental commission.

WECC

- Led Energy Task Force. Coordinated implementation of energy use benchmarking and Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) as the priorities for shared development for 2015-2016.
- Worked with Executive Committee to support GTLC communities, focusing on energy issues in individual communities.
- Worked with DNR to provide agendas and program content to GTLC quarterly meetings

COWS

- Provided webinar services for quarterly meetings.
- Shared information with municipalities in hopes of recruiting them.
- Shared written resources and learning opportunities with staff for distribution to the group.

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