

Non-governmental organizations Green Tier Legacy Communities 2013 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 number of ways over the past year. 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 up on suggestions on programs and policies that come up in 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.)
- Overseeing interns working on projects that advance the goals and policies of the Charter
- Seeking grants to fund projects of charter participants
- Organizing meeting and round table discussions with relevant organizations or individuals, such as Chuck Marohn and Jim Kumon of Strong Towns
- Advocating before DNR water division staff for bolder implementation of the water resources management component of the GTLC charter

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 and administered website dedicated to GTLC: <http://greentiercommunities.org/>
- Helped recruit new municipal members
- Mentored UW Students working on analysis of and recommended changes to Appendix 3
- Helped host monthly Executive Committee meetings in 2013
- Worked with DNR to provide agendas and program content to GTLC quarterly meetings
- Worked with Executive Committee to conduct survey of GTLC communities
- Hosted webinar on Walk Appeal

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.
- Administered online registration system for quarterly meetings of GTLC steering committee.
- Arranged for lunch and refreshments for quarterly meetings.
- Drafted amendments to GTLC charter and communicated the approved charter changes to DNR staff.
- Opened discussions with the Wisconsin Counties Association about participating in the GTLC charter.

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