



VILLAGE OF EPHRAIM

Founded 1853

Green Tier Legacy Community
Annual Report for 2019-2020

The Village of Ephraim (VOE) has committed to be a GREEN TIER Legacy Community to help the VOE move continuously toward a sustainable future through initiatives that promote environmental stewardship, economic growth, public health and social equity.

In the early months of 2019, the newly formed Green Tier committee completed the Sustainability Strategies Scoresheet for the first time. This committee is composed of two VOE trustees, a member of the VOE Marina Committee, the tourism administrator for the Ephraim Business Council (EBC), and two citizen volunteers. Upon completion of the form, a presentation was made to the VOE Board and greater community with ten highest priority potential actions for VOE.

1. Transportation -
 - Reduce vehicle idling time with VOE vehicles
 - Consider electric vehicles and electric charging stations
2. Zoning and Development -
 - Pursue Tree City USA Status
3. Natural Resources & Energy Use -
 - Track electrical, natural gas and fuel usage
 - Consider higher efficiency lights for Streetscape and future lighting
 - Encourage reduce/reuse/recycle for VOE, businesses, individuals
4. Water Use and Conservation
 - Continue pursuing Wetlands Funding
5. Healthy Community Planning
 - Encourage healthy, safe walking with new Ephraim Walking Map
 - Consider installing more bike racks
 - Consider a digital Ephraim Green/Sustainable Living E-newsletter

The above priorities were then passed on to standing committees as suggestions as they planned their upcoming year.

Upon review of the above, in the early months of 2020, we, as a committee are pleased with perhaps small but significant progress.

The VOE will consider electric vehicles for upcoming purchases

The VOE staff has reduced idling time.

Tree City Status is still in progress as we write the ordinances required.

Graphing records of electrical, natural gas and fuel usage has begun.

The 62 new lights along HWY 42 in the VOE are all LED

The lights on the Cherry Street steps are all solar powered

The Ephraim Business Council has actively worked with businesses on reduction of plastics.

We have filed papers with Knowles/Nelson Fund to help with reinvigorating the Wetlands

A new walking map was created by the Ephraim Business Council and the Ephraim Ephraim Historical Foundation

New bike racks were purchased and will be installed this spring

Two issues of a Sustainable Living Newsletter have been created and are available on The VOE Website.

Not listed above, and no place to really put them on our scoresheet is our reaching out to other communities. Two of our members went to the Town of Gibraltar meeting and shared our experiences. They have since become Green Tier members. Two of our members are currently working with Baileys Harbor as they pursue Green Tier status. Our members also reached out to the County Board of Door County where Green Tier status has now become an agenda item for the whole county.

Also, not included in the scoresheet is the fact that the VOE Marina committee is pursuing Clean Marina certification.

Attached is our score sheet for the past year 2019-2020. We are now in the process of identifying our top ten priorities to present to the Board in May of 2020.

Submitted by:

Cindy Nelson, Chairperson

Green Tier Committee