

SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability Newsletter

Public Works & Engineering Division

November/December 2022



Sustainability Tip of the Month—Water Conservation



Roseville Sustainable Steward Award



Home Energy Squad Giveaway!



EnerChange—Free Energy Audits for NonProfits

Contact Us:

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Inside this issue:

Sustainability Tip

Roseville Sustainable Steward Award

Home Energy Squad Giveaway

EnerChange Audits

Upcoming Events

Sustainability Tip of the Month

October 2022 was officially the sixth driest October on record, with only 0.24 inches of precipitation. Considering fresh water makes up only 1% of all water on this planet, it's one of Minnesota's most precious natural resources. Here are some tips to help conserve water at this critical time:

- Replace your faucets and shower heads with low-flow fixtures, or have a Home Energy Squad visit done and the consultants will do this for you! Xcel Energy offers many low-cost water fixtures in their online store.
- Don't let the water run continuously when brushing your teeth, washing your face, or hand-washing dishes.
- Repair leaky faucets and toilets.
- Replace aging dishwashers, clothes washers, and toilets with more efficient models—Roseville currently offers rebates of up to \$300 for these items!

Roseville Sustainable Steward Program



Roseville's Public Works and Community Development departments worked together to create the **Roseville Sustainable Steward** program to reward and recognize residents and businesses for their sustainable actions at home and around the community.

Do you know a resident or local business who should be recognized? Send them to <u>cityofroseville.com/sustainable-steward</u> to apply! All eligible applicants will receive their choice of a window cling or yard

sign, and projects may be eligible to win our Sustainable Steward Annual reward, for a cash prize and additional recognition from the City! Applications considered for the annual award must be submitted by December 31.

GIVEAWAY—Free Home Energy Squad Visits!



If you're looking to take advantage of the tax rebates and direct pay benefits of the Inflation Reduction Act next year, the best first step you can take is to get a Home Energy Squad® audit at your home.

Home Energy Squad® is provided by Center-Point Energy and Xcel Energy and delivered by Center for Energy and Environment (CEE). Their energy experts will help you learn about energy-saving opportunities in your home and will install materials on-the-spot.

We are giving away free visits to the first 50 residents who respond! Contact noelle.bakken@cityofroseville.com or 651-703-0301 to let us know you're interested, and we will send you the discount code!

Free energy management services for MN Nonprofits

Attention nonprofits, faith institutions, and other similar organizations! EnerChange offers energy audits and other energy management services at no cost to you. They can also help find financing options and help you navi-



gate available rebate programs for the improvements you're looking to make.

EnerChange is funded through a program in collaboration with Xcel Energy, CenterPoint Energy, and the MN Department of Commerce, to help the nonprofit community save money by saving energy.

For more information, go to <u>enerchange.org</u>, or contact Ryan Krueger at rkrueger@enerchange.org, 651-324-0249.

Positive Climate News



Mercury levels declining in Minnesota Lakes. Thanks to a statewide shift away from coal-burning power towards wind and solar energy, routine biomonitoring shows that mercury levels are falling in many Minnesota lakes, including Lake Owasso in Roseville.

<u>Do Bumblebees Play?</u> A study recently published in *Animal Behavior* suggests that bumblebees, when given the chance, like to fool around with toys. Click the link for more details from the study, including an adorable video.

<u>Brazilian President Lula will aim for zero Amazon deforestation</u> during his next term, as well as expanded indigenous rights. When he served as president from 2004-13, deforestation was reduced by an estimated 67%.

Upcoming Sustainability Events

Solar Bear and Social Justice — Thursday, November 17th,

7-8pm. Robert Blake of Solar Bear will discuss his company's outreach to First Nation communities and underserved workers. Cohosted on Zoom by the Northeast and Northwest Metro Climate Action groups, Anoka Area Climate Action, Indivisible North Metro Environment Team, and Resilient Roseville. Join via Zoom at this link.



<u>Business Exchange</u> — Wednesday, December 7th, 4:30-6:30pm at Cederholm Community Building in Roseville. Join

us for our end-of-year free networking event. It's an opportunity for you to meet with other local businesses, chat with City officials and staff, and make connections with others in the community. New this year will be a brief presentation, where a few organizations that provide an array of business resources will introduce themselves and what they offer. Roseville Sustainability staff will be there! Register here.

Thank you from your Roseville Sustainability Team!

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