

Mayor's Green Guide

For additional questions regarding environmental activities in the City of Pittsburgh, please contact:

City of Pittsburgh
Office of Sustainability and Energy
Efficiency
637 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Aftyn Giles
Sustainability Coordinator
412-255-2254
aftyn.giles@city.pittsburgh.pa.us

Jim Sloss
Energy and Utilities Manager
412-255-2255
james.sloss@city.pittsburgh.pa.us

Printed on Rolland ENVIRO 100 Print which contains FSC Certified 100% Post Consumer Fiber, is ECOlogo and Processed Chlorine Free Accredited and is manufactured by Cascades using biogas energy.



CITY OF
PITTSBURGH
"AMERICA'S MOST LIVABLE CITY"
LUKE RAVENSTAHL, MAYOR

The City of Pittsburgh does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, place of birth, sexual orientation, familial Qstatus, age (40 & over), or non-disqualifying physical or mental disability, or any other basis protected by federal, state, or local law.



CITY OF
PITTSBURGH
"AMERICA'S MOST LIVABLE CITY"
LUKE RAVENSTAHL, MAYOR

City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

pittsburghpa.gov/green

facebook.com/city.of.pittsburgh

twitter.com/citypggh



"We hear a lot about 'going green' and 'sustainability' in the media and in conversation almost every day, but what does it really mean? At the City of Pittsburgh, we believe that sustainability means operating in such a way that lessens our impact on the environment, while finding ways to save money, improve the services we provide to citizens and grow the local economy."

-Mayor Luke Ravenstahl

Are you interested in cleaning up and preserving Pittsburgh's riverfronts?

Friends of the Riverfront

33 Terminal Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-488-0212
www.friendsoftheriverfront.org

Would you like to get involved with preserving, restoring and revitalizing Pittsburgh's parks?

Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy

2000 Technology Drive, Suite 300
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-682-7275
www.pittsburghparks.org

Are you willing to help plant more trees throughout the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County or become a Tree Tender to care for City street trees?

Friends of Pittsburgh Urban Forest

3101 Penn Avenue, Suite 201
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-362-6360
www.pittsburghforest.org

TreeVitalize Pittsburgh

800 Waterfront Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-586-2396
www.treevitalizepgh.org



With the help of thousands of volunteers, the Mayor's Green Team has transformed over 100 vacant lots around the city into common green spaces, converting liabilities into community assets.

Volunteer Opportunities



Would you like to participate in an anti-litter campaign?

Citizens Against Litter
www.citizensagainstlitter.org

Allegheny Cleanways
33 Terminal Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-381-1301
www.alleghenycleanways.org

Would you like to get involved in the Mayor's Green Up Pittsburgh initiative?

Office of Mayor Luke Ravenstahl
Neighborhood Initiatives Coordinator
512 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-255-4765
www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/mayor/assets/08_green_up_app.doc

Table of Contents

Message from Our Mayor	4
Waste & Recycling	6
Energy	10
Stormwater Management	12
Sustainable Transportation	14
Sustainable Food Choices	15
Getting Involved	16
Volunteer Opportunities	18
Contact Us	20

Message from Our Mayor

Dear Neighbors,

We hear a lot about 'going green' and 'sustainability' in the media and in conversation almost every day, but what does it really mean? At the City of Pittsburgh, we believe that sustainability means operating in such a way that lessens our impact on the environment, while finding ways to save money, improve the services we provide to citizens and grow the local economy. It also means living our lives in such a way that we do not diminish the ability of future generations to produce and thrive.

In October 2008, I created the Office of Sustainability and Energy Efficiency to provide guidance to the City in making our operations more sustainable. While I'm proud of the steps the City is taking to 'go green,' I know that to truly become a sustainable city, we need all of our residents and businesses to do their part.

Sustainability encompasses a wide spectrum of topics, ranging from saving energy, to recycling, to reducing water pollution. It is hard to find the right source of information explaining how we can all improve sustainability.

That's why I am happy to share with you the second edition of the 'Mayor's Green Guide,' to help you find the information you need to reduce your impact on the environment, save money and improve your health. This guide includes information on the services provided by the City, as well as resources for getting involved in your community.

Together, we can ensure that Pittsburgh will continue to be America's Most Livable City for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Luke Ravenstahl
Mayor, City of Pittsburgh



Getting Involved

Are you interested in having an energy audit performed on your home or business to learn how much energy you consume and how to save energy?

Conservation Consultants Inc. (CCI)
64 South 14th Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
412-431-4449
www.ccicenter.org

Community Design Center of Pittsburgh (CDCP)
938 Penn Avenue, 6th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-391-4144
www.cdcp.org

Are you interested in learning about green buildings and environmentally-friendly products for buildings?

Green Building Alliance (GBA)
333 East Carson Street, Suite 331
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-431-0709
www.gbapgh.org
www.pa-greenbuildingproducts.org

Would you like to be more involved in Pittsburgh's biking scene, working towards greater acceptance and safety of bicyclists?

Bike Pittsburgh
33 Terminal Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-325-4334
www.bike-pgh.org

Are you interested in learning more about how to make your business more sustainable?

Sustainable Pittsburgh
425 Sixth Avenue, Suite 1335
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
www.sustainablepittsburgh.org

Would you like to receive monthly updates about what you can do to be more sustainable and track your personal process?

The Black and Gold City Goes Green
425 6th Avenue, Suite 2770
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-258-6680
www.blackandgoldcitygoesgreen.com

Are you looking to recycle old building materials, Freon appliances, or buy used building materials?

Construction Junction
214 North Lexington Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15208
412-243-5025
www.constructionjunction.org

Are you wondering how to responsibly dispose of hard to recycle items, like computers and appliances, or household hazardous waste, like paints and chemicals?

Pennsylvania Resource Council (PRC)
64 South 14th Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
412-488-7490
www.prc.org

Southwest Pennsylvania Household Hazardous Waste Task Force
412-488-7452
www.swpahhw.org/home.html



Recycle

Recycling is mandatory for every resident, business, office and institution in the City of Pittsburgh. Residential recycling is picked up every other week. Please place items curbside in a blue bag or blue container clearly labeled "Recycling."

Acceptable at Curbside

- All aluminum, glass and plastics #1-5
- Newspapers (tied or loose in a paper bag)
- Corrugated cardboard (dry and flat)
- White office paper
- Mixed/colored paper and junk mail
- Telephone books

To find out your collection day, more information on refuse and recycling pickup, Public Works Drop-Off Center locations and special collection days, please call Environmental Services at 412-255-2773 or visit the City of Pittsburgh website at:

www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/pw

Did you know?

The Environmental savings for the Mayor's Green Guide using 100% post consumer recycled paper, as compared to using 100% new fiber paper are equivalent to:

- 1 Mature Tree
- 72 lbs of waste
- 1 MMBTU of electricity = 4,513, 60W light bulbs for 1 hr.
- 579 gallons of water = 6 days of water consumption
- 190 lbs CO₂ = 361 miles driven
- .5 lbs of NO_x = Emissions of 1 truck during 1 day

reference:

www.cascades.com/papers/calculator.php

Recycling not only reduces waste, but saves energy. By recycling approximately 30% of our waste every year, Americans save the energy equivalent of 11.9 billion gallons of gasoline.



Sustainable Food

Buying locally grown food is not only beneficial to the region's economy but environmentally sustainable. Massive amounts of energy are wasted in the processes of packaging and transporting food around the country and the world. Help the local economy and the global environment: buy local!

The City of Pittsburgh offers more than 10 Farmers' Market locations during the summer months. To find the location and hours of operation most convenient for you, visit the Citiparks website at: www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/parks/html/farmers_market.html or call 412-255-2539.

The Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture (PASA) provides information on the importance of local agriculture and where you can buy locally produced or organic foods close to you home.

Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture

Western Regional Office

650 Smithfield Street, Suite 1160

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Phone: 412-697-0411

www.pasafarming.org



Sustainable Transportation



Public Transportation

The City of Pittsburgh enjoys convenient public transportation provided by the Port Authority of Allegheny County. For bus routes and schedules, please visit the Port Authority website at: www.portauthority.org or call 412-442-2000.



Bike

Bike Pittsburgh is a non profit organization that is dedicated to "establishing Pittsburgh as a city that is increasingly safe, accessible, and friendly to bicycle transportation." Bike Pittsburgh offers tips about bike safety and convenience, in addition to a comprehensive map of Pittsburgh which includes all bike trails, and best routes for commuting. For more information, visit the website at: bike-pgh.org/ or call 412-325-4334.



Carpool

Take turns driving to work with your neighbors or co-workers. You will save money on gas, as well as lower carbon emissions. Need to find a carpool? To find others in you area visit the website at: www.commuteinfo.org or call 1-888-819-6110.



For the convenience of residents, the City also operates several Drop-Off locations that may accept additional items to those collected curbside, including:

- Yard debris (loose or in a paper bag)
- Scrap metal (loose only)
- Scrap tires (tires only, no rims)

Drop-Off Facilities

East End Drop-Off Center

North Dallas Ave. at Hamilton Ave.
412-665-3609
M-F: 8 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.

Hazelwood Drop-Off Center

Melanchton Ave.
412-422-6524

West End Drop-Off Center

Next to Herschel Field
412-937-3054
M-Sat: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Strip District Drop-Off Center

30th & Railroad Streets
412-255-2773
Open 24hrs
Please note: Does NOT accept yard debris, scrap metal or tires

Construction Junction (Point Breeze)

214 N. Lexington Ave.
412-243-5025
M-F: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sat: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., & Sun: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Please note: Does NOT accept yard debris

Electronics and Hard-to-Recycle Materials

Pennsylvania Resources Council, Inc
CFL's accepted
412-488-7490
M-F: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
www.prc.org/community_collections.html

Freon Appliances

Appliance Warehouse
412-381-8800
M-Sat: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Construction Waste and Furniture

Construction Junction
214 N. Lexington Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15208
412-243-5025
M-F: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sat: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., & Sun: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
www.constructionjunction.org

Hazardous Household Wastes and Chemicals

Southwest Pennsylvania Household Hazardous Waste Task Force
www.swpahhw.org/home.html

Medical Equipment (ie, crutches, wheelchairs)

Global Links
4809 Penn Avenue, 2nd Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15224
412-361-3424
www.globallinks.org

Did you know?

Citizens can drop off printer/toner cartridges, cell phones, and alkaline batteries for recycling on the first floor of the City-County Building?

Reuse

Collectively, we live in a largely “throw-away” society. While recycling is very important, we should also think about how we can avoid throwing things away in the first place

- Take worn out shoes to a shoe repair shop;
- Have clothes tailored that no longer fit;
- Reuse gift bags and wrapping paper;
- Have chairs/couches/porch furniture reupholstered; and
- Donate or sell things you no longer want, but are still usable (i.e. books, clothes, toys, household items)



Reusing is an easy and effective way to make an environmental difference in your everyday life. Reusing decreases the amount of waste that ends up in landfills and the demand for the materials, energy, and money needed to make new products.



For pick up/donations of gently used furniture, clothing, and appliances please contact:

Goodwill

www.goodwillswpa.org
412-481-9005

VVA

www.pickupplease.org/vva/pittsburgh-goodwill.aspx

***PLEASE NOTE:** some donations offer a tax deductible incentive.



Rain barrels are a popular way to reduce runoff and capture water that can be stored and used later for gardening and landscaping. For more information about building your own rain barrel, visit the Pennsylvania Resources Council on the web at: www.prc.org/community_watershed.html or call 412-488-7490, ext. 247.

Allegheny County residents may also purchase rain barrels through Nine Mile Run Watershed Association.

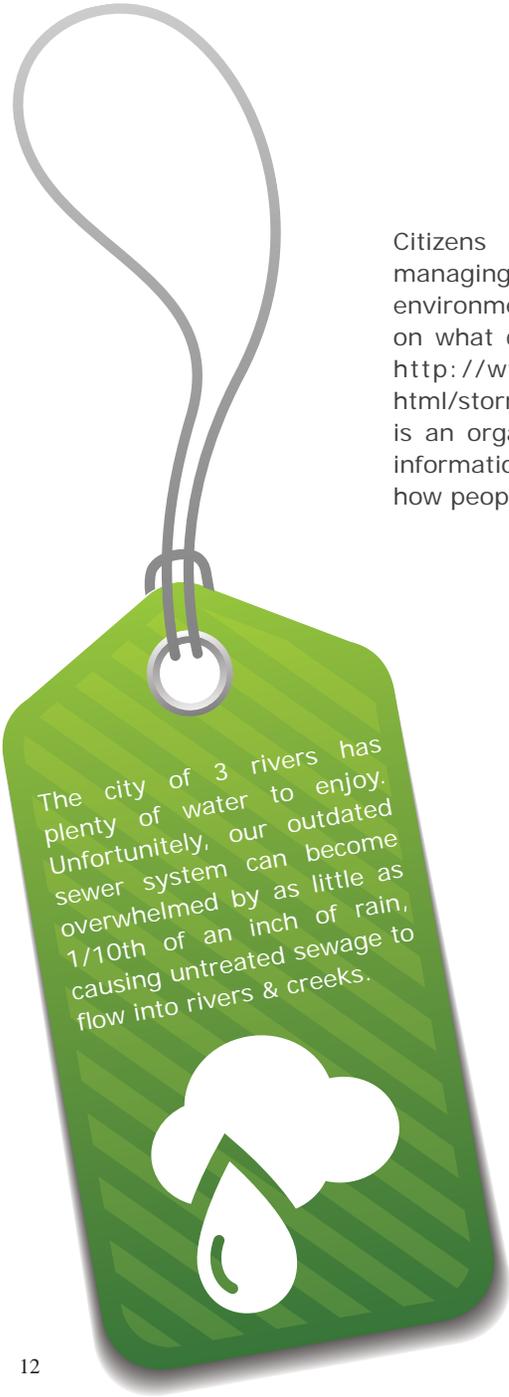
To learn more, visit the Nine Mile Run Watershed Association on the web at: www.ninemilerun.org/programs/rainbarrel/index.htm or call 412-371-8779.

www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/main/html/stormwater.html

Stormwater Management

Citizens can play an important role in managing stormwater in Pittsburgh's urban environment. The City provides information on what citizens can do on the website at: <http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/main/html/stormwater.html>. 3Rivers Wet Weather is an organization that also provides useful information on why stormwater matters and how people can help.

3 Rivers Wet Weather
3901 Penn Avenue, Bldg. #3
Pittsburgh, PA 15224
412-578-8375
www.3riverswetweather.org



The city of 3 rivers has plenty of water to enjoy. Unfortunately, our outdated sewer system can become overwhelmed by as little as 1/10th of an inch of rain, causing untreated sewage to flow into rivers & creeks.

Carnegie Libraries

Borrowing books from the library is a great way to reuse resources already in existence, instead of buying new. The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh has more than 20 convenient locations in the Pittsburgh area. To find the branch most convenient to you, visit Carnegie Libraries on the web at: <http://www.clpgh.org> or call 412-622-3114.

Free Ride @ Construction Junction

Free Ride is a self-proclaimed "non-traditional repair shop" where instead of fixing damaged bikes, or selling new ones, they educate people on how to repair bikes, and allow volunteers to earn free bike parts and eventually, their own bike.

Free Ride

214 N. Lexington St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15208
412-731-4094
freeridepgh.org

Composting

Whether for yard clippings or food waste, composting is a way to keep organic materials out of landfills and create a valuable product for landscaping and gardening. City residents may drop off yard debris at three Public Works collection centers: East End, Hazelwood, and West End Public Works Drop-Off centers. Proof of residency is required.

The City Recycling Division also offers two seasonal curbside collections. Residents should place leaves and other yard debris in paper yard bags for collection in the fall. The City also offers curbside Christmas tree collection.

Citizens may also choose to compost in their own homes or backyards. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency provides an overview of composting at their website at: www.epa.gov/wastes/conserve/rrr/composting/index.htm.

Did you know?

Locally, the Pennsylvania Resources Council offers Backyard Composting Classes throughout the summer and fall. To find the class nearest to you, call 412-431-4449 or visit their website at: www.prc.org/community_adultedu.html.

Renewable Energy

While energy efficiency improvements are always the first step to decreasing your carbon footprint and reducing energy bills, installing renewable energy generation systems can also be a factor in living more sustainably. Penn Future is an organization that provides information to homeowners and businesses interested in installing solar or wind energy systems on their property. Visit the website at: www.pennfuture.org/energy.aspx

Residents and businesses wishing to install renewable energy equipment for electricity generation should consult with their electric utility as early as possible to ensure the technology to be installed is consistent with the electrical system in that area and will not cause any safety concerns. Within the City of Pittsburgh, more information and contacts can be found on Duquesne Light's Customer Generation at: www.duquesnelight.com/customerservices/CustomerGeneration/default.cfm or by calling 412-393-4343.

For information on required permits to install within the City of Pittsburgh, residents and businesses should call the Department of City Planning at 412-255-2195.

You can also visit the website at: www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/cp/html/land_use_control_and_zoning.html#zoning_code.



A 1.4 kW solar array on the roof of Cardinal Resources offices on the South Side

Energy Conservation

You do not need to install new technology to conserve energy in your home. There are simple steps you can take to utilize less energy in your daily routine. These steps will lessen your personal impact on climate change, as well as save you money on your electric bills:

- Wash only full loads of dishes or laundry
- Air dry your clothes instead of running the dryer
- Turn off your computer and monitor when they are not being used
- Make sure to turn off all lights when you leave a room
- Unplug appliances when they are not in use
- In old or drafty houses, seal your windows to keep cold air out in the winter months
- Set your thermostat a few degrees higher in the summer and a few degrees lower in the winter
- Set your water heater to 120 degrees

Conservation Consultants Inc is a Pittsburgh-based non-profit organization which provides information and assistance to individuals seeking to reduce energy use and use cleaner sources of energy.

More information is available on the web at: www.getenergysmarter.com or by calling 412-431-4449

For more tips on energy conservation, please visit The Black and Gold City Goes Green website at: www.theblackandgoldcitygoesgreen.com/

