Greenworks on the Ground

VISION 01
ACCESSIBLE FOOD AND DRINKING WATER
All Philadelphians have access to healthy, affordable, and sustainable food and drinking water

Greenworks is the city’s sustainability plan to improve quality of life for all Philadelphians. We’ve developed guides to show individuals, communities, and institutions how they can help make the Greenworks visions a reality. All of the guides are available at www.phila.gov/green or by calling 215-686-3495.

✔️ What Communities Can Do

FOOD

- Be smart about food at community events: Use the Food Connect app to donate excess food.
  - www.foodconnectgroup.com
- Community composting: Start a shared compost project at a community garden or other neighborhood site.
- Host local food vendors: Provide residents access to local food through a farmers market or Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program.
  - List of farmers’ markets
    - http://tiny.cc/PhillyMarkets
  - Philly Local Food Guide:
    - http://tiny.cc/PhillyLocalFood
- Share food resources with residents: Alert community to food resources such as food pantries, soup kitchens, or senior meal programs.
  - Philly Food Finder:
    - http://www.phillyfoodfinder.org
- Support your local food co-op: Support local efforts to start or sustain a community food co-op.

WATER

- Educate your community on water quality: Invite the Philadelphia Water Department to speak to your community about water quality.
- Keep litter out of drains: Sign up for the Philadelphia Storm Drain marking project to help residents keep litter out of storm drains.
  - http://tiny.cc/PhillyStormDrains

PHILADELPHIA COMMUNITY GARDENS

There are several resources available to help you identify suitable land and work with your community to build a garden. You can use the VACANT LAND 215 TOOLKIT (http://tiny.cc/VacantLand215) and PHILLY LANDWORKS (http://tiny.cc/PhillyLandworks) to identify and purchase a lot in your community.
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What Communities Can Do

**OUTDOOR AIR**

- **Alert neighbors to poor air quality:** Share information about Air Quality Index days with your community and encourage residents to take steps to protect their health.
  
  - Receive an email when an Air Quality Action Day is declared by signing up at:
    - [http://delawarevalley.enviroflash.info/signup.cfm](http://delawarevalley.enviroflash.info/signup.cfm)
  
- **Educate your neighborhood about local air quality concerns:** Invite Air Management Services to speak about ways your community can improve air quality.
  
  - [www.phila.gov/health/airmanagement](http://www.phila.gov/health/airmanagement)
  
  - 215-685-7586

- **Plant and maintain trees:** Support healthy trees that help to improve air quality by planting and maintaining trees in your community.

- **Report air quality concerns:** Alert Air Management Services to issues such as idling, dust, or unusual odors.
  
  - 215-685-7580 (business hours) or 215-686-4516 (all other times)

- **Sign up to host a Tree Philly Community Yard Tree Giveaway:**
  
  - [http://treephilly.org](http://treephilly.org)
  
  - 215-683-0217

**INDOOR AIR**

- **Share Greenworks on the Ground for Individuals:** Educate residents about actions they can take to create a healthy indoor environment in their homes by sharing the one-pager for individuals:
  
  - [www.phila.gov/green](http://www.phila.gov/green)

**UNDERSTANDING AQI**

The purpose of the AIR QUALITY INDEX (AQI) is to help you understand what local air quality means to your health. To make the AQI as easy to understand as possible, EPA has divided the AQI scale into six categories, shown below. You can track the daily AQI rating by going to [www.phila.gov/aqi](http://www.phila.gov/aqi).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AIR QUALITY INDEX (AQI) VALUES</th>
<th>LEVELS OF HEALTH CONCERN</th>
<th>COLORS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When the AQI is in this range:</td>
<td>...air quality conditions are:</td>
<td>...as symbolized by this color:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 50</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 to 100</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101 to 150</td>
<td>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>151 to 200</td>
<td>Unhealthy</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201 to 300</td>
<td>Very Unhealthy</td>
<td>Purple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301 to 500</td>
<td>Hazardous</td>
<td>Maroon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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✔️ What Communities Can Do

- Coordinate to bulk purchase products and services such as solar panels, white roof coating, and energy auditing services: You may get a discount if a large number of homes in one area negotiate a deal.

- Educate neighbors about energy efficiency: Invite speakers from utilities, non-profits, or the City to share resources available to the community to help reduce energy.

  - Office of Sustainability
    - www.phila.gov/green
    - 215-686-3495
  - PECO Smart Ideas
    - https://peco.myrebateportal.com
    - 888-259-9125
  - PGW Energysense
    - www.pgwenergysense.com
    - 855-749-7658
  - Energy Coordinating Agency
    - http://ecasavesenergy.org

- Share information about Neighborhood Energy Centers: Encourage residents to visit these centers to receive budget counseling, sign up for conservation or home repair programs, and obtain utility payment assistance support.

  - Map of Neighborhood Energy Centers:
    - www.ecasavesenergy.org/resources/neighborhood-energy-centers

- Use zoning reviews to inquire about efficiency of new construction: When reviewing potential development in your community, ask whether new buildings will exceed the required energy code or meet high-efficiency standards like LEED or Passive House.

COORDINATED WHITE ROOF COATING

White roofs can reduce energy costs and keep homes cool as our climate changes. Your neighborhood may be able to lower the cost of white roofs by working together with a single contractor to cover a whole block at once.
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What Communities Can Do

CLIMATE PREPARED

- Be a good neighbor: Check on elderly or vulnerable neighbors during extreme weather.
- Understand how the City of Philadelphia is preparing: Share the city’s first climate adaptation report, Growing Stronger. tiny.cc/GrowingStrongerPHL

CARBON NEUTRAL

- Consider energy efficiency of new construction during zoning reviews: When reviewing potential development in your community, ask whether new buildings will exceed the required energy code or meet high-efficiency standards like LEED or Passive House.
- Coordinate to bulk purchase products and services such as solar panels, white roof coating, and energy auditing services: You may get a discount if a large number of homes in one area negotiate a deal.
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HOST THE CLIMATE AND URBAN SYSTEMS PARTNERSHIP (CUSP)

CUSP is a climate change education and outreach organization based at the Franklin Institute. They have developed several resources to help communicate the risks climate change poses to Philadelphia, including the Ready Row Home kits (pictured above). Visit www.cuspproject.org to learn more and invite CUSP to your community.
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**What Communities Can Do**

- **Identify areas for green infrastructure**: Recommend areas in your community suitable for stormwater infrastructure. [Link](http://tiny.cc/PWDCommunityInput)
- **Help maintain green infrastructure**: Apply for a Soak It Up Adoption grant to maintain the beauty and functionality of green infrastructure in your neighborhood. [Link](http://tiny.cc/SoakItUpAdoption)
- **Keep litter out of drains**: Sign up for the Philadelphia Storm Drain marking project to keep residents from putting litter in storm drains. [Link](http://tiny.cc/StormDrainMarking)
- **Love your park**: Create or support a “friends of” park group in your community.
  - Friends Groups List: [Link](http://tiny.cc/FriendsGroupsPHL)
  - Toolkit for starting and maintaining Friends of Group: [Link](http://tiny.cc/FriendsGroupToolkit)
- **Plant and maintain trees**: Organize neighbors to take Tree Tenders training and plant and maintain trees in your community. [Link](http://www.pennhort.net/treetenders) 215-988-1698
- **Promote local natural resources**: Encourage residents to use and become stewards of your neighborhood’s parks, trees, green infrastructure, and waterways.

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**TreePhilly Community Yard Tree Giveaway**

The TreePhilly Community Yard Tree Giveaway program provides small grants to local community groups so they can host yard tree giveaways in their neighborhood. Visit [treephilly.org/free-trees](http://treephilly.org/free-trees) or call 215-683-0217 to learn more.
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**What Communities Can Do**

- **Advocate for accessibility during the zoning process**: Support transit, bike, and pedestrian accessibility when reviewing proposed developments.
- **Explore bulk purchasing of sidewalk repair**: Reduce the cost of sidewalk repairs by pooling resources with neighbors.
- **Host transit-accessible events**: Choose event locations that are close to public transportation.
- **Maintain your sidewalks**: Property owners are required to maintain safe and accessible sidewalks.
- **Participate in Philly Free Streets**: Take part in the City initiative that closes Philly streets to cars, inviting people to walk, bike, and play.
  - [www.phillyotis.com/portfolio-item/philly-free-streets](http://www.phillyotis.com/portfolio-item/philly-free-streets)
- **Promote the City’s bike network**: Share the Philadelphia bicycle map which includes information about the City’s bike lanes, trails, bike routes, and bike share stations.
  - [http://tiny.cc/BikeMap2016](http://tiny.cc/BikeMap2016)
- **Report unsafe road or sidewalk conditions**: Submit issues such as potholes, unsafe roads, and hazardous sidewalk conditions.
  - [www.phila.gov/311](http://www.phila.gov/311)
  - [dial 311](http://www.phila.gov/311)

**COMPLETE STREET RESOURCES**

Philadelphia’s COMPLETE STREETS website ([www.philadelphiastreets.com/complete-streets](http://www.philadelphiastreets.com/complete-streets)) can help you learn more about how to make your community’s streets safer for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers. The site also enables communities to apply for parklets, pedestrian plazas, and Indego stations.
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VISION 07
ZERO WASTE
All Philadelphians waste less and keep our neighborhoods clean

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What Communities Can Do

TRASH AND RECYCLING

❑ Compost at your community garden or other neighborhood site: Help divert food and yard waste from the waste stream by composting in your neighborhood.

❑ Create a plan for unused food: Make sure that leftover food is donated to those in need, or composted if is no longer edible.
  www.foodconnectgroup.com

❑ Minimize waste at community events: Reduce waste generated and capture as much as possible for composting or recycling.

❑ Recycle right: Help your neighbors if they have any questions about recycling or trash set out, and direct them to the Streets Department’s website to learn how to recycle properly.
  www.philadelphiastreets.com/recycling/how-to-recycle

GET INVOLVED

❑ Contact your Philadelphia More Beautiful Committee (PMBC) Officer: Learn how to participate as a Block Captain, invite a SWEEP officer to your next event, or find out if your block is hosting upcoming cleanups.
  www.philadelphiastreets.com/events/cleanup-events

❑ Create a community where litter is unacceptable: Make sure that no amount of litter is okay in your neighborhood, and report illegal dumping or other sanitation code violations.
  www.philadelphiastreets.com/helpful-links/report-a-problem
  215-686-8686

❑ Help your neighbors learn about the City’s Sanitation Convenience Centers: The City’s six sanitation convenience centers allow you to drop off items such as tires, appliances, e-waste, mattresses, or yard waste.
  http://tiny.cc/ConvenienceCenters

❑ Host special materials collections events: Arrange for hard-to-recycle collections events, including electronic waste, document shredding, and unused medications. Use Earth 911’s guide to locate recycling centers.
  http://earth911.com/recycling-center-search-guides

❑ Participate in the Philly Spring Cleanup: Offer to volunteer or sponsor a cleanup in your neighborhood.
  www.philadelphiastreets.com/philly-spring-clean-up

❑ Share information about Household Hazardous Waste events: Spread the word about the Streets Department’s Household Hazardous Waste events.
  www.philadelphiastreets.com/events/household-hazardous-waste-events

KEEP STORM DRAINS CLEAN
Remove litter from storm drains to prevent clogging and flooding.

www.phila.gov/green
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What Communities Can Do

EDUCATE COMMUNITY MEMBERS ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY

- Follow and share Greenworks news on social media.
  - Twitter and Instagram: @GreenworksPhila
  - Facebook: www.facebook.com/greenworksphila/
- Host workshops to educate neighbors about sustainability resources.
- Invite Air Management Services to speak about how your community can improve air quality.
  - www.phila.gov/health/airmanagement
  - 215-685-7586
- Share information about job opportunities in the sustainability field.
  - Job openings with the City of Philadelphia:
    - www.phila.gov/personnel/jobopps.html
  - Job openings with SEPTA:
    - http://autohire.careershop.com/septajobs/
  - Jobs, internships, and organizations in the sustainability field:
    - www.idealist.org

ORGANIZE SUSTAINABILITY STEWARDS

- Apply for a Soak It Up Adoption grant to maintain the beauty and functionality of green infrastructure in your neighborhood.
  - http://tiny.cc/SoakItUpAdoption
- Compost at your community garden or other neighborhood site.
- Host materials collections events to properly dispose of electronic waste, sensitive documents, and unused medications.
- Identify sites in your community suitable for stormwater infrastructure.
  - http://tiny.cc/PWDCommunityInput
- Join or organize a Tree Tenders group in your community.
  - http://phsonline.org/programs/tree-tenders
  - 215-988-1698
- Start a community garden.
  - http://phsonline.org/programs/garden-tenders
- Start or maintain a “friends of” park group.
  - http://tiny.cc/FriendsGroupToolkit