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 Institutions Can Do

**FOOD**

- **Donate excess food**: Use Food Connect to cut down on food waste and donate excess food to emergency meal providers.
  
  - Food Connect:  
    - www.foodconnectgroup.com
  
- **Host local food providers and growers**: Host a Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) program or farmers market at your site, or allow community gardeners to grow on your extra land.

- **Purchase local food**: Work with your vendors or food contractors to increase the amount of local, sustainable, and healthy food you purchase.
  
  - Philly Local Food Guide:  
    - http://tiny.cc/PhillyLocalFoodGuide

- **Stock vending machines with healthy food**: Follow the Philadelphia Department of Public Health’s healthy vending standards.
  

- **Support your workforce**: Educate your workforce, including food workers, about Philadelphia’s paid sick leave law.
  
  - http://tiny.cc/PhillySickLeave

**WATER**

- **Check your water quality**: Test your water and check on the condition of internal plumbing and your connections to the water main to ensure delivery of high-quality water.

- **Provide tap water to visitors**: Help promote Philadelphia’s high quality drinking water and reduce the plastic bottles that pollute our waterways.
  
  - Sign up to make your tap public:  
    - http://phlask.me

GOOD FOOD CATERER GUIDE

Cater your next meeting with local, sustainable food: Use the Good Food Caterer Guide

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**What Institutions Can Do**

**OUTDOOR AIR**

- **Alert people to poor air quality:** Share information about Air Quality Index days with your employees, students, or congregants and encourage them to take steps to protect their health. Monitoring and resources are available at:
  - [www.phila.gov/aqi](http://www.phila.gov/aqi)
  - 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)

- **Encourage public transit usage:** Offer pre-tax purchase of transportation passes to incentivize your employees or students to take public transportation.

- **Get greenery:** Plant trees on your property and grow indoor plants to filter airborne pollutants.

- **Green your lawn equipment:** Ensure your institution’s land care practices require efficient lawn care equipment such as mowers and trimmers.

- **Run a clean fleet:** If you maintain a vehicle fleet, use cleaner vehicles such as hybrids or electric vehicles and ensure drivers comply with anti-idling laws.

**INDOOR AIR**

- **Encourage action at home:** Educate residents about actions they can take to create a healthy indoor environment in their homes, such as:
  - Prohibiting smoking in their homes.
  - Reducing dust mites and pet dander by removing old bedding, carpets or furniture and vacuuming and cleaning often.
  - Limiting contact with mold by cleaning and ventilating attics and basements, using a dehumidifier, and repairing leaks.
  - Keep insects and rodents—and the pesticides used to kill them—out of the home by keeping food tightly sealed and all surfaces clean.
  - Check out CHOP's Asthma Program tips for more ideas: [http://tiny.cc/AsthmaCHOP](http://tiny.cc/AsthmaCHOP)

- **IPM and Green Cleaning:** Use integrated pest management practices and green cleaning products to create a healthier indoor environment.

- **Learn more:** Find more tips for your spaces in this EPA guide: [http://tiny.cc/EPAOccupantGuide](http://tiny.cc/EPAOccupantGuide)

- **Maintain heating system:** Make sure your chimney, furnace, clothes dryer, and water heater are venting properly.
Greenworks on the Ground

VISION 03
CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY
All Philadelphians efficiently use clean energy that they can afford

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What Institutions Can Do

ENERGY REDUCTION

❑ Set greenhouse gas reduction targets: Use the EPA’s Carbon Footprint Calculator to determine your organization’s carbon footprint and set a goal to reduce it.
   www.epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator
❑ Start an energy management program: Whether you rent one floor or manage an entire campus of buildings, you can develop an energy management strategy to save money and reduce your carbon footprint.
   • Set an annual energy reduction goal.
   • Take advantage of utility incentive programs.
   • Provide opportunities for building operator training.
   • Establish operational standards to set back energy use and power down computers during periods of inactivity.
❑ Explore green leasing: If you rent your buildings, a green lease can help provide incentives for energy savings.
   www.greenleaselibrary.com

❑ Hire an energy services company: An energy services company (ESCO) will audit and retrofit your building to save energy and money. You can contact Green Building United for help finding a contractor.
   www.greenbuildingunited.org
   215-399-5790
❑ Educate your employees, congregants and students: Offer educational materials on how to reduce energy consumption, including Greenworks on the Ground for Individuals.
   www.phila.gov/green
   tiny.cc/BringGreenToWork

CLEAN ENERGY

❑ Invest in clean energy: Switch your institution’s electricity provider to clean electricity using PA Power Switch and consider investing in solar energy on your buildings and parking lots.
   www.PAPowerSwitch.com
❑ Read Powering Our Future: A Clean Energy Vision for Philadelphia to understand ways your institution can help create a clean energy future.
   http://tiny.cc/PoweringOurFuture

PHILADELPHIA ENERGY BENCHMARKING MAPPING TOOL

If you are reporting building energy usage as part of Philadelphia's benchmarking law, you can visit http://visualization.phillybuildingbenchmarking.com to see how your building compares to other buildings of similar type and size. If you’re not benchmarking yet, learn how.

www.phillybuildingbenchmarking.com
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What Institutions Can Do

CLIMATE PREPARED

- **Incorporate climate change into planning process:** Screen your assets for vulnerability to climate hazards and account for those vulnerabilities during the capital planning process.

- **Prepare for extreme weather:** Work with the Office of Emergency Management to set up a Business Continuity Plan, let workers know about the plan, learn how to act in an emergency, and put your plan into action.
  
  http://tiny.cc/PreparednessWorkshop

- **Educate your employees, congregants, and students:** Offer educational materials on climate change, including Greenworks on the Ground for Individuals.
  
  www.phila.gov/green

CARBON NEUTRAL

- **Encourage public transit usage:** Offer pre-tax purchase of transportation passes to incentivize your employees or students to take public transportation.

- **Set greenhouse gas reduction targets:** Use the EPA’s Carbon Footprint Calculator to determine your organization’s carbon footprint and set a goal to reduce it each year.
  
  www.epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator

- **Start an energy management program:** Whether you rent one floor or manage an entire campus of buildings, you can develop an energy management strategy to save money and reduce your carbon footprint.
  
  - Set an annual energy reduction goal.
  
  - Take advantage of utility incentive programs.
  
  - Provide opportunities for building operator training.
  
  - Establish operational standards to set back energy use and power down computers during periods of inactivity.

- **Hire an energy services company:** An energy services company (ESCO) will audit and retrofit your building to save energy and money. You can contact Green Building United for help identifying a contractor.
  
  www.greenbuildingunited.org
  
  215-399-5790

- **Run a clean fleet:** If you maintain a vehicle fleet, use cleaner vehicles such as hybrids or electric vehicles and ensure drivers comply with anti-idling laws.

Growing Stronger Report

Information about how climate change will impact Philadelphia, including projections for changes in temperature, precipitation, and sea levels, is available in Growing Stronger. The report also includes recommendations for how to incorporate climate science into your investment decisions.

http://tiny.cc/GrowingStrongerPHL
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What Institutions Can Do

- **Add green space at your facility**: Consider ways to create public open space on your property.

- **Create a volunteer corps**: Harness the people power of your institution by volunteering at events that support our environment.
  - Love Your Park days: [http://loveyourpark.org](http://loveyourpark.org)
  - Philly Spring Cleanup: [www.philadelphiastreets.com/philly-spring-cleanup](http://www.philadelphiastreets.com/philly-spring-cleanup)
  - Philacycle: [www.recyclebank.com/philacycle/events](http://www.recyclebank.com/philacycle/events)

- **Manage stormwater**: Reducing stormwater runoff helps keep our rivers and streams clean.
  - The Stormwater Management Incentives Program helps you retrofit your property to manage harmful runoff and save money on your stormwater fees.
    - 215-685-6070
  - Install a green roof and receive a business tax credit.
    - [http://tiny.cc/GreenRoofTaxCredit](http://tiny.cc/GreenRoofTaxCredit)

- **Plant trees on your property**.

- **Use organic land care practices**: Build a healthier environment for nature and people by using organic landscaping and maintenance methods.

STORMWATER INCENTIVES

The City of Philadelphia has created two stormwater grant programs, the Stormwater Management Incentives Program and the Greened Acre Retrofit Program, to reduce the price for qualified nonresidential Philadelphia Water Customers and contractors to design and install stormwater best management practices.

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What Institutions Can Do

ACCESSIBILITY

- **Ensure safe walkways during construction**: Minimize street and sidewalk closures during construction and, when necessary, provide covered walkways.

- **Maintain your sidewalks**: Property owners are required to maintain safe and accessible sidewalks.

- **Meet Complete Streets requirements**: The City’s Complete Streets policy requires a review of every construction project’s impact on roads, sidewalks, and the bicycle and transit network to ensure safe access for all users:
  - www.philadelphiastreets.com/complete-streets

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION

- **Offer pretax transit benefits to employees**: The federal government enables commuters to save money by putting pretax dollars toward public transportation.

- **Install bike infrastructure**: Make cycling more convenient and accessible by installing bike parking and accessible showers.

- **Promote car sharing and fuel-efficient vehicles**: Offer preferential parking to carpool, car sharing, and low-carbon vehicles.

- **Provide group or corporate Indego passes**: Provide discounted group or corporate passes to your employees:
  - www.rideindego.com/passes/corporate-pass-program

COMPLETE STREETS RESOURCES

Philadelphia’s Complete Streets has resources to help you make your community’s streets safer for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers. The site also enables you to apply for parklets, pedestrian plazas, and Indego stations.

- www.philadelphiastreets.com/complete-streets
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📍 What Institutions Can Do

**WASTE REDUCTION**

- Create a plan for unused food: Make sure that leftover food is donated to those in need, or composted if it is no longer edible.  
  - [www.foodconnectgroup.com](http://www.foodconnectgroup.com)

- Educate employees, congregants, or students about litter: Educate your employees about the importance of individual responsibility for a clean and safe working environment.

- Implement a sustainable purchasing program: Make an effort to buy greener, healthier, and more sustainable products from local companies.

- Know your waste: Study what’s in your institution’s waste stream by conducting a waste audit.

- Minimize waste at events: Reduce waste generated and capture as much as possible for composting or recycling in order to minimize the amount of waste discarded in landfills.

  - Become a Zero Waste Event:  
    - [http://cleanphl.org/zerowasteevents](http://cleanphl.org/zerowasteevents)

- Provide tap water: Reduce disposable water bottle usage by offering tap water access.

  - Sign up to make your tap public:  
    - [http://phlask.me](http://phlask.me)

**TRASH AND RECYCLING**

- Dispose of hazardous materials properly: If you use hazardous materials or chemicals, take them to be recycled safely.

- 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.  

- Provide recycling and waste bins: Provide recycling and trash receptacles at entrances, exits, loading docks, picnic areas, and along walkways of your property.

- Sign up to compost: Reduce the amount of food and yard waste in the waste stream by signing up to compost with a local company.  
  - [http://tiny.cc/CompostInPhilly](http://tiny.cc/CompostInPhilly)

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**COMMERCIAL RECYCLING TOOLKIT**

Have a recycling plan: Make sure that your institution is following mandatory recycling laws and has a plan for recycling. Consult the Streets Department’s Commercial Waste Toolkit for more information.


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@GreenworksPhila  
Philadelphia’s Office of Sustainability
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**What Institutions Can Do**

**ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION**
- Support employees who undertake professional development in sustainability.
- Host a lunch and learn: Host speakers and take day trips to learn more about sustainability in Philadelphia.
- Train current employees in sustainable practices.  
  [http://tiny.cc/SustainabilityTraining](http://tiny.cc/SustainabilityTraining)

**PROVIDE SUSTAINABILITY EMPLOYMENT**
- Host a sustainability intern or apprentice.
- Hire a PowerCorpsPHL alumnus.  
  [http://powercorpsphl.org](http://powercorpsphl.org)

**USE SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES**
- Apply for the City’s Sustainable Business Tax Credit.  
- Find out how to make your buildings more energy efficient and comfortable for users.  
  [www.greenbuildingunited.org](http://www.greenbuildingunited.org)
- Harness the people power of your institution for volunteer opportunities that support our environment.  
  [http://serve.phila.gov](http://serve.phila.gov)
- Learn about sustainable business practices through the Sustainable Business Network.  
  [www.sbnphiladelphia.org](http://www.sbnphiladelphia.org)
- Plant trees on your property.
- Promote low-carbon commuting.  
  [www.gophillygo.org](http://www.gophillygo.org)
- Start a sustainable purchasing program.
- Take the B-Lab’s Impact assessment to determine the environmental and social impact of your business.  
  [www.bimpactassessment.net](http://www.bimpactassessment.net)

**POWERCORPSPHL**

PowerCorpsPHL engages disconnected young adults, ages 18 to 26, through environmental stewardship, youth violence prevention, and workforce development. Corp members work with City departments, gaining valuable skills to transition to a successful career.  
[http://powercorpsphl.org](http://powercorpsphl.org)