



“Green” Is New Building Standard In Dallas (from the Home Page)

City Council passes new construction requirement to reduce environmental impact; Dallas becomes one of the first major U.S. cities to pass comprehensive building standard for both residential and commercial construction.

On April 9th, the Dallas City Council unanimously adopted a green construction ordinance aimed at reducing energy and water consumption in all new houses and commercial buildings. This step adds to the City’s record of being an environmental leader.

“We’re at the lead of the major cities in this country. We had industry come in and really embrace it. We crafted it to make sense for everybody,” said Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert.

While a Green Building standard for city-owned buildings exists, requiring those over 10,000 square feet be built to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standards, a standard did not exist for private development. A Green Building Task Force, comprised of members of the development sector, was created to develop recommendations for all new private development in Dallas.

“We support efforts to create a better-built environment and accept the responsibility that every industry, and now every home, must share to help the region reach its air quality goals,” said Donny Mack, president of the Home Builders Association of Greater Dallas.

The ordinance will be implemented in two phases beginning in 2009.

Read full details of the new ordinance: [Green Building Program: Summary of Task Force Recommendations and Ordinance Requirements](#) (Adobe PDF, Presented to the Dallas City Council - April 9, 2008)

[Ordinance #081070](#) (Adobe pdf; passed by the Dallas City Council April 9, 2008)

The City’s Green Dallas initiative is aimed at environmental responsibility and encourages public and private sector involvement. Dallas is the number one municipal purchaser of renewable power in the nation, boasts the largest clean vehicle fleet of any city in Texas, and is the only pilot city chosen for the EPA’s Sustainable Skylines Initiative aimed at improving air quality.



Earth Day Every Day in Dallas (About Us Page)

“It’s an exciting time for those of us who have spent most of our lives working on and focusing on the environment,” says Laura Fiffick, director of the Office of Environmental Quality for the City of Dallas. “It’s finally cool to be green!” she laughs. “There has been significant attention on global warming recently by Hollywood and mainstream media, and regular people are starting to pay attention.”

Fiffick is right. Actor Leonardo DiCaprio, rockers Sheryl Crow and Melissa Ethridge, former Vice President Al Gore, and producer Laurie David—the list goes on. For Fiffick and those like her, it’s like having a team of national spokespersons promoting your efforts, but without the expense of paying them. “Although this large movement has caused people to become more environmentally aware recently, it’s nothing new to us. We’ve been working a long time,” she adds.

In fact, the City of Dallas purchased its first alternative fueled vehicle over 15 years ago, in 1992. Ten years later, Dallas was the first city in Texas to use biodiesel. “It’s a great feeling to be ahead of the curve,” says Ramiro Lopez, assistant director of Dallas’ Equipment and Building Services Department. Since that time, the green fleet has continued to grow. Dallas is proud to have 41 percent of its fleet, nearly 2,000 cars and trucks, that are running on alternative fuels or are hybrid—making Dallas’ THE largest fleet in Texas and one of the largest in the U.S. In fact, SustainLane—an online media company empowering people, businesses, and government to go green—listed the City of Dallas No. 5 out of the 50 largest cities in the nation on its “Alternative Fueled City Fleets” list.

With 70 percent of the DFW region’s NOx emissions coming from mobile sources, like vehicles, the use of alternative fuel and hybrid vehicles will have a definite impact on the region’s air quality.

One of the lists the City is most proud to be on top of is the Environmental Protection Agency’s list of top purchasers of renewable power. The City of Dallas is the No. 1 municipal purchaser of clean, green power in the nation. In 2008, Dallas is purchasing nearly 334 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of renewable power, primarily wind.

But it’s not just air quality that the City of Dallas is focusing on. The City has built an impressive list of accomplishments when it comes to supporting the environment and setting standards for the future.

Dallas’ [Environmental Management System](#) (EMS) demonstrates a commitment to not simply comply with laws and regulations, but also to go beyond what’s minimally necessary and do the best work possible on behalf of the environment, the citizens, and the City’s resources. Many new initiatives are the direct result of the system’s broad-based approach to environmental issues. Rather than rely on a compliance officer, or even an entire environmental compliance department, the EMS empowers every City employee to identify problems and take personal responsibility for smart solutions. Here’s a partial list of improvements fostered by the EMS:



- Environmentally friendly or “green” buildings nurture the environment by saving water, energy, and other resources. In 2003, Dallas started its Green Building Program when the Jack Evans Police Headquarters was constructed. The City expects to complete more than 25 green facilities between 2003 and 2010, including ten libraries, seven police and fire stations, one cultural center, three recreation centers, three service centers, and a homeless assistance center.
- A cousin to the Green Building Program is Dallas’ Green Renovation Program. The idea is to replace regular roofs with new “cool” roofs that promote energy savings. Buildings also are being retrofitted with high efficiency heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, and lighting systems.
- Through Environmentally Preferred Purchasing, the City selects products or services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment—compared with competing products or services that serve the same purposes.
- Dallas’ Energy Management Plan is standardizing performance objectives for all new facilities based on watts used per square foot. The plan also aims to reduce energy consumption by 25 percent in existing City facilities in 2007. The City has reduced its overall energy use through numerous means, including use of lighting upgrades, solar panels, high efficient heating and air conditioning systems, and automated building controls. Last year, 994.7 million cubic feet of renewable energy was captured from the McCommas Bluff Landfill—enough to heat all of the homes in University Park, Highland Park, and Duncanville for an entire year.
- With Energy Performance Contracting, the City improves existing buildings without draining local tax revenues. It’s all done by using a mix of energy conservation measures and more efficient heating systems. These savings, in turn, pay for building upgrades. At Dallas City Hall, a comprehensive energy project has resulted in annual savings of about \$1.49 million.
- Regular incandescent traffic signals cost Dallas about \$2.1 million annually in electricity costs. By converting to energy-efficient LED traffic lights, the City will cut annual energy consumption by 14.5 million kilowatt hours per year. In addition, nearly half of the street lights in the City of Dallas are now lit by renewable “green power.”
- Some components of the EMS have gone beyond the doors of City Hall. For instance, the City started an In-House Recycling Program. The program was originally developed to meet the Leadership in Energy and Efficient Design (LEED) prerequisite, which is designed to reduce a building’s solid-waste stream by 30 percent to 40 percent. The program is cost-neutral, meaning there is no direct expense to the City, and it also extends the life of landfills. From April 2003 to November 2006, 3,199 tons of recyclable materials were diverted from landfills.

“Nobody understands a particular job better than the person who actually has to do it every day,” says Jill Jordan, assistant city manager. “So the EMS gives everyone the power to look for ways to make that job safer and better for the environment.”



Through its EMS, the City is managing and inspiring its employees—from the newest hire to senior leaders—to make decisions that are in the best interest of the citizens and the environment.

“It’s revolutionary,” City Manager Mary Suhm says. “Our EMS will save citizens money as it also saves our environment.”

Dallas residents also wanted to get in on the action, so the City created the “Too Good To Throw Away” recycling program. It will enter its first full year in FY 2007-08. Residents have doubled their recycling pounds from 9,680 tons in FY 2005-06 to a projected 21,500 tons for FY 2006-07. It is the City’s goal to increase that figure to 35,000 tons in FY 2007-08 and 45,000 tons by 2011, with a residential participation rate of at least 50 percent of households.

The City of Dallas has also dramatically increased its efforts to promote [water conservation](#). A Five-Year Strategic Plan on Water Conservation was adopted, which has resulted in a significant reduction in per capita water consumption. Dallas’ conservation program includes leak detection and main repair and replacement, audits of irrigation systems at City facilities, educational initiatives, and a Xeriscape program. The City has set a goal of reducing City facility water usage by 67.86 million gallons by December 2008.

“The City has to be a leader,” says Fiffick. “We shouldn’t necessarily tell residents to change their light bulbs, recycle their trash, and conserve their water if we aren’t doing it ourselves.”

SustainLane also ranked Dallas #24 out of the top 50 most sustainable U.S. cities in its 2006 Sustainable Cities Ranking, which is based on a city’s ability to meet future environmental challenges. The most promising point is that Dallas earned a score of number one and was identified as a “Sustainability Leader” in the Knowledge Base category. This category is primarily based on a city’s plan for sustainability (Environmental Management System) and its departments dedicated to the management of environmental and sustainability functions.

Other noteworthy items highlighted in the SustainLane report include Dallas’ progressive land use plan, [Forward Dallas!](#) (a comprehensive development program), and the promotion of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) buildings.

The [State Energy Conservation Office](#) and the [Texas Energy Partnership](#) gave the City an award for outstanding achievements in energy efficiency improvements for its Energy Management Plan.

Dallas was selected as a pilot city to partner with the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) [Sustainable Skylines Initiative](#), which focuses on sustainability issues, particularly air quality. Sustainable Skylines involves completing several three-year projects to reduce air emissions. The initiative is also expected to produce benefits to water and land quality. If the Dallas pilot is successful, the initiative could be used as a national model for other cities.



Using grass-roots community involvement, the City is proposing a partnership with the non-profit community organization [Keep Dallas Beautiful](#) (KDB) to spruce up neighborhoods in a pilot program aimed at beautifying the entire city. This cooperative effort would identify six defined neighborhoods for a makeover. KDB will then introduce a year-long program to beautify and maintain the neighborhood's aesthetics. Eliminating litter, wiping out graffiti, and correcting code deficiencies are the immediate targets of the "Pride in Your Neighborhood" program. By nurturing the beauty of the neighborhood and strengthening the community's sense of culture, we believe this program will unite residents, schools, and the business community into a cohesive unit with a common goal.

According to SustainLane, "the City of Dallas is moving forward with some Texas-sized plans to become a more sustainable, human-scale city." The City of Dallas is committed to becoming a responsible steward of our natural resources and will continue to be a good environmental citizen and a model for the rest of the nation.



A Message from the Mayor of the City of Dallas

GREETINGS:

Although there has been much recent attention to the environment and a large movement to “go green,” the City of Dallas has been hard at work for a long time. In fact, the City of Dallas has positioned itself as a national leader in addressing environmental issues of concern, especially those affecting the DFW region.

The quality of our air is the most pressing environmental issue we are facing. With 70 percent of the DFW region’s harmful NOx emissions coming from mobile sources, like vehicles, the use of alternative fuel and hybrid vehicles will have a definite impact on the region’s air quality. That’s why, for nearly two decades, the City has worked diligently to implement several environmental initiatives.

In fact, the City of Dallas purchased its first alternative fueled vehicle 16 years ago. Ten years later, Dallas was the first city in Texas to use biodiesel. Since that time, the green fleet has continued to grow. Today nearly 2,000 cars and trucks, more than 40 percent of the City’s fleet, are either hybrid or running on alternative fuels, making it the largest “clean fleet” in Texas and one of the largest in the country.

But it’s not just air quality that the City of Dallas is focusing on. The City has built an impressive list of accomplishments when it comes to supporting the environment and setting standards for the future.

We’re saving energy, which in itself lowers emissions. The City Council voted to purchase 40 percent of all the energy we purchase in 2008 from renewable sources like wind and solar. In January, the Environmental Protection Agency listed Dallas as the nation’s top municipal purchaser of renewable energy. Factor in the Dallas-based Fortune 500 companies, private businesses and state and federal agencies and Dallas is the nation’s 9th largest purchaser of green power.

We’ve also reduced energy usage at existing facilities by 5 percent per year for the past 5 years, replaced traditional school and warning flashers with solar powered versions, installed energy efficient LED traffic signals at 1,100 intersections, and implemented recycling programs for citizens and within our own City-owned buildings.

We have also implemented an Environmental Management System which demonstrates a commitment to not simply comply with laws and regulations, but also to go beyond what’s minimally necessary and do the best work possible on behalf of the environment, the citizens, and the City’s resources.



Dallas was also selected as the only city in the nation as a pilot city to partner with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Sustainable Skylines Initiative, which focuses on sustainability issues, particularly air quality. Sustainable Skylines involves completing several three-year projects to reduce air emissions. The initiative is also expected to produce benefits to water and land quality. If the Dallas pilot is successful, the initiative could be used as a national model for other cities.

But, we cannot fix our problems alone. It is going to take all of us to make DFW clean and green. The transportation, manufacturing, and energy use required for the building industry make it the single largest contributor to global warming in the country. Advancing Dallas' green building program can have the single greatest impact on greenhouse gas emissions reductions of any local strategy.

Green buildings savings average 30 percent in energy, 35 percent in carbon, up to 50 percent in water, and 50-90 percent in waste cost. In addition, green buildings provide enhanced productivity, improved risk management and increased value for an improved bottom line.

Currently, the City has a very strong Green Building Initiatives. City facilities over 10,000 square feet are currently designed and built to meet at least the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) silver standard. Existing buildings also are being retrofitted with high efficiency heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, and lighting systems.

The City of Dallas is proud to be leading the environmental charge locally and is committed to continual improvement.

Sincerely,

Tom Leppert
Mayor



Mayor's Environmental Excellence Award

Congratulations, Dallas! The first Mayor's Environmental Excellence Awards were a great success! Your Mayor and City Council are dedicated to making Dallas the greenest city in America and you are helping to make it happen.

While the window for the 2008 MEEA has closed, it remains important to recognize those in our community who are at the forefront of environmental stewardship and to recognize those who are thinking beyond today--beyond the quick-fix.

The Mayor will be recognizing those who place thinking of the long term health and welfare of our city, our region and, most importantly, our children before their own needs.

The Mayor's Environmental Excellence Award will recognize you, the citizen of Dallas, who has taken the steps to turn "there has to be a better way" into "leading by example;" the citizen who works in the community to get friends, family and visitors involved to improve all our lives; the teacher, the preacher, the CEO or the secretary...anyone who is leading change in Dallas and creating a sustainable legacy for us all.

Check back here to find out who won in this year's categories the 2008 MEEA! Then next fall, nominate those individuals around you, or yourself, who need to be recognized for helping build a greener Dallas by applying for the Mayor's Environmental Excellence Award for 2009!



A Message from the City Manager of the City of Dallas

What does 'green' mean? How can we each make a difference in the 'green' direction? How does a City make a difference?

By now we have all heard the message; we watch the news; we see the changes around us. On a personal level, we imagine the future our children will face and some of us feel the need to act now to reduce our own impacts on our planet's limited resources.

But how does a City with thousands of employees serving the needs of millions of citizens make that commitment to leave the world in better shape with a brighter future than it has ever known?

It is possible, actually, and at the City of Dallas we are working to do just that through the implementation of an Environmental Management System, or EMS.

An EMS is a dynamic tool designed to guide and improve our actions through continuous monitoring and adjustment. The principle activities of an EMS are the keys to its success. Through Plan-Do-Check-Act, we plan our goals, do what is necessary to achieve them, check our progress and act on the results to continually better the system. The end result is not only a better way of conducting business, but we will streamline our operations, improve our compliance with regulations, and increase efficiency through better practices.

Already, the City has taken steps to reduce its impact on the environment. To help reduce pollution from energy production, the Mayor and the City Council support our commitment to purchasing 40% of the energy the City uses in 2008 to come from renewable sources such as wind and solar energies. We are also already committed to reducing energy consumption by 5% each year at our City facilities in order to further reduce our footprint. In order to limit our vehicle exhaust emissions, a major component of the air quality issues in our region, the City has replaced 41% of its non-emergency vehicle fleet with alternative fuel or hybrid vehicles. Finally, to improve water quality, we created the 3-1-1 system and placed placards and signs around town to let people know just where that storm drain goes.

An EMS is not a static device, but rather a living and dynamic tool designed to allow for gradual changes to be made over long periods of time in order to achieve realistic and measurable goals.

Your City employees are making Dallas greener every day. And their efforts, leadership and innovative ideas are getting noticed. SustainLane, an on-line community and media company dedicated to promoting sustainability, gave Dallas rave reviews in its Sustainable Cities Ranking. Dallas ranked number one out of the Top 50 largest cities in the nation as a "Sustainability Leader" in the Knowledge Base category. This category is primarily based on a city's plan for sustainability (EMS) and its departments dedicated to the management of environmental and sustainability functions. Other noteworthy items highlighted in the report include Dallas'



progressive land use plan, Forward Dallas!. These dedicated employees are thinking outside of the box and our planet is reaping the rewards.

What does all of this mean for the Citizens of Dallas?

Not only does the City's bottom-line improve, but as a result of the continuous monitoring and improvement of the EMS, our environmental impact will continue to shrink as smarter and better methods are utilized everyday. Better yet, our demand on the planet's precious resources is minimized and the future we leave our children is one of hope with an inherited environmental consciousness of which we can all be proud. In short, Dallas gets green.

And after all, isn't that the goal of a 'Green Dallas'?

Sincerely,

Mary K. Suhm
City Manager



Air Quality

Air quality is probably the most difficult environmental issue we face today in North Central Texas. The City of Dallas, along with many other cities across the United States and around the world, recognize the impact that smog and ozone formation have on our health and economic well-being.

The gas called ozone can be good or bad—depending on where you find it. The good variety occurs naturally at the upper reaches of Earth’s atmosphere, where it protects us from ultraviolet rays and moderates our climate. The bad ozone accumulates within a few hundred feet of the ground when pollutants emitted by cars, power plants, industrial boilers, refineries, chemical plants and other sources react chemically in the presence of sunlight. Ozone pollution is most threatening during the summer months, when weather conditions necessary to form ground-level ozone—inconstant sun and hot temperatures—normally occur. Unfortunately, with its hot summers and concentrations of traffic and industry, Dallas is an ideal incubator for the creation of ground-level ozone.

Bad ozone is a serious health hazard, especially to active children (who spend so much of the summer playing outdoors) and those with lung diseases such as asthma. Active adults of all ages who work or exercise vigorously outdoors have a higher risk than those who are less active. In general, as concentrations of ground-level ozone increase, more and more people experience unhealthy effects: respiratory inflammation, reduced lung function, compromised immune systems, damage to lung cells, aggravated emphysema and bronchitis, even permanent lung damage. When ozone levels are high, everyone should be concerned about exposure.

Quite naturally, then, the **City’s efforts to improve air quality** focus on these dangerous low-level accumulations of ozone as well as climate change. The Dallas/Ft. Worth region has experienced a steady decline in ozone levels measured across the area. Emission reductions have been achieved from stationary sources (stack) emissions, cleaner cars and construction equipment, and cleaner fuels. A part of the emission reductions efforts have been from the City of Dallas. The City has been a leader in emission reductions since the early 1990’s.

DFW Air FACTS

70 percent of the D-FW region’s air pollution comes from mobile sources like cars, trucks, airplanes, construction equipment and lawn equipment.

Of the seven pollutants identified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as posing significant health threats, all have been reduced to levels below the national safety standards in the Dallas/Ft. Worth region—except for ozone.



Initiatives to Improve Air Quality by the City of Dallas

Green Fleet/Vehicles

- **No. 1 in Texas**—Dallas has THE largest alternatively-fueled fleet in Texas with 41 percent (nearly 2,000 vehicles) of its total fleet running on alternative or cleaner fuels, including compressed natural gas, biodiesel or are hybrid.
- **Driving Green For Decades**—The City of Dallas purchased its first alternative fueled vehicle over 15 years ago, in 1992. Ten years later, Dallas was the first city in Texas to use biodiesel.
- **Top 5 in U.S.**—SustainLane—an online media company empowering people, businesses, and government to go green—listed the City of Dallas #5 out of the 50 largest cities in the nation on its “Alternative Fueled City Fleets” list.

Ordinances

- **Idling in Dallas**—In 2007, the Dallas City Council passed an [Anti-Idling Ordinance](#) which prohibits motor vehicles that weigh over 14,000 pounds from idling over five minutes in the city of Dallas. The law will be enforced during Ozone Season, April 1st – October 31st of each year beginning in 2008. The purpose of the idling ordinance is to help improve air quality in Dallas.
- **Cement Kilns**—The Dallas City Council adopted a [Cement Purchasing Strategy/Policy](#) in May 2007 in an attempt to encourage cement kiln operators to reduce their contribution on the Dallas-Fort Worth ozone problem. The policy includes a base bid for dry kiln cement only, an alternative bid from cement from any source, and a preference from dry kilns with a NOx emission level less than 1.7 tons of NOx per clinker produced.

Commute Solutions

- **Public Transportation**—Because every car or truck we drive increases ozone levels, the City provides DART passes to employees at minimal cost, an incentive that inspires many to leave their personal vehicles home.
- **Bike Paths/Trails**—With the help of local bicycle groups, Dallas created 1,000 lane miles that comprise a street bicycle commuter system. The City of Dallas Master Plan calls for 230 multi-use hike and bike trails that will connect with DART light rail stations, green belts, schools, business centers and parks.

Sustainability

- **Sustainable Skylines Initiative**—Dallas has been selected as the only city in the nation to partner with the EPA on a program focusing on sustainability issues, particularly air quality. The [Sustainable Skylines Initiative](#) involves completing several three-year



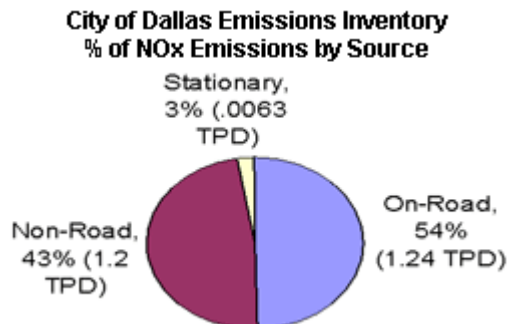
projects to reduce air emissions. If the Dallas pilot is successful, the initiative could be used as a national model for other cities.

Outreach

- **Air Quality Outreach** – The City of Dallas is the only city in the region that has a dedicated staff member to provide assistance to citizens, private companies and city contractors on obtaining State-funding for the repair and replacement of high-emitting vehicles or equipment. State programs include the Texas Emissions Reduction Program (TERP) and the Low Income Vehicle Repair and Assistance Program (LIRAP). For more information on these programs please contact Kim Affat in the City of Dallas Office of Environmental Quality at 214-670-6971.

Planning for the Future

- **Ozone Monitors**—Dallas was the first government in this region to install ozone monitors and did so even before the Clean Air Act’s mandate.
- **Emissions Inventory** – In 2005, the City completed an emissions inventory to better understand the source and location of its emissions. A Clean Air Plan was developed to direct and guide our emission reduction efforts.



- **City of Dallas Ozone Action Plan** - The City of Dallas implements a City Wide Ozone Action Plan each year from May 1st through October 31st. The City of Dallas is a proud member of the EPA’s Best Workplaces for Commuters. By offering flex schedules when applicable and providing DART passes to employees at a reduced price, the City has reduced vehicle miles traveled in the DFW region. This has helped to improve traffic congestion and reduce emissions associated with the formation of ozone.

For more information on Dallas air quality, visit the City of Dallas [Air Pollution Control](#) web site.



Climate Change

Greenhouse gases include several pollutants such as carbon dioxide (CO₂). These gases are believed to contribute to climate change. The Environmental Protection Agency defines “climate change” as any significant change in measures of climate (such as temperature, precipitation, or wind) lasting for an extended period (decades or longer).

Although already known as an environmental leader among cities, the City of Dallas is taking an active role in further creating a more sustainable city through the reduction of greenhouse gases emitted from its City operations.

City of Dallas initiatives to reduce greenhouse gases include:

- In 2006, the [Mayor of Dallas](#) signed the [U.S. Mayors Climate Change Agreement](#) which is a commitment by mayors around the country to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their own cities and communities to 7% below 1990 levels by the year 2012.
- In 2005, the City conducted an [emissions inventory](#) to better understand the source and location of its emissions.
- The City of Dallas is currently working on a Greenhouse Gas Inventory of citywide and community-wide emissions. This inventory will show city wide and community wide greenhouse gas data broken down by sector.
- The City of Dallas is currently working on a Sustainability Plan. This plan will include goals, principles and strategies required to support and implement the vision of Dallas becoming a more sustainable community.



Green Buildings

Did you know that all phases of buildings—building design, construction, materials and operation—consume more energy than any other part of the economy?

That's why green buildings are so important! Green buildings save energy and water while lowering greenhouse gas emissions and waste output.

As of summer 2008, the City has now completed 12 green facilities since its Green Building Program was adopted in 2003 and will complete another 13 green facilities by 2010. Of our current green buildings, we are also proud to have completed the certification process on several, boasting 4 LEED Silver and 2 LEED Gold certified buildings. In addition, the City continues to upgrade its many existing buildings with various green features.

The City of Dallas is committed to building green and hopes you'll build green too.

City-Owned Buildings

[Green Building Program: City-owned Buildings](#) (Adobe PDF, briefing presented to the Dallas City Council on October 17, 2007)

Privately-Owned Buildings

[Green Building Ordinance](#) (Approved by City Council April 9, 2008, Adobe PDF)

[Summary of Ordinance Requirements: Privately-owned Buildings](#) (Adobe PDF)

Featured GREEN Building: Timberglen Library

Timberglen Branch Library, an 18,000 square foot City of Dallas branch library, was designed to meet the challenging standards of a Silver LEED rating. The library utilizes several sustainable techniques such as collecting rainwater for landscape irrigation and harvesting natural light to reduce energy consumption. Learn more about how Timberglen Branch Library has taken steps towards building a greener Dallas at Timberglen's green touchscreen located inside the library and here on the [web](#).

U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and LEED Certification*

The [U.S. Green Building Council](#) (USGBC) is a non-profit composed of leaders from every sector of the building industry working to promote buildings that are environmentally responsible, profitable and healthy places to live and work.



The core purpose of the USGBC is to transform the way buildings and communities are designed, built and operated, enabling an environmentally and socially responsible, healthy, and prosperous environment that improves the quality of life.

The [Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design \(LEED\) Green Building Rating System™](#) is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings. LEED gives building owners and operators the tools they need to have an immediate and measurable impact on their buildings' performance. LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality.

The first step to LEED certification is to [Register](#) your project. A project is a viable candidate for LEED certification if it can meet all prerequisites and achieve the minimum number of points to earn the Certified level of LEED project certification. To earn [certification](#), a building project must meet certain prerequisites and performance benchmarks ("credits") within each category. Projects are awarded Certified, Silver, Gold, or Platinum certification depending on the number of credits they achieve. This comprehensive approach is the reason LEED-certified buildings have reduced operating costs, healthier and more productive occupants, and conserve our natural resources.

*information obtained from U.S. Green Building Council website.



Energy Efficiency

Saving energy saves money—it's that simple. Less energy used means less energy needs to be produced, which in turn, improves air quality. The City of Dallas continues to look for creative ways to save energy at its facilities and on its energy-using equipment.

- City Council authorized the largest procurement of renewable energy in the City's history; in 2008, 40 percent of the City's power will come from renewable energy, primarily from wind power, **making Dallas the No.1 municipal purchaser of green power in the nation.**
- The State Energy Conservation Office and the Texas Energy Partnership gave the City an award for outstanding achievements in energy efficiency.
- The City has reduced its overall energy usage at its existing facilities by almost 5% per year over the past five years, through such means as the purchase of energy efficient lighting and lighting upgrades, and the installation of solar panels, high efficient heating and air conditioning systems and automated building controls.
- Nearly half of the street lights in Dallas are now lit by renewable "green power."
- Regular incandescent traffic signals cost Dallas about \$2.1 million annually in electricity costs. By converting to energy-efficient LED traffic lights at approximately 11,000 City intersections, the City is cutting annual energy consumption by 14.5 million kilowatt hours per year. Not only do the new lights save taxpayers' money, but the LED signals are also easier to see, and thus make driving safer.
- Between 3 million and 4 million cubic feet of methane gas is captured every day at the City's McCommas Bluff Landfill. The gas can be purified and used as an alternative fuel, or it can be traded to a local natural gas production company pays the City back in electricity. Over the next three to five years, the City plans to increase its capture of methane by as much as 300 percent. If this much methane is swapped for electricity, managers believe it can save the City between 30 and 50 percent of its current electricity purchases.
- Through Performance Management Contracting at City-owned buildings, the City of Dallas has conducted four comprehensive energy projects for its major buildings. For example, the contract for City Hall resulted in the replacement and upgrading of chillers, boilers, and lighting, and cooling towers; automated controls for HVAC and lighting and installations of solar panels. This project has resulted in a 5,790,165 kWh and 3,730.3 tons of CO2 reduction. The project for the art museum resulted in a savings of approximately \$800,000 per year.



Water

Here, in Texas, the only thing more important than water is how that water is used. Since the 1950s, when a severe drought brought Dallas to the edge of catastrophe, the City has protected its collective sources of water. Now, as population pressures combine with increasing agricultural and industrial needs, the ways we protect and allocate this priceless resource are more important than ever.

We separate water into a few categories:

Drinking water is the kind running through the pipes at your house to drink, bathe, and water your lawn. Dallas' drinking water is maintained by [Dallas Water Utilities](#) (DWU). DWU also leads the City's water conservation efforts. DWU also leads the City's water conservation efforts and maintains the [latest water quality reports](#).

Storm water is the water that runs down the street, enters the storm drain system inlets and eventually ends up in our creeks, rivers and lakes. This can be rain water, or even the runoff water from washing your car or watering your lawn. Often times, the moving water picks up many things during its trip from leaves to garbage and carries it straight to our waterways. Dallas Storm Water Management is tasked with the job of caring for our [storm water system](#).

Wastewater is the water that has already been used at your house and travels from your sewer system to the treatment plant. As part of the service to its customers, DWU treats 74 billion gallons of wastewater annually (FY 06-07). Unfortunately, in recent years Dallas has experienced an increase in sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs). An SSO is defined as the discharge of sewage from the wastewater collection system before reaching the treatment plant. SSOs present a concern to both human health and the environment. A big part of the problem is kitchen grease. Dallas residents who are unfamiliar with the effects of grease on the collection system pour grease and cooking oil down their drains which can result in blockages in city sanitary sewer lines and homeowner pipes, property damage, foul odors and road closures due to pipe repairs. To find out more about this problem, what you can do to properly dispose of your household grease, and how grease can be recycled into biodiesel fuel, check out the "[Cease the Grease](#)" program.

The City of Dallas is proud of its accomplishments in both water quality and conservation. Here are some examples of our efforts:

- The City of Dallas has dramatically increased its efforts to promote water conservation. A Five-Year Strategic Plan on Water Conservation was adopted, which has resulted in a significant reduction in per capita water consumption. Dallas' conservation program includes leak detection and main repair and replacement, audits of irrigation systems at City facilities, educational initiatives, and a Xeriscape program.



- The City has set a goal of reducing City facility water usage by 67.86 million gallons by December 2008.
- Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) supplies our water from 5 reservoirs and, with 4,639 miles of water main, serves an area of 699 square miles. Its three treatment plants have the capacity to purify 855 million gallons each day.
- More than 90,000 storm drains in Dallas carry rainwater runoff—and everything in it—directly into the nearest creeks, rivers and lakes. Scientists have already found more than seven herbicides and pesticides polluting the Trinity River. One fourth of pollutants in our rivers and streams originate from residential use of these herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers.
- A collaboration between DWU and the Park and Recreation Department illustrates one of many imaginative solutions, developed by City employees, that will conserve the water on which our lives and lifestyles depend:
- In April 2005, DWU completed a pipeline and delivery system that sent highly treated wastewater from one of its treatment plants directly to the golf links at Cedar Crest Golf Course through the course's irrigation system. During 2005 alone, that new system irrigated Cedar Crest with 81.7 million gallons of treated wastewater—leaving 81.7 million gallons of clean water now available for drinking, bathing and other uses
- The Pretreatment and Laboratory Services Division of Dallas Water Utilities received the Pretreatment Program of the Year Award from the Texas Water Utilities Association.
- DWU's Grease Abatement Program received the Public Information & Education Award from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) in recognition of its environmental achievements on July 18, 2007. The award was presented at NACWA's summer conference – “Sustainable Infrastructure Choices....Gray, Green and Everything In Between”.



Recycling

Recycling is one of the easiest and most effective ways for Dallas residents to get involved in the City's efforts to protect the environment. We can all do our part to sort out discarded materials from our trash that could otherwise be used again. It is all about efficiency.

DO YOU have an interest in reducing water pollution, air pollutants, and mining waste? Well, by recycling you can do just that.

[Order your blue recycle roll cart](#)

You can also drop-off your recyclables at any one of the numerous drop-off locations in Dallas. See a complete list of locations at [Sanitation's](#) web site.

Dallas' Recycling Efforts and Accomplishments:

Waste has no place in Dallas, which is why the City is so proud of the recycling efforts already made by its residents and is looking forward to coming up with new, innovative ways to make the process even more simple and accessible to everyone. Record numbers show that the Dallas community is recycling more and discarding less helping us to maintain our efforts of being an environmental leader.

- Dallas residents doubled their recycling pounds from 9,680 tons in FY 2005-06 to 21,500 tons for FY 2006-07!
- The City's goal is to increase that figure to 35,000 tons in FY 2007-08 and 45,000 tons by 2011, with a residential participation rate of at least 50 percent of households.
- The City of Dallas' "Too Good To Throw Away" Recycling Program offers several convenient features:
 - Convenient Single Stream Recycling means no sorting necessary! Don't bother sorting...just simply place all recyclables into your blue recycling bag or blue recycling roll cart and the City's Sanitation Services will collect them on your scheduled dates.
 - Large recycling roll carts give residents plenty of room to recycle.
 - Blue recycling bags are still accepted and available, giving people another option in how they choose to recycle.

Did you know... About 75 percent of what people currently throw into the trash is "too good to throw away" and could be reused for another purpose? Challenge your friends, family members and neighbors to think about what might be "too good to throw away" and encourage them to join the large-scale city-wide effort to lead the country to a more environmentally-sustainable future through recycling!



Recyclable Items Include:

- Glass: unbroken bottles and jars of any color (please rinse)
Plastics: bottles, jars, containers labeled #1, 2,3,4,5 and 7 (please rinse!)
- You'll find the plastics number in a triangle on the base of the container. If in doubt, put it in the cart - we'll sort it out, if need be.
Metals: steel, tin, and aluminum (please rinse!) Used aerosol (non-hazardous) cans are ok too.
- Paper products: newspapers and inserts, magazines, catalogs, telephone books, mixed office paper, mail and junk mail.
- Cardboard: cardboard boxes, chipboard (like cereal and tissue boxes).

Recyclable items DO NOT include:

- Food waste
- Containers stained with food
- Wet paper products
- Styrofoam Waxed paper or cardboard
- Plate glass (windows or doors)
- Electronics
- Yard waste (grass trimmings, branches, leaves) please leave these it items for the once-monthly Brush/Bulk

For more recycling information, visit the City of Dallas Sanitation Services [Recycling](#) web page or call the City's "Recycle Line" (214) 670-4475.

Resources



[North Texas Corporate Recycling Association](#)



Trees

Dallas is proud to be home to the largest urban hardwood forest of any city in the country, the 7,000 acre Great Trinity Forest.

Not only are trees the longest living organisms on Earth, they are also extremely important to our health and the health of our city and planet. From the simple tasks of providing a place for children to play and climb or providing a bit of cool shade to the more important role of absorbing CO₂

(a greenhouse gas) and releasing oxygen, we all rely on trees.

Trees also play an important role in the economic health and vibrancy of a city. Cleaner air and a greener city attract business and people, which encourages prosperity: the more trees around homes, businesses and along city sidewalks make for a higher value and quality of life.

Top 10 Tree Fun Facts

- One acre of trees absorbs six tons of carbon dioxide and puts out four tons of oxygen. This is enough to meet the annual needs of 18 people. (Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture)
- The net cooling effect of a young, healthy tree is equivalent to 10 room-sized air conditioners operating 20 hours a day. (Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture)
- Just one shade tree can intercept up to 4,000 gallons of rainfall each year and reduce runoff of polluted storm water. (Source: USDA Forest Service)
- Healthy mature trees can add an average of 10% – 15% to a property's value. (Source: USDA Forest Service)
- One large tree can provide a day's worth oxygen for up to four people.
- Trees properly placed around a building can reduce air conditioning needs by 30% and save 20 – 30% in energy used for heating. (Source: USDA Forest Service)
- A single tree can absorb one ton (2,000 pounds) of carbon dioxide over its lifetime. One acre of tree cover can compensate for automobile fuel use equivalent to driving a car between 7,200 and 8,700 miles.
- Living in a home surrounded by woods, meadows and/or other natural settings can increase the attention capacities of children and generally improve their mental health. (Source: Cornell University)
- Social scientists have found that the more trees and grass in the common spaces of inner-city neighborhoods, the more those spaces are used by residents. (Source: University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign)
- Compared with apartment buildings that had little or no trees or vegetation, buildings with high levels of greenery had 53% fewer total crimes. (Source: Kuo and Sullivan – Environmental and Behavior, 2001)



Trees and Our Air

(provided by Steve Houser, Chair, Urban Forest Advisory Committee)

While we are probably aware that trees are an important component of the natural landscape because of their prevention of erosion and the provision of a specific weather-sheltered ecosystem in and under their foliage, trees have also been found to play an important role in producing oxygen and reducing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, as well as moderating ground temperatures. They are also, of course, significant elements in landscaping and agriculture.

Trees have a direct and profound effect on our air quality, as well as our quality of life, in many ways. They clean our air, water and soil; plus they improve our health, sense of well being and our economic future.

The scientific community and regional decision makers understand that trees offer many solutions to environmental problems. One of our most pressing environmental problems in the North Texas region is Air Quality.

Trees are powerful, full time, efficient air filters. Large areas of brick, glass and concrete create a “heat island effect” causing a rise in temperatures of up to 12 degrees. Even a simple one degree rise in urban temperature will have a direct and negative affect on our air quality.

Current research provides important data regarding the positive and negative effects of trees on our air quality. A brief list includes:

- Trees that shade buildings reduce energy use and power plant emissions.
- Trees that shade streets and hardscapes reduce ozone formation.
- Trees can reduce wind speeds, which can increase ozone concentrations. However, proper tree pruning and planting may help to increase air movement.
- Trees absorb carbon dioxide and other chemicals from our air (biogenic sequestration). The absorption of carbon is more of a global warming issue than an air quality issue.
- Trees remove ozone from the air through dry deposition but also add unstable organic chemicals (or VOC’s such as isoprene and benzene) which are precursor to ozone formation.

New research is being produced on a regular basis, but it is clear that the many benefits of trees far outweigh any negative effect on our air quality.

According to National Forest Service research, larger trees are 60-70 times more beneficial than recently planted trees. As a result, conservation helps air quality today and tree planting will help in the future. These efforts will not resolve all of our air quality concerns but they are a critical part of the solution.

To find out more about trees in Dallas, visit the City of [Dallas Urban Forest Advisory Committee](#) web site and the City’s Park Department’s [Urban Forest Information](#) web.



Trinity River Corridor Project

The Trinity River has played a major role throughout Dallas' history. Dallas' founder and first resident, John Neely Bryan, settled on the East Bank of the Trinity River in 1841.

Today, more than 150 years later, the Trinity River is changing and once again becoming the heart and soul of our city.

The Trinity River Corridor Project is the largest and most complex urban development effort undertaken by the City and it will make Dallas the envy of other large cities as it transforms a flood protection solution into an opportunity for community revitalization, economic development, recreational venues, and the creation of a world-class greenway with stunning cityscape vistas and nature excursions all within the city.

Find out more about the [Trinity River Corridor Project](#) on their web site.



Biking and Alternative Transportation in Dallas

There are several alternatives to driving your car! Fewer vehicles mean fewer emissions. Fewer emissions mean cleaner air. You'll save gas and avoid searching for a parking space!

Biking

On-Street Bike Routes—The City of Dallas has a 1,000 lane mile bike route system for commuting and alternative transportation use that covers the entire city. The bike routes were selected by local cyclists as the best way for bicyclists to get around town for work, school, and errands. Check out our [Urban Cycling Tips](#) the [Dallas Bike Plan Map](#) online at dallascityhall.com.

Bike Paths/Trails

The City of Dallas Master Plan calls for 230 multi-use hike and bike trails that will connect with DART light rail stations, green belts, schools, business centers and parks.

For more information on Biking/Cycling in Dallas, contact PM Summer, Transportation Alternatives Coordinator/ Effective Cycling Instructor #349 at (214) 670-4039.

Public Transportation

Consider using public transportation like:

[Dallas Area Rapid Transit](#) (DART)

[Trinity Railway Express](#) (TRE)

Car Pooling

Consider car pooling. Not only can you cut down on gas, you can take advantage of the many HOV lanes on Dallas highways.

Tell Us what YOU'RE Doing!

The [Try Parking It Program](#) will help you see your contributions to clean air by giving you an estimate of miles saved and harmful emissions reduced, each time you submit your alternate commute. With your help, the data you submit will help us calculate improvements in our regional air quality and will aid in the development and evaluation of our region's transportation systems and infrastructure.



Achievements & Awards

On March 28, 2005, an official of the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) addressed some 200 City of Dallas employees who had gathered at City Hall for the premiere of a video about the value of Dallas' new Environmental Management System. "No other City has quite so embraced the Environmental Management System as Dallas," explained Debra Griffin, Associate Director of Compliance, Assurance and Enforcement for EPA's Region 6. "I mean, you are setting the bar, and hopefully you will be an example and inspiration to other cities."

It was welcome show of support from an especially credible source. In addition to such kind words from the EPA, however, Dallas has received recognition from other sources respected in the environmental universe:

- The [Pretreatment and Laboratory Services Division](#) of Dallas Water Utilities received the Pretreatment Program of the Year Award from the Texas Water Utilities Association.
- Central and Southside wastewater treatment plants received Peak Performance Awards from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies. These Peak Performance Awards program recognize NACWA member agency facilities for excellence in wastewater treatment as measured by their compliance with their National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits.
- East Side, Elm Fork, and Bachman Water Treatment Plants received recognition by the Partnership for Safe Water for implementing optimized water treatment. The Partnership for Safe Water is a unique cooperative effort between EPA, American Water Works Association, Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, National Association of Water Companies, and Association of State Drinking Water Administrators. The Partnership encourages and assists water suppliers in the United States water to voluntarily enhance their water systems' performance and better protect citizens from Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial contaminants.
- The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality recognized Dallas Water Utilities' treatment plants for their optimization of water—that is, for treating water to higher standards—and also has certified the utility's internal laboratories for bacteria testing.
- In October 2005, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency lauded Dallas for its efforts to reduce ground-level ozone and deemed the City "one of the best places to commute."
- For its work at Love Field (Dallas Exec?), the City's Aviation Department received an NPEP Award for eliminating hazardous polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from ballasts in lighting fixtures.
- All municipal golf courses have received Certificates of Achievement from The Audubon Society for meeting standards of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. The certificates recognize the City's golf links for their conservation and preservation programs for plants and animals—including wildlife and habitat management as well as integrated pest management practices.



- In 2006, the Conservation Division of Dallas Water Utilities will receive a Watermark Award for Communications Excellence from the Water Environment Association of Texas and the Texas Section of the American Water Works Association.
- SustainLane ranked Dallas #24 out of the most sustainable cities in the nation in its 2006 Sustainable Cities Ranking.
- The State Energy Conservation Office and the Texas Energy Partnership gave the City of Dallas an award for outstanding achievements in energy efficiency.
- The [North Texas Clean Air Coalition](#) recognized the City of Dallas as one of the 2007 Best Workplaces for Commuters for providing outstanding commuter benefits which help reduce traffic congestion and air pollution in North Texas.



Texas Clean Air Cities Coalition

The Texas Clean Air Cities Coalition (TCACC) is a group of elected Texas mayors/councilmembers, county judges/commissioners, and school board members. The Coalition was formed as a unified voice to combat issues affecting Texas air quality and its resulting health impacts.

Formed in summer of 2006 and led by then Dallas Mayor Laura Miller and Houston Mayor Bill White, a total of 36 entities have joined the effort.

TCACC has gained national media attention appearing in numerous publications, television and film for its dedicated efforts of cleaning up Texas air including: TIME Magazine, US News & World Report, Rolling Stone, USA Today, The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Business Week, Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune, National Public Radio, The Weather Channel, Bloomberg News, MSNBC, CNN, CNN Market Watch, MSN Money, Sundance documentaries.

Texas Clean Air Cities Coalition

[In The News](#)

[Steering Committee and Members](#) (Adobe PDF)

[Background](#)

Background

On June 30, 2006 Mayor Robert Cluck of Arlington held a meeting with a group of Texas mayors at UT-Arlington.

The purpose of the meeting was to organize a new group called Texas Cities for Climate Protection, with the help of a national group called ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability USA, based in California.

The mayors received presentations on global warming, Best Practices for cities on various environmental issues, and an issue overview from Richard Greene, Regional Director of the EPA.

One urgent issue discussed was the current request by seven different electric utility companies to build 17 coal-burning power plants in Texas. At the time, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) had started reviewing the utility companies' permit requests to build these plants.

The environmental consequence of building coal-burning plants has become a national issue. In Texas, according to environmental groups engaged in the issue, the 17 additional coal plants would add 30,000 tons of nitrogen oxides, over 115 million tons of CO(2), and nearly 4,000 pounds of toxic mercury each year.



Dallas Mayor Laura Miller began calling other mayors around the state to ask them to do something that had never been done before. She asked that they band together, as a group of concerned Texas cities, to formally intervene on this case before the TCEQ.

Formal intervention means providing the TCEQ with thoughtful alternatives, expert testimony, and sworn depositions of fact. This can be done, with the help of outside consultants who do this for a living, at an estimated cost of \$300,000 to \$1,000,000.

In a letter, Miller told the mayors *“WE ARE NOT ASKING THE STATE TO DENY THE PERMITS. We know that the utility companies need to provide more electricity for people, and we know that they need to build more power plants to do that. But there are companies outside Texas that are using more modern, cleaner technologies than coal-burning to do it. And we would simply like to research this thoroughly and present all the alternatives to the TCEQ for its consideration. (Coal gasification, for example, is the cleanest technology available and could cut emissions by 60-90 percent, yet in a December ruling the TCEQ said Texas utility companies do not have to consider this option.)”*

The goal was to get 40 cities to act jointly as one intervener, with each city’s participation level at \$10,000 each to cover the cost.

Mayor Bill White of Houston immediately agreed to help with this effort. And so, the Texas Clean Air Cities Coalition was born. On August 31, 2006 at a press conference in Houston, the creation of the TCACC was officially announced with 17 cities signed on.

In the coming months another 20 cities, counties and school districts joined the effort to oppose the coal-fired plants as proposed. From cities as large as Houston to the small town of Uncertain in East Texas, population 150, they all had something in common when it came to the issues of clean air and public health.

Many small towns did not have the funds to join, but with the help of generous donors, including Don Henley, Eagles rock star/East Texas native/Dallas resident, enough money was raised to intervene in the case.

Through the TCACC’s efforts and the efforts of its pro bono law firm Susman Godfrey, the number of coal plants to be built was reduced. Of the 17 plants proposed in Texas, TXU had planned on building eight new coal-fired units. After battling it out with the TCACC, TXU and its new buyers reduced that number to three.

The coal debate in Texas continues, as does the permitting process for many of the remaining plants. The TCACC continues its efforts to protect the health of Texans and the air in the Texas skies.

More from Mayor Miller’s letter:



Most of the proposed coal plants are in East Texas. With established wind patterns, those emissions are headed straight for North Texas, especially the six counties around DFW. How can DFW, which is a significant non-attainment area, possibly clean up the air when 17 new coal-burning power plants are on the drawing board and the smoke headed our way?

But this is not simply a North Texas/East Texas problem. Our air is your air. And as we now know from the significant climate changes we are seeing around the globe, we are all in this together. And our constituents are worried.

At the worst, the TCEQ will approve the permits as submitted. But at least our voices would have been heard during this process, and with any luck, we might just get some of these plants upgraded to a cleaner technology. We will also be organized, statewide, for the first time on environmental issues – and ready to speak with one voice in the next battle, no matter where it is in Texas.

Three facts to remember:

- *17 of 150 coal-fired plants planned in the U.S. propose to use gasification (none in Texas)*
- *In Texas, power plants emit more pollution than chemical and refining plants combined.*
- *Texas power plants contribute a full 10 percent of the total mercury admissions in the U.S. (Mercury is a toxic heavy metal which can cause neurological damage, particularly in developing fetuses, infants, and children.)*

Let's band together and let our constituents know we are concerned about their health and welfare.

Thank you.

*Laura Miller
Mayor*



Top 5 Ways to Save Energy

Unplug it!! Appliances and equipment that are plugged in are still sucking power even though they're off (think cell phone chargers, toasters, lamps). Turn off power strips when not in use to reduce "Vampire Power".

Install a **programmable thermostat** or in the summer, keep your thermostat at least 78 degrees while you are at home and at least 85 degrees when gone; in the winter, try 68 when you're home and 60 when gone. Watch your energy bills drop!

Replace your **air filter** at least every 3 months. A blocked filter can cause higher energy costs and system damage.

Seal it up to avoid intruding air. Replace weather stripping. Seal windows seams. Add extra insulation in attics and in walls.

Turn your **hot water heater down** to 120 degrees. The water will still be hot but your energy bill will be much lower.



Top 5 Ways to Save Water

Turn it off!!! Turn off water when brushing teeth.

Take shorter showers (you'll save water and the energy used to heat it!).

Extra payoff: And by taking shorter showers, you'll conserve 350 pounds of CO2 and keep about \$100 in your pocket each year.

Install a low flow shower head, one that puts out less than 3 gallons per minute. They still have great pressure but conserve gallons of water from each shower.

Install an efficient toilet. New toilets use around 1.6 gallons per flush. [Find out if you qualify for a voucher](#) from the City of Dallas that helps homeowners and apartment managers/owners purchase water-saving low-flow toilets.

Wait until it's full. Run the washing machine and dishwasher only when they're full... and don't prerinse dishes (a waste of time, water, and energy). Extra payoff: By skipping prerinse, you'll save 200 pounds of carbon dioxide from being released and \$40 a year.



Top 5 Ways to Clean the Air

Tune-ups and tires. Keep your vehicle in tune, get it inspected, and check the air pressure in your tires. An under inflated tire will cause your vehicle to get poor gas mileage.

The payoff: You'll increase the life of your vehicle, get better gas mileage and clean the air at the same time. Proper tire inflation can reduce your car's emissions by as much as half.

Report smoking vehicles by calling #SMOKE. The North Central Texas Council of Governments will advise vehicle owners of possible emission problems they may not be aware of in order to take corrective action.

Share. Carpool or use public transportation.

The payoff: Fewer vehicles on the roads mean fewer emissions. You'll save a few bucks in gas and not have to search for a parking space.

Don't top off. Topping off the tank releases gas vapors in the air and cancels the benefit of the pump's anti pollution devices.

Wait 'til the P.M. Do not fuel your vehicle or mow your lawn during morning hours. Otherwise, all those emissions bake in the sun all day causing more ozone.



Top 5 Ways to Green Your Home

RECYCLE!!! Recycle your cardboard, metal cans, plastics, and paper products. By recycling you help reduce the amount of waste going into the landfill.

Change a light bulb. Sure...you've heard this one before-- and we know it's tempting to buy the four-pack of bulbs for \$2 -- but compact fluorescent bulbs use two-thirds less energy and last 10 times longer than standard incandescent bulbs. So, replace the 5 most used light in your house with CFLs and save yourself about 60\$ per year on electricity.

The payoff: If Americans replaced just one bulb in their home, it would save enough energy to light 2.5 million homes in one year and prevent an amount of greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions of 800,000 cars

Buy energy-efficient appliances. Let's say your old fridge conks out. Great! Replace it with an Energy Star appliance and you'll use at least 15 percent less energy and water in your home. It might be a little pricier to buy, but you'll be saving money on your utility bills and helping the environment.

The payoff: If we all installed one [Energy Star](#) appliance, it would be like planting 1.7 million acres of new trees.

Reuse plastic bags. Instead of chucking 100 billion plastic sacks a year (wow!), try and get a second, third, or tenth use out of them. Tote your lunch to work or your groceries home, or at least use them as garbage bags. Better yet, next time you shop, try a reusable bag.

The payoff: You're reducing pollution. The amount of oil it would take to make just 14 plastic bags would run your car for one mile.

Cancel unsolicited mail. Many of us have a steady flow of unwanted and unsolicited junk mail, catalogs, and magazines. Let's say everyone in New York City received 10 a month: That would make 240,248 tons of paper waste! Call 888-5-OPTOUT. Also: Make sure to recycle what you do receive.

The payoff: Less energy is spent on creating paper (which kills trees we need) and less trash is created when we can reuse products. The immediate return? Less clutter at home!



Top 5 Ways to Green Your Lawn

Compost! Green your garden with a compost pile. You'll save space in the landfill and in the process, you'll create free, healthy fertilizer for your garden. A good compost pile consists of a balance of carbon and nitrogen materials. Carbon materials include leaves, shredded cardboard, shredded newspaper, straw, pine needles. Nitrogens include materials such as grass clippings, manure (no cat or dog feces) coffee grounds and tea leaves. Check out www.mastercomposter.com for more compost ingredients and more.

Leave it there! Instead of bagging your lawn clippings leave them on the lawn. The clippings will naturally fertilize your yard.

Go Native Texan! Use native plants for landscaping. They require less water and are more tolerant to our climate.

Plant a tree! The shade it provides can lower your cooling bills. A single tree can absorb one ton (2,000 pounds) of carbon dioxide over its lifetime. One acre of tree cover can compensate for automobile fuel use equivalent to driving a car between 7,200 and 8,700 miles.

Water sparingly! Only water your lawn when it needs it, on average 1 inch every 7 to 10 days. Watch for signs of stress. Bermuda will turn a bluish color or leave imprints when you step on it. St. Augustine blades will begin to roll.

Call 214-670-3155 to get a free sprinkler system inspection and find out how some Dallas residents have already saved over 29,000 gallons of water a week!



How Green is Your Ride?

Find out how environmentally friendly (or unfriendly) your vehicle is at the EPA's [Green Vehicle Guide](#).

See a Smokey Vehicle on the Road?

Call and Report it! Check out the North Central Texas Council of Governments' [Smoking Vehicle Program](#).

Do You Have an Old Clunker?

You may qualify for state assistance to get that clunker off the road and get into newer, cleaner vehicle. As the oldest, dirtiest cars get off the road, North Texas air quality will improve. Find out more on [AirCheckTexas](#) Repair and Replacement Assistance Program.

For Residents

You may qualify for state assistance to get that clunker off the road and get into newer, cleaner vehicle. As the oldest, dirtiest cars get off the road, North Texas air quality will improve. Find out more on [AirCheckTexas](#) Repair and Replacement Assistance Program. For more information please contact Kim Affat, City of Dallas Office of Environmental Quality at 214-670-6971.

For Businesses

The [Texas Emission Reduction Program \(TERP\)](#) is a statewide program which provides financial assistance to businesses for projects to improve air quality in the state's non-attainment areas (including D/FW). If you are thinking about purchasing a new vehicle, replacing an old vehicle or a piece of heavy-duty equipment, or minimizing pollution from your business and construction activities, please contact Kim Affat in the City of Dallas Office of Environmental Quality at 214-670-6971.

For Taxis and Auto Dealerships

The [North Texas Green & Go Clean Taxi Partnership](#) will provide incentives to encourage the purchase and use of clean taxicab vehicles in the Dallas-Fort Worth region to assist in cleaning the air. Businesses and other organizations, taxicab owners and automobile dealerships are encouraged to join the partnership. For more information on the North Texas Green & Go Clean Taxi Partnership:

[Taxi Companies and Drivers](#)

[Dealerships](#)

[Partners](#)

This partnership is an effort of the Dallas Sustainable Skylines Initiative, supported in part by The Sue Pope Fund.



How Green is Your Home?

A [home energy audit](#) can help you assess how much energy your home uses and evaluate what measures you can take to improve efficiency. But remember, audits alone don't save energy. You need to implement the recommended improvements. Find out extensive information about home improvement projects to enhance energy efficiency, lower utility bills, and increase comfort.

How Green Are Your Appliances?

Are your household appliances stealing your money?

Not if they have the [Energy Star](#) seal of approval! ENERGY STAR is a government program that offers energy-efficient solutions, making it easy to save money while protecting the environment for future generations.

Energy efficient choices can save families about a third on their energy bill with similar savings of greenhouse gas emissions, without sacrificing features, style or comfort. ENERGY STAR helps you make the energy efficient choice.



Am I Contributing to Climate Change?

Find out your **“carbon footprint”** aka your environmental impact on the planet. We all contribute to climate change when we do things like heat and cool our homes, drive our cars, and fly on airplanes.

Find out how to **begin decreasing the energy you use** each day, and offset the rest of your carbon-emitting energy use through this easy-to-use carbon calculator and BeGreen Carbon Offsets. Once you do, tell the planet (or at least a few friends).

Carbon Footprint:

[EPA Personal Emissions Calculator](#)
[Be Green Carbon Calculator](#)

Who’s In Charge Here?

Federal Level

Since 1970, the [Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA) has been working for a cleaner, healthier environment for the American people. The mission of the EPA is to protect human health and the environment.

State Level

The [Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#) (TCEQ) strives to protect our state's human and natural resources consistent with sustainable economic development. Our goal is clean air, clean water, and the safe management of waste.

Local Level

The [City of Dallas Office of Environmental Quality](#) is committed to protecting and improving the environment by leading and guiding the City of Dallas in its efforts on environmental compliance, pollution prevention and continual improvement.



Growing Up Green

Hey Kids!

Are you growing up green? “Going Green” is fun and easy. Ask your parents if you can start some green projects at home.

We’ve created several pages just for you. This information will help you get started. Have fun!

TRINITY RIVER

Dallas is home to the Trinity River. And the Trinity River is home to our friend: a pollution-sensitive dragonfly named [Trinity Trudy!](#)

WHERE DOES IT GO?

Ever wondered where stuff goes after you watch it wash down the sink drain, flush it down the toilet or wash away into that big storm drain on the street? Go to wheredoesitgo.com to find the answers.

Plus, Perry the Pipe is starring in his own [video](#) and telling us why we should “Cease the Grease” from going down our drains.

H2O. WATER. AGUA.

No matter how you say it...we need it! And we need your help to save it. Can you imagine a world with no [water](#)?

CAN YOU BREATHE?

Just because you can’t always see it, doesn’t mean it’s not there. We’re talking about [POLLUTION!](#) Find out what’s in our air and what you can do to help us breathe a little easier.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

You can help the plants at your house grow green with really cool dirt you make yourself! Making the dirt is called composting. The Aggies at Texas A&M made a slide show especially for kids called “[Composting for Kids](#)”.



Downloads and Helpful Information

(Note: All files are in Adobe PDF format unless noted otherwise.)

[Green Guide For Residents](#)

[Green Guide For Businesses](#)

[Green Behind the Scenes](#) — You've heard all the BIG things Dallas is doing to be green. Now find out what the City is doing behind the scenes! (briefing presented to the Dallas City Council, May 7, 2008)

Office of Environmental Quality's downloadable calendar — This helpful calendar goes from Earth Month to Earth Month: April 2008-April 2009

- [Cover](#)
- [April 2008](#) (2.5 MB)
- [May 2008](#) (3.4 MB)
- [June 2008](#) (4 MB)
- [July 2008](#) (5.8 MB)
- [August 2008](#) (1.7 MB)
- [September 2008](#) (3 MB)
- [October 2008](#) (4.4 MB)
- [November 2008](#) (1.8 MB)
- [December 2008](#) (5.5 MB)
- [January 2009](#) (4.6 MB)
- [February 2009](#) (6.7 MB)
- [March 2009](#) (6 MB)
- [April 2009](#) (4.3 MB)
- Download [entire calendar](#) in one file (55 MB)



FAQs

1. I would like to request a speaker for my school, business, organization or church group. Who can I speak with to arrange this?

Please call Meghna Tare with the Office of Environmental Quality at 214-671-8977.

2. I am looking for a guide on what residents can do to improve the environment. Do you know where I can find this resource?

On our [Downloads and Helpful Information](#) web page you will find a Green Guide for Residents.

3. I am looking for a guide on what businesses can do to improve the environment. Do you know where I can find this resource?

On our [Downloads and Helpful Information](#) web page you will find a Green Guide for Businesses.

4. I have read where some other Texas cities are offering incentives for energy efficient products like solar panels. Does the City of Dallas offer incentives for solar panels?

Unlike the City of Dallas, some cities (like Austin and San Antonio for example) actually own their own coal plants and can offer incentives much more easily than cities like Dallas that don't own a power utility. These incentives are often offered to try to offset some of the pollution the city is emitting from its power plant.

Dallas area residents looking for incentives should consider contacting their power provider to see if they offer such programs.

5. I am interested in finding out more about electric retailers and options for renewable power and associated costs. Do you know where I can find out more information?

Yes, visit the [Official Electric Choice Web site of the Public Utility Commission of Texas](#) web site. This site allows you to compare services and rates of electric providers in your area.

6. I am a business and looking for ways to recycle our products. How do I get started?

You can contact your company's current solid waste collection provider or waste/trash hauler and see if they offer options for recycling. Many offer a recycling service at no additional cost. Some offer recycling services for an additional charge.



If your company's waste hauler does not provide recycling services, then you can place bins around your office for the collections of recyclable items such as paper, aluminum cans, and plastic. Once these items are collected, they can be dropped off at one of the City's 30 drop-off centers.

For a list of drop-off centers go the City of Dallas' [Sanitation Services](#) web site. Currently, the City of Dallas offers recycling services to residential single family homes, but is exploring options to expand this service.



Contact Us

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Phone:

214-670- 8150

Mail:

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Dallas, TX 75201



Links

This page contains most of the links in the greendallas.net you can use when printing the Green Dallas web pages (excluding news or archival pages).

Main Page - (<http://www.greendallas.net/index.html>)

- Environmental Management System - <http://www.dallascityhall.com/oeq/ems.html>
- Sustainable Skylines - <http://sustainableskylines.org/Dallas/>
- EPA for Kids - <http://www.epa.gov/kids/>
- Anybody Can Recycle! - <http://www.greendallas.net/recycling.html>
- Forward Dallas! - <http://www.forwarddallas.org/index.php>
- Dallas Watering Restrictions - http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/dwu/Eng_Do_Dont.pdf
- Mayor's Message - http://www.greendallas.net/mayor_message.html
- City Managers Message - http://www.greendallas.net/manager_message.html
- State Bulb of Texas Radio Ad - <http://www.greendallas.net/audio/DallasCFL.mp3>
- New This Month - http://www.greendallas.net/new_this_month.html
- Community Green Events Calendar - http://www.greendallas.net/community_calendar.html
- Radio Ads/Videos - http://www.greendallas.net/radio_ads_videos.html
- Texas Discovery Gardens - <http://www.texasdiscoverygardens.org/>
- Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) - <http://www.dart.org/>
- "Listen to KRLD's Greener Side of the News" - <http://www.krld.com/pages/2117576.php>
- YouTube video, Michael Wray - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFd3RyoGh7Q>
- Meet Perry the Pipe! Video - <http://www2.dallascityhall.com/cease/ceasethegrease.html>
- Mow Down Air Pollution! - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/mown_down_air_pollution.pdf
- "Green" Is New Building Standard In Dallas - New Ordinance Details - http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/OEQ/green_building_ordinance040908.pdf
Ordinance #081070 - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/green_building_ordinance.pdf

Green News (http://www.greendallas.net/green_news.html)

- Dallas May Soon Be Known For Its Fall Foliage Thanks To Signature Project (1/8/2009) - <http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/FallFoliageTreePlanting.pdf>
- Tree Planting Season Arrives; Urban Forest Advisory Committee Releases Tree Planting Guide: Free guide provides ABC's of planting trees in Dallas (10/20/2008) - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/tree_planting.pdf
- City of Dallas recognizes Sustainability Week; Local businesses will be honored for their efforts to preserve the environment and "Go Green" (8/19/2008) - http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/pio/sustainability_week.pdf
- Coalition's Efforts Honored by U.S. EPA at Climate Protection Awards Ceremony (5/21/2008) - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/TCACC_EPA_Award_050808.pdf



- Urban Forest Advisory Committee Unveils 2008 Citizen Forester Program City plans to train Dallas residents to preserve area trees (5/8/2008) - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/Citizen_Forester_Program_052108.pdf
- Dallas Water Utilities Receives National Award for Ongoing Safe Water Practices (5/8/2008) - http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/pio/DWU_NationalAward.pdf
- Enforcement of City's "No Idling" Ordinance Goes Into Effect Today As Ozone Season Officially Begins In Dallas (5/1/2008) - <http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/pio/IdlingOrdinanceEnforcement.pdf>
- Dallas Water Utilities and Dallas ISD team up to save Dallas water; The City is launching "It's All in a Drop" video contest for middle schoolers (4/21/2008) - <http://savedallaswater.com/pdf/DISDVideoContest042008.pdf>
- The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and Keep America Beautiful Unveil Dallas Community Green Space (4/12/2008) - <http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/pio/DallasGreenSpace.pdf>
- "Green" Is New Building Standard In Dallas (4/9/2008) - http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/pio/green_building_standard_040908.pdf
- Dallas Love Field Pledges To Cut More Pollution: Airport to eliminate 1,000 additional pounds of PCBs as part of national EPA program (3/21/2008) - <http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/LoveFieldCutsPollution.pdf>
- Dallas Time-of-Day Watering Restrictions to Resume April 1st (3/20/2008) - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/watering_restrictions_032008.pdf
- DFW International Airport's "Green" Excellence Recognized By Texas Commission on Environmental Quality: First airport in Texas to achieve environmental recognition; One of only 12 recipients ever(3/13/2008) - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/DFW_green_excellence.pdf
- Residents urged to enter Water-Wise Garden Tour; Dallas Water Utilities is now accepting entries for inclusion in the 2008 tour (3/11/2008) - <http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/WaterwiseTourApril2008.pdf>
- DWU offers Water-Wise landscape seminars on March 15th for Dallas residents; Free and seminars feature prominent local landscape designer (3/4/2008) - <http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/WaterWiseSeminarsMar2008.pdf>
- City of Dallas hosts third annual Environmental Education Fair; Dallas residents invited to attend Earth-friendly family event (3/4/2008) - <http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/ConservationAction032008.pdf>
- New trash bins at Fair Park support Green Dallas initiative (3/5/2008)- <http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/pio/TrashBinsSupportGreenInitiative.pdf>
- Green Dallas Web Site Attracts Thousands in First Month (2/20/2008) - <http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/pio/GreenDallasFirstMonth.pdf>
- Green Dallas Offers Up Green Gift Ideas for Valentine's Day (2/6/2008) - http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/pio/GreenDallas_Valentines.pdf
- EPA Recognizes City of Dallas for Leading Green Power Purchase, City Ranks #1 Among All Local Governments (1/28/2008) - http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/pio/leading_green_power.pdf



- City Of Dallas Seeks Public Input On Citywide Green Building Program (1/24/2008) - <http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/pio/GreenBuildingProgram012408.pdf>
- Green Building Program: Privately-owned Buildings (Presented at First Public Forum - 2/5/2008) - <http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/OEQ/GreenbuildingPrivate.pdf>
- Dallas becomes the first major city in the nation to launch a comprehensive Web site dedicated to environmental issues. (1/9/2008) - <http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/GreenDallasNR.pdf>
- Mayor Declares January “CFL Month” in Dallas as Part of the Statewide “Lighten Up Texas” Campaign (1/2008) - <http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/CFLMonth.pdf>
- Urban Forest Committee releases tree planting guide (12/7/2007) - http://www.dallastrees.org/pdf/Final%20Tree%20Planting%20Guide%20Press%20Release%20_2_.pdf
- Tree Planting Guide - http://www.dallastrees.org/pdf/abc01_09252007.pdf
- Love Field Airport to receive National Partnership for Environmental Priorities Achievement Award (11/5/07) - http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/pio/LoveField_NPEPAward.pdf
- Dallas’ green building practices and Jack Evans Police Headquarters highlighted in the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality’s Newsletter (Fall, 2007) - http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm_exec/forms_pubs/pubs/pd/020/07-03/blueprintforsustainability.html
- Partners Announced In Effort To Improve Dallas’ Air Quality (10/8/07) - http://www.dallascityhall.com/pdf/OEQ/DSSI_Premier_Partners.pdf
- EPA Awards \$10,000 to Dallas Zoo for Waste-to-Energy Project (8/31/07) - <http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/DallasZooGrant.pdf>

Air Quality (http://www.greendallas.net/air_quality.html)

- Air Pollution Control (City of Dallas) - <http://www.dallasair.org/>
- Cement Purchasing Strategy/Policy - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/cement_kiln_ordinance.pdf
- Sustainable Skylines Initiative - <http://sustainableskylines.org/Dallas/>
- City of Dallas Air Pollution Control - <http://www.dallasair.org/>

Climate Change (http://www.greendallas.net/climate_change_reduce.html)

- Mayor of Dallas News Release- http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/climate_protection_agreement.pdf
- U.S. Mayors Climate Change Agreement - http://usmayors.org/uscm/resolutions/73rd_conference/env_04.asp
- Emissions Inventory - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/emissions_inventory.pdf

Green Buildings (http://www.greendallas.net/green_buildings.html)

- Green Building Program: City-owned Buildings (Adobe PDF, briefing presented to the Dallas City Council on October 17, 2007) - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/SustainableDallas_101707.pdf



- Green Building Ordinance (Approved by City Council April 9, 2008.) - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/green_building_ordinance.pdf
- Summary of Ordinance Requirements: Privately-owned Buildings - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/green_building_ordinance_highlights.pdf
- U.S. Green Building Council - <http://www.usgbc.org/>
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System - <http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CMSPageID=222>

Water (<http://www.greendallas.net/water.html>)

- Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) - <http://www.savedallaswater.com/>
- Latest water quality reports (Dallas Water Utilities) - http://www.dallascityhall.com/dwu/water_quality_information.html
- Storm Water Management (wheredoesitgo.com) - <http://www.wheredoesitgo.com/>
- Cease the Grease Program - <http://ceasethegrease.info/>



Recycling (<http://www.greendallas.net/recycling.html>)

- Order your blue recycle roll cart - http://311.dallascityhall.com/web_intake/Controller?op=locform&invSRType=SANREC RC&invSRDesc=Recycling ROLL CART Registration - SAN&locreq=N&stnumreqd=N
- City of Dallas Sanitation - http://www.dallascityhall.com/sanitation/dropoff_locations.html
- City of Dallas Recycling web page - <http://www.dallascityhall.com/sanitation/recycling.html>

Trees (<http://www.greendallas.net/trees.html>)

- Dallas Urban Forest Advisory Committee - <http://www.dallastrees.org/>
- City of Dallas Urban Forest Information - <http://www.dallascityhall.com/Parks/forestry/index.html>

Biking & Alternative Transportation (<http://www.greendallas.net/biking.html>)

- Urban Cycling Tips - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/cycling_tips.pdf
- Dallas Bike Plan Map - http://www.dallascityhall.com/pwt/bike_links.html
- Dallas Area Rapid Transit - <http://www.dart.org/>
- Trinity Railway Express - <http://www.trinityrailwayexpress.org/>
- Try Parking It Program - <http://www.tryparkingit.com/>

Achievements & Awards (<http://www.greendallas.net/awards.html>)

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - <http://www.epa.gov/>
- Pretreatment and Laboratory Services Division - <http://www.dallascityhall.com/dwu/pretreatment.html>
- North Texas Clean Air Coalition - <http://www.northtexasair.org/>

Texas Clean Air Cities Coalition - (http://www.greendallas.net/texas_cities.html)

- Texas Clean Air Cities Coalition/In the News - http://greendallas.city.dallastx.cod/TCACC_news.html
- Texas Clean Air Cities Coalition Steering Committee and Members - http://greendallas.city.dallastx.cod/pdfs/TCACC_committee.pdf
- Texas Clean Air Cities Coalition Background - http://greendallas.city.dallastx.cod/TCACC_background.html

EarthFest 2008 (<http://www.greendallas.net/EarthFest2008.html>)

- What is EarthFest 2008? - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/earthfest_brochure.pdf
- Find out more on sponsorship opportunities - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/earthfest_sponsors.pdf
- If your company or organization is interested in becoming a sponsor of EarthFest 2008, fill out this simple Sponsorship Form - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/earthfest_sponsors_form.pdf



Contact Us (http://greendallas.city.dallastx.cod/contact_us.html)

- email: GreenDallas@dallascityhall.com

Top 5 Ways To Save Water (http://www.greendallas.net/save_water.html)

- Voucher Program for Water-saving Low-flow Toilets - http://www.savedallaswater.com/qualify_voucher.html

Top 5 Ways To Green Your Home (http://www.greendallas.net/green_home.html)

- Energy Star - <http://www.EnergyStar.gov/>

Top 5 Ways To Green Your Lawn (http://www.greendallas.net/green_lawn.html)

- www.mastercomposter.com - <http://www.mastercomposter.com/>

How Green is Your Ride? (http://www.greendallas.net/green_ride.html)

- Green Vehicle Guide (EPA) - <http://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles/Index.do;jsessionid=8230b32116c9643d1646>
- Smoking Vehicle Program (NTCOG) - <http://www.nctcog.org/trans/air/smoking/index.asp>
- AirCheckTexas - <http://www.nctcog.org/trans/air/act/index.asp>
- North Texas Green & Go Clean Taxi Partnership: <http://www.northtexasgreenandgo.org/>
- Taxi Companies and Drivers - http://www.nctcog.org/trans/air/vehicles/fleet/regulated/GreenTaxi/TaxiCo_Drivers.asp
- Dealerships - <http://www.nctcog.org/trans/air/vehicles/fleet/regulated/GreenTaxi/DealershipInfo.asp>
- Partners - <http://www.nctcog.org/trans/air/vehicles/fleet/regulated/GreenTaxi/Partners.asp>

How Green is Your Home? (http://www.greendallas.net/green_your_home.html)

- Home Energy Audit - http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=home_improvement.hm_improvement_audits

How Green Are Your Appliances? (http://www.greendallas.net/green_appliances.html)

- Energy Star - <http://energystar.gov/>

Am I Contributing to Climate Change? (http://www.greendallas.net/climate_change.html)

- Carbon Footprint:
EPA Personal Emissions Calculator - http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind_calculator.html
Be Green Carbon Calculator - <http://www.begreennow.com/>

Who's In Charge Here? (http://www.greendallas.net/incharge_here.html)

- Environmental Protection Agency - <http://www.epa.gov/>



- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality - <http://www.tceq.com/>
- City of Dallas Office of Environmental Quality - <http://www.dallascityhall.com/oeq/index.html>

Growing Up Green (http://www.greendallas.net/green_kids.html)

- Trinity Trudy - <http://www.trinity-trudy.org/>
- wheredoesitgo.com - <http://www.wheredoesitgo.com/>
- Perry the Pipe Video - <http://www2.dallascityhall.com/cease/greasethecrease.html>
- savedallaswater.com Kids Page - <http://savedallaswater.com/kc.htm>
- Composting for Kids - <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/sustainable/slidesets/kidscompost/cover.html>

Downloads and Helpful Information - (http://www.greendallas.net/green_downloads.html)

- Green Guide For Residents - (http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/green_options_residents.pdf)
- Green Guide For Businesses - (http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/green_options_business.pdf)
- Green Behind the Scenes - (http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/green_behind_05072008.pdf)
- OEQ Calendar (April 2008-April 2009) - (http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/calendar/oeq_calendar_all.pdf)
(Note: links to individual months can be located on this web page)

FAQs

- Downloads and Helpful Information - (http://www.greendallas.net/green_downloads.html)
- Official Electric Choice Web site of the Public Utility Commission of Texas - <http://www.powertochoose.org/>
- City of Dallas Sanitation Services Recycling Drop-off Locations - http://www.dallascityhall.com/sanitation/dropoff_locations.html

Your Story - (http://www.greendallas.net/your_story.html)

- Release Form (to submit your own green story) - http://www.greendallas.net/pdfs/greendallas_release.pdf

Story Archive - (http://www.greendallas.net/stories/story_archive.html)

New This Month - (http://www.greendallas.net/new_this_month.html)

Community Green Events Calendar - (http://www.greendallas.net/community_calendar.html)



Green Dallas Videos and Radio Ads - (http://www.greendallas.net/radio_ads_videos.html)