



City of La Crescent

GreenStep Program

GREEN TEAM

Alison Bettin (GreenStep Lead)

Angie Boettcher

Terry Erickson

Tim Hruska

Brian Krenz

John Lambert

Jason Ludwigson

Jim Nissen

Donald Smith

Bill Waller

Elliot Weiser

Shawn Wetterlin

GreenSteps in La Crescent

Since signing the resolution last October the City of La Crescent has taken steps to significantly expand its role as a GreenStep City. After forming a Green Team and hiring an intern with assistance from the MPCA the City of La Crescent has made progress to becoming a certified Step Two GreenStep city and also have been working to identify next steps in La Crescent's path to a Step 3 and beyond. Current city initiative's, which are essential components of becoming a Step 3 city include our Comprehensive Plan and B3 Benchmarking.

Relevant Terms

GreenStep City (GSC)

A city participating in this voluntary challenge and assistance program

Topical Area

There are five topical areas under which best practices are broken up:

- Buildings and Lighting
- Land Use
- Transportation
- Environmental Management
- Economic and Community Development

Best Practice (BP)

These are the 29 basic building blocks of the GreenStep program.

Best Practice Action (BPA)

These are the "to-do" items under each of the 29 best practices. Cities take one or more actions to complete a best practice and are spelled out on each best practices page. There are currently 177 best practice actions.

Action Star Rating (ASR)

Each best practice action a city reports receives a star rating (either one, two, or three stars) for its level of difficulty.

GreenStep Program City Steps

Step One

Completed Oct 2015

Earned when the La Crescent City Council signed an official resolution to join the GreenSteps program.

Step Two

Estimated Completion Date – Spring 2017

Earned when La Crescent implements six of twenty-nine best practices.

Step Three

Estimated Completion Date – Spring 2017

Earned when La Crescent completes all five category requirements.

- **Buildings and Lighting:** BP 1 & One Other BP
- **Land Use:** BP 6 & One Other BP
- **Transportation:** Any BP
- **Environmental Mgmt.:** BP 15, 16, & One Other BP
- **Econ & Community Dev:** BP 24, 25, and 29

Step Four

Estimated Completion Date – Spring 2018

Earned when La Crescent reports minimum number of optional and core metrics for the GreenSteps Program.

Step Five

Estimated Completion Date – Spring 2020

Earned when La Crescent shows improvement in Step 4 metrics.



City of La Crescent

GreenStep Program

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Great Plains Institute
- Clean Energy Resource Teams
- Urban Land Institute
- League of Minnesota Cities
- The Izaak Walton League
- Minnesota Department of Commerce
- Preservation Alliance of MN
- Department of Soil, Air, Woods, Water, and Wildlife

PROGRAM FUNDERS

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- The McKnight Foundation
- Division of Energy Resources
- The Metropolitan Council
- Xcel Energy

Green Team in La Crescent

During the Green Team meeting on August 23, 2016 future plans, goals, and initiatives were discussed including major themes centered on solar power, rain gardens, education, transformative community changes, rebates, ordinances, and building codes. As the team moves forward they will work to isolate steps to continue the transition and will again join on November 10, 2016. The team will receive an educational presentation on solar power as well as further work on the topics listed on the side.

Topics:

- Solar Power
- B3 Benchmarking
- Green Building Resources
- Dark Sky Lighting
- Sustainability Education
- Purchasing Policies
- Meeting Policies
- Tree City USA
- Bike Friendly Community
- Walk Friendly Community
- CREAT (EPA Program-Climate Resiliency)

Best Practices

Buildings and Lighting

- **Best Practice #1**
Efficient Existing Public Buildings
- **Best Practice #2**
Efficient Existing Private Buildings
- **Best Practice #3**
New Green Buildings
- **Best Practice #4**
Efficient Outdoor Lighting and Signals
- **Best Practice #5**
Building Redevelopment

Land Use

- **Best Practice #6**
Comprehensive Plans
- **Best Practice #7**
Efficient City Growth
- **Best Practice #8**
Mixed Uses
- **Best Practice #9**
Efficient Highway; Auto-Oriented Dev.
- **Best Practice #10**
Design for Natural Resource Conservation

Transportation

- **Best Practice #11**
Living Streets
- **Best Practice #12**
Mobility Options
- **Best Practice #13**
Efficient City Fleets
- **Best Practice #14**
Demand-Side Travel Planning

Environmental Management

- **Best Practice #15**
Sustainable Purchasing
- **Best Practice #16**
Urban Forests
- **Best Practice #17**
Stormwater Management
- **Best Practice #18**
Parks and Trails
- **Best Practice #19**
Surface Water Quality
- **Best Practice #20**
Efficient Water and Wastewater Systems
- **Best Practice #21**
Septic Systems
- **Best Practice #22**
Solid Waste Reduction
- **Best Practice #23**
Local Air Quality

Economic and Community Development

- **Best Practice #24**
Benchmarks & Community Engagement
- **Best Practice #25**
Green Business Development
- **Best Practice #26**
Renewable Energy
- **Best Practice #27**
Local Food
- **Best Practice #28**
Business Synergies
- **Best Practice #29**
Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience