



## Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge Annual Performance Report

State Form 53116 (R / 3-09)  
Indiana Department of Environmental Management  
CLEAN Community Challenge

**Indiana Department of Environmental Management**  
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*The Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge Annual Performance Report should demonstrate progress toward objectives and targets AND certify CLEAN Community Challenge requirements continue to be achieved. The Annual Performance Report should include the status of projects committed to in your community's original application, results of completed projects, and assurance that an annual Quality of Life Plan review was conducted by your community. Indiana CLEAN Communities must submit an Annual Performance Report two months after the anniversary of their CLEAN Community designation date.*

*Please do not include any confidential community or business information in your Annual Performance Report. Public access laws require IDEM to make the Annual Performance Report publicly available, which may include posting all portions of your report on the Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge Web site.*

*Your Annual Performance Report should be reviewed and signed by a senior manager at your community prior to submittal. Once signed, fax or mail the report to IDEM. If you have any questions, please contact the CLEAN Community Challenge Program Manager at 800-988-7901.*

### COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Name of Community City of Noblesville
Street Address ( <i>number and street</i> ) 16 S. 10 <sup>th</sup> Street
City, State, ZIP Code Noblesville, IN 46060
Web site <a href="http://www.cityofnoblesville.org">www.cityofnoblesville.org</a>

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of Contact Amy Shankland
Title Grant Coordinator
Telephone number 317-776-6324
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E-mail address <a href="mailto:ashankland@noblesville.in.us">ashankland@noblesville.in.us</a>
Mailing Address ( <i>number and street</i> ) 16 S. 10 <sup>th</sup> Street
City, State, ZIP Code Noblesville
Reporting Period Dates ( <i>month, day, year</i> ) 1-1-11 to 12-31-11
If this is your third Annual Performance Report, do you wish to renew your Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge designation? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, your community will need to provide five new objectives and targets in the Continual Environmental Improvement section of this report.

### ENVIRONMENTAL MEDIA ACTIVITIES

Please identify the five objectives and targets in your Quality of Life Plan and describe the baseline measurement, the progress made during the past year, future plans for achieving each target, and any cost savings experienced as a result of the target.	
Environmental Media Activity #1	
Objective Reduce electricity consumption in CLEAN department buildings- Parks and Recreation, Wastewater (WW), Street, Engineering (City Hall)	
Target Reduce electricity consumption in CLEAN department buildings by 3% in 2011, 3% in 2012, and 4% in 2013 (total of 10% by end of 2013)	
Baseline	Progress Made
Baseline electricity usage data was collected for January - June 2011. The CLEAN buildings consumed 4,887,160 KWH of electricity in the first half of the year.	Calendar year January 1, 2011 - June 30, 2011 Progress made Established baseline to determine energy consumption prior to implementing energy reduction strategies.  Calendar year July 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011 Progress made During this time period, the CLEAN Departments used 5,070,599 KWH- unfortunately, a 1% increase. Despite the I/T department implementing automatic computer shut offs in the building, Noblesville's Wastewater Utility has expanded due to Noblesville's rapidly rising population, thereby increasing electricity usage.

	Hurdles overcome The I/T department is doing its part to reduce electricity, and CLEAN representatives are working with their departments to save energy. The Wastewater Department installed energy controllers on nine Noblesville Wastewater Utility lift station motors and 20 utility plant motors and panels in December of 2010 to help lower electricity usage.
Upcoming Plans to Achieve Target	Cost Savings
- Purdue University's TAP Program did an analysis of energy usage in city hall in May of 2011. The CLEAN team needs to look at cost-effective ways to use some of TAP's suggestions to help lower electricity usage. - Continue to change out incandescent bulbs to LED or flourescent as appropriate. - Work with other wastewater utilites in Indiana to learn energy saving strategies.	None to date.
If this is your third annual performance report, please provide the final results of this activity. If the objective and target were not achieved in the three year designation period, provide a description of why the objective and target was not met.	

<b>Environmental Media Activity #2</b>	
Objective Reduce adverse impact on water quality from agrochemical usage, reduce or eliminate phosphorous in CLEAN departments	
Target Reduce quantity of agro chemicals by 4% in 2011, 3% in 2012, and 2% in 2013 (9% at end of three years), measured in pounds for dry fertilizer and gallons for liquid.	
Baseline	Progress Made
Baseline agrochemical usage was collected for calendar year 2011. The CLEAN departments used 965.39 gallons and 24,256.60 pounds of agrochemicals.	Calendar year 2011 Progress made Six full time golf course staff members were already trained on agrochemical usage in early 2011. One additional employee was trained in early 2012. The Wastewater Department will train one person in 2012 as well.  Calendar year Progress made  Hurdles overcome Finding the time to train busy employees can be challenging, but the parks department was able to train one more individual, Kevin Conner, in the winter of 2011-2012.
Upcoming Plans to Achieve Target	Cost Savings
With newly trained employees and the CLEAN plan in place for 2012, the CLEAN departments should reach their target of reducing agrochemical usage by 3% in 2012.	No cost savings have been realized at this time. The CLEAN team anticipates gathering these savings for the next annual report.
If this is your third annual performance report, please provide the final results of this activity. If the objective and target were not achieved in the three year designation period, provide a description of why the objective and target was not met.	

<b>Environmental Media Activity #3</b>	
Objective Create low impact in design and implementation of native prairie plantings behind Noblesville Wastewater Utility	
Target Per acre, anticipated soil reduction is 7.65348 t/year; total phosphorus reduction (silt soil, lb/year) is 8.34; total nitrogen reduction (silt soil, lb/year) is 16.69. (all figures from STEPL). Nine acres total. Reduction in man hours, gasoline/diesel fule from mowing, enhanced area for wildlife.	
Baseline	Progress Made
Current acreage is typical grass plantings mowed every other week, offering little groundwater filtration.	Calendar year 2012 Progress made Wastewater Staff met with CLEAN Chairperson Amy Shankland on January 27 <sup>th</sup> and created the plan and budget for new prairie planting. Planting scheduled to begin in the spring. Currently CLEAN team member Tim Stottlemeyer is working on selecting the proper seed mix for this area, master planning of the area (including tree mitigation), and working to find a contractor.  Calendar year Progress made  Hurdles overcome
Upcoming Plans to Achieve Target	Cost Savings

Plantings scheduled for spring of 2012 if current construction at the plant is cleaned up and materials are removed. Otherwise, project will begin in late summer or early fall of 2012.	The prairie plantings at the utility will save the City of Noblesville a total of \$1,355.20 in man hours (April - October), based on part time pay of \$12.10/hr @16 hrs/month. The project will also save 20 gallons/month, with diesel currently costing \$3.50/gallon, for a total of \$490.
If this is your third annual performance report, please provide the final results of this activity. If the objective and target were not achieved in the three year designation period, provide a description of why the objective and target was not met.	

Environmental Media Activity #4	
Objective Increase recyclables collected in parks, Wastewater, Street, and Engineering (city hall) buildings, expanding to fluorescent bulbs, mercury bulbs, and electronics. Make recycling easier than putting items in trash, put recycle signs on bins.	
Target Increase recycling (and maintain this rate) by 15% from 2011 to 2013.	
Baseline	Progress Made
In 2011, the following was recycled from the CLEAN Departments: 430 gray bins of glass, plastic, and paper 53 pick up loads of cardboard 1,100 gallons of used motor oil (used for heating in Street Dept) 225 street light bulbs recycled One 6' x 4' x 4' bin of electronics weighing 1019 pounds. 178 four foot mercury bulbs	Calendar year 2011 Progress made The results for glass, plastic, and paper were expected. The expansion of cardboard, motor oil, street light bulbs, electronics, and mercury bulb recycling, however, was not expected- a good development for the CLEAN team.  Calendar year Progress made  Hurdles overcome Noblesville non-profit organization Janus faced a few hurdles trying to work with CLEAN departments to collect cardboard, but finally the organization began working with both the Street Department and City Hall and the program has been a win-win situation.
Upcoming Plans to Achieve Target	Cost Savings
The CLEAN team will continue to educate all employees about the ease of recycling items within the City buildings.	600 gallons of motor oil have been used to heat the Street Department so far this winter. This has eliminated the need for another energy source.
If this is your third annual performance report, please provide the final results of this activity. If the objective and target were not achieved in the three year designation period, provide a description of why the objective and target was not met.	

Environmental Media Activity #5	
Objective CLEAN Departments to use more environmentally friendly products	
Target Increase use of products that are made of recycled materials or materials that are recycled more easily by 15% in 2013	
Baseline	Progress Made
Surprisingly, this activity has been the biggest struggle for the CLEAN team. Uniting the purchasing process for all departments in all CLEAN buildings has been difficult.	Calendar year 2011 Progress made While CLEAN departments have all been given information about various green cleaning products; products that are easily recycled; or using products made of recycled materials, interest in combining purchasing has been non-existent. The departments are already using green materials and it has been difficult to encourage them to do even more in a cost-effective manner.  Calendar year Progress made  Hurdles overcome The CLEAN Team met in early 2012 to rethink its strategy for this goal.
Upcoming Plans to Achieve Target	Cost Savings
CLEAN Team members decided to work on one item at a time and will start with post consumable recyclable can liners. This is an easy item that departments can order in bulk. After the liners are all purchased together, the next goal will be to come together to purchase recycled paper.	The CLEAN team anticipates cost savings in 2012 by combining departments' purchases of can liners and paper.
If this is your third annual performance report, please provide the final results of this activity. If the objective and target were not achieved in the three year designation period, provide a description of why the objective and target was not met.	

### ANNUAL EMS AUDIT

Summarize the results of the Annual EMS Audit your community performed on the Quality of Life Plan. While the City of Noblesville has made some strides in its five goals, it has some definite improvements to make, including surveying employees about their environmental awareness and competence; following the document control outlines in its QLP; and ramping up efforts for its fifth goal of purchasing more environmentally-friendly products.

### COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS OUTREACH

Briefly describe the information presented to the community and businesses to keep residents informed of important issues related to the community's environmental performance, including how the status of Quality of Life Plan objectives were relayed to the community. CLEAN leader Amy Shankland gives updates every other month to the Sustain Noblesville Committee, which consists of City department representatives; non-profit organizations and businesses such as Riverview Hospital, Noblesville Schools, the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce, and the local library; and numerous citizen appointees. CLEAN activities are highlighted on the City's web site and in the mayor's column in the Noblesville Times each quarter. Internally, CLEAN activities are reported in the Noblesville One-at-a-Times employee newsletter each quarter.

### CONTINUAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT

If this is your third Annual Performance Report and your community desires to continue membership as an Indiana CLEAN Community, please provide five new objectives and targets your community will commit to during the next three year designation period, otherwise skip to the next section.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please provide the following additional information.

- List environmental awards received or voluntary programs participated in during the past twelve months (include information about each particular program).

The Wastewater Department has been working to become a Class A Sludge entity, thanks to its new digester, in August of 2012. The designation will save money for the utility and decrease the amount of materials going into landfills.

The Upper White Rivershed Alliance received an Indiana 319 grant in late 2011. Two of the five watersheds represented by this alliance- Stony Creek and Cicero Creek- significantly impact Noblesville, and part of a third (Fall Creek) partially affects Noblesville.

The Sustain Noblesville Committee received a grant from Vectren Foundation in December of 2011 to host Central Indiana green living expert and TV personality Sara Snow. Sara will speak to the public in Noblesville City Hall on Wednesday, March 21, 2012.

The Sustain Noblesville Committee was also a finalist for Best Green Initiative from the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce in November of 2011.

Finally, the City of Noblesville and Hamilton County teamed up for the first-ever Hamilton County Bike to Work Day on May 20, 2011.
- Has your community taken advantage of any CLEAN benefits? If so, please describe which benefits were used, the implementation process, and ideas for additional benefits IDEM should consider.

The Noblesville CLEAN team has participated in the quarterly CLEAN conference calls to exchange ideas. CLEAN leader Amy Shankland, who is also the City's grant coordinator, has worked with Susan Harrington to identify grant opportunities for projects. Having a network of other cities working on energy-saving and green strategies has been beneficial.
- Is your community pursuing ISO 14001 EMS certification? If yes, how has the Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge program been instrumental in achieving ISO 14001 EMS certification?

The Noblesville Wastewater Utility is ISO 14001 self-certified (third party certification). The department gained this designation in 2009, before the City was a CLEAN Community. The utility is working on improving its tracking methods, using the new City Works, and is looking at expanding this certification to more City Departments.
- Explain the measured or perceived results from receiving, documenting, and responding to external communication and its effect on Quality of Life Plan objectives and targets?

By measuring the CLEAN teams results and communicating them to various entities, it's helped departments realize that while the team thinks it's doing well in its goals, there are obvious areas that need improvement. The team is determined to improve in 2012. However, some positives such as increased cardboard recycling benefitting non-profit organization Janus and newly recycled motor oil used to heat buildings have also been a result of the CLEAN documentation and process.
- Explain the emergencies experienced within the community during the past year. Were the applicable emergency and contingency plans detailed in the Quality of Life Plan effective? What changes, if any, have been made to your community's emergency or contingency plans?

In December of 2011, the Wastewater Utility experienced check valve failure at its Harbours neighborhood lift station. Some lift stations were flooded and untreated water went into Morse Reservoir. Lift station 5 flooded in the Oak Bay neighborhood in late 2011 as well. While these incidents did not relate to the CLEAN Quality of Life plan, proper IDEM procedures were followed to resolve both situations. No changes were made to Noblesville's emergency or contingency plans.
- How have community residents and businesses reacted to your community participating in the Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge?

The community has reacted positively to Noblesville's CLEAN participation. For example, CLEAN Chairperson Amy Shankland spoke to the "55'ers" luncheon group at the local Catholic Church on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Members were enthusiastic about the steps Noblesville is taking to protect its environment and eager to help in any way possible. Local businesses completely support the effort, as many are on the City's Sustain Noblesville committee. The Noblesville Chamber of Commerce has even started a "Best Green Initiative" for its local Enterprise Awards, held each fall.
- According to the measurement program developed and implemented by your community to measure Quality of Life Plan success, is your community's Quality of Life Plan successful? Why or why not? If not, what changes will be made to ensure continual environmental improvement and future Quality of Life Plan success?

Not yet. 2011 was Noblesville's base line year. The team will be able to make improvements and better measurements of those improvements starting this year. The CLEAN members learned some hard lessons this year. The first lesson was realizing that uniting purchasing in all departments is a bigger task than previously thought. The team believes by taking smaller steps, such as purchasing the new liners, Noblesville will get bigger and better results. The next lesson was realizing that electricity usage actually increased vs. decreased due to Noblesville's expanding population- and raised Wastewater energy consumption as a result. The team will be working on other ways to save electricity starting in 2012, including implementing cost-effective, simple ways all employees can make a difference. 2011 did have its successes, however, with recycling more cardboard and motor oil and getting more staff trained on proper agrochemical usage. Finally, the team is excited about the results that will be gained from having the native prairie plantings behind the Wastewater plant.

**CERTIFICATION AND PLEDGE**

I certify that the information contained in this Annual Performance Report and attachments is accurate to the best of my knowledge and that this local government is, to the best of my knowledge and based on reasonable inquiry, currently in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local environmental requirements, or has a corrective action program in place to attain compliance.

We, The City of Noblesville, commit to maintaining the principles and goals outlined in our Quality of Life Plan for our local government's Indiana CLEAN Community status. We agree to strive for full compliance with all regulations promulgated by U.S. EPA, the state, and/or local jurisdictions. We agree to promote the Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge and to share our success stories with other communities. We understand that the Annual Performance Report must be submitted to the local government and IDEM and that we must reapply to the Indiana CLEAN Challenge every three years.

I understand that the information provided in this Annual Performance Report will be public record. I am the highest-ranking community official or I have been fully authorized by the highest-ranking community official to execute this statement on behalf of the local government submitting this Annual Performance Report.

Signature Amy Shankland	Title Grant Coordinator	Date (month, day, year) March 13, 2012
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Please submit your CLEAN Community Challenge Annual Performance Report to:

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 CLEAN Community Challenge Program Manager  
 100 North Senate Avenue  
 MC 64-00 IGCS W041  
 Indianapolis, IN 46204-2251  
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