



**DU PAGE COUNTY**  
**Environmental Committee**  
**Final Regular Meeting Agenda**

421 N. COUNTY FARM ROAD  
WHEATON, IL 60187  
www.dupagecounty.gov

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**Tuesday, August 5, 2025**

**8:30 AM**

**Room 3500A**

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- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. CHAIRWOMAN'S REMARKS - CHAIR RUTLEDGE**
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - 5.A. [25-1810](#)  
Environmental Committee Minutes - Regular meeting - Tuesday, July 1, 2025
- 6. PRESENTATIONS**
  - 6.A. [25-1812](#)  
EV Readiness and EV Charging Station Map Demonstration
- 7. STAFF REPORTS**
  - 7.A. [25-1811](#)  
Green Energy Justice Cooperative & GrowGeo Chicagoland
- 8. DISCUSSION**
- 9. OLD BUSINESS**
- 10. NEW BUSINESS**
- 11. ADJOURNMENT**



# Minutes

421 N. COUNTY FARM  
ROAD  
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[www.dupagecounty.gov](http://www.dupagecounty.gov)

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**File #:** 25-1810

**Agenda Date:** 8/5/2025

**Agenda #:** 5.A.

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# DU PAGE COUNTY

## Environmental Committee

### Final Summary

421 N. COUNTY FARM ROAD  
WHEATON, IL 60187  
www.dupagecounty.gov

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**Tuesday, July 1, 2025**

**8:30 AM**

**Room 3500A**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

8:30 AM meeting was called to order by Chair Sheila Rutledge at 8:30 AM.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Member Haider arrived at 8:47 A.M.

Additional Board Members: Member Paula Deacon Garcia and Member Yeena Yoo.

Guest Speaker: Kay McKeen

Staff present: Joy Hinz, Geoffrey Matteson, Myles Barnes, Catherine Figlewski, Joan Olson, Evan Shields.

<b>PRESENT</b>	Cronin Cahill, Evans, Honig, LaPlante, and Rutledge
<b>LATE</b>	Haider

**3. CHAIRWOMAN'S REMARKS - CHAIR RUTLEDGE**

Chair Rutledge shared a comment to enjoy our summer and our gardens harvest this year. Chair Rutledge also reminded the committee to not put down any harmful pesticides as you spray for bugs and pests in your yards during this season.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

5.A. [25-1613](#)

Environmental Committee Minutes - Regular meeting - Tuesday, May 6, 2025

**Attachments:** [May Minutes Environmental](#)

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED
<b>MOVER:</b>	Cynthia Cronin Cahill
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Lynn LaPlante

**6. PRESENTATIONS**

6.A. SCARCE - DuPage County Projects

Kay McKeen - Founder and Executive Director of SCARCE highlighted SCARCE's initiatives from April to June 2025, including the 19th Annual Sustainable Design Challenge, where teams from Lake Park and Glenbard East High Schools were recognized for their innovative designs.

She commended the recertification of Forest Glen Elementary's Earth Flag on April 22, emphasizing the dedication of a library aide who spearheaded environmental projects at the school. The 'Growin' Green Garden Market' held on May 3 offered organic seedlings and native plants to promote sustainable gardening practices. SCARCE also conducted compost workshops on May 8 and June 26, educating 49 participants on composting techniques, with volunteer John crafting wooden compost bin covers from scrap lumber. Additional efforts included hosting 35 municipal engineers to discuss litter reduction and recycling initiatives, conducting teacher training on solar energy and STEM education, recycling 39.4 tons of paper, culminating in the service of 226 vehicles and the shredding of 5.4 tons of paper in collaboration with West Chicago. SCARCE also supported recycling initiatives with state senators and partner municipalities and previewed upcoming events, including STEM-A-Palooza at the DuPage County Fair. Kay closed by expressing pride in SCARCE's sustainability accomplishments this year, outlining future goals, and responding to questions from members.

## 7. STAFF REPORTS

### 7.A. [25-1610](#)

#### Campus Tree Planting Event with Chicago Region Tree Initiative

Jennifer Boyer - Campus Natural Resources and Grounds Services Supervisor spoke about the Chicago Region Tree initiative by detailing the results of the planting of 38 trees. A video recap reel of the planting event was on display for all members in attendance. Jennifer concluded that the DuPage County Campus is an accredited level one arboretum through The Morton Arboretum, which sets the County apart from other arboretums, and that most of our new trees planted within the last 10 years are native trees.

**Attachments:** [CRTI tree planting](#)

### 7.B. [25-1611](#)

#### Illinois Battery Recycling

Joy Hinz - DuPage Environmental & Sustainability Programs Manager shared about new legislation titled the 'Illinois Battery Stewardship Act' that goes into effect January 1, 2026. This legislation will soon add more primary battery locations to the already existing rechargeable drop-off locations. Joy mentioned further that the State of Illinois has grant funding available that the county will be talking with the local communities about and how they're working on finding more drop-off points this fall.

**Attachments:** [Battery Stewardship Act Memo 7-1-25](#)

### 7.C. [25-1612](#)

#### Switch Together Summer 2025 Campaign

Joy Hinz - DuPage Environmental & Sustainability Programs Manager spoke on the success the County has seen since partnering with iChoosr's - Switch Together Solar Group Buy Summer Campaign. 93 households accepted their solar offers and since the start of the program there have been 111 installations which equals 1,107 kilowatts that were added solar capacity. In closing, Joy reminded the committee of the upcoming iChoosr campaign happening later this summer and that committee members should watch for calls with questions about the program.

**Attachments:**     [Solar Switch Spring Summer 2025 Memo](#)

**8.     OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was discussed.

**9.     NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was discussed.

**10.    ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 A.M.



# Presentation

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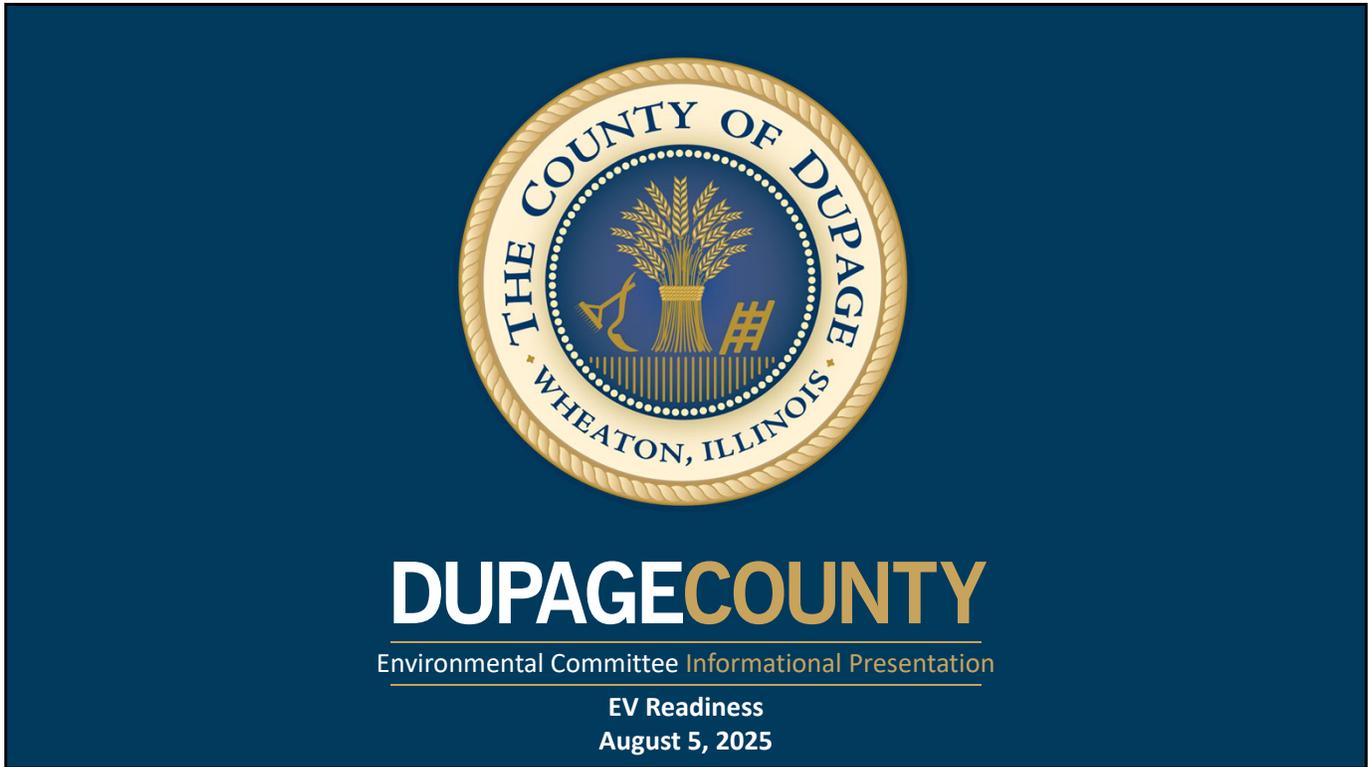
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**File #:** 25-1812

**Agenda Date:** 8/5/2025

**Agenda #:** 6.A.

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# Greenest Region Compact



## Metropolitan Mayors Caucus – Greenest Region Compact

- **Greenest Region Compact (GRC)** – A compact that provides the framework for local communities to achieve sustainable goals
- **Categories**
  - Climate
  - Economic Development
  - Energy
  - Land
  - Leadership
  - **Mobility**
  - Municipal Operations
  - Sustainable Communities
  - Water
  - Waste & Recycling

Category	GOAL	OBJECTIVE	Already achieved in Progress	In progress	Planned for next 12-18 months	Not planned	Contract/OTBB	Notes	Link to Resource
Waste Reduction	Support sustainable material management	WR1	Set a specific waste reduction goal:						
		WR1a	> Set a waste reduction goal for municipal operations						
		WR1b	> Set a waste reduction goal for the community						
		WR2	Promote and practice waste reduction & recycling in municipal operations						
		WS3	Reduce the use of paper in municipal offices						
		WR4	Conduct waste audits to identify waste reduction opportunities						
		WRS	Support exchange of goods and services among residents (i.e. Rummage Sale, Sporting Goods Swap)						
		WR4c	+ Adopt a Pay-As-You-Throw program						
		WR4d	Support by-product synergies among industries						
		WR4e	Make public events "zero waste"						
WASTE & RECYCLE	Recycle materials across all sectors	WR9	Establish and strive for specific recycling goals:						
		WR9a	> Establish and strive for a residential recycling						
		WR9b	> Establish and strive for a multi-family recycling						
		WR9c	> Establish and strive for a commercial & institutional recycling goal						
		WR10	Provide curbside recycling for residents						
		WR11	Provide access to recycling infrastructure and services at public places						
		WR4f	Support regional efforts for developing a food scrap composting services						

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# EV Readiness



## Metropolitan Mayors Caucus - EV Readiness Program

- MMC created the EV Readiness Program to help municipalities prepare for the growing demand of electric vehicles and associated infrastructure.
- EV Readiness is measured through a series of tasks or checklist items including the following: Commit to EV Readiness, Zoning and Planning, Permitting and Inspection, Safety and Training, Parking and Access, New Construction, Access to EV Charging, Municipal Fleets, Utility Engagement, Community Engagement, Market Development and Finance



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# EV Readiness Checklist



2024 - bronze

2025 - silver

EV READINESS CHECKLIST ACTIONS						
Action #	Objectives and Actions	Clear Filters	Action Points			
			Bronze	Silver	Gold	Extra Points (Extra Points Only)
CR	COMMIT TO EV READINESS		5			
CR-1	Make a public statement in support of EV readiness.		5			
CR-2	Report baseline metrics, including power level and quantity of publicly accessible and municipally owned EVCS; number of municipal EVs; and registered constituent-owned EVs.		5			
ZP-1	Evaluate zoning code to identify any barriers to safe, expedient EVCS development.		10			
ZP-2A	When EV charging is not the primary use of the site, classify the EV charging station as an accessory use.		5			
ZP-4	Where minimum parking requirements exist, flex the number of required parking spaces to accommodate Level 2 and DCFC EVCS. (Conditional Points)		5			
PI-1A	Develop a clear and code-compliant standard permitting and inspection process for single family residential EVCSs.		5			
PI-1B	Develop a clear and code-compliant standard permitting and inspection process for multiple family and		5			

EV READINESS CHECKLIST ACTIONS						
Action #	Objectives and Actions	Clear Filters	Action Points			
			Bronze	Silver	Gold	Extra Points (Extra Points Only)
CR	COMMIT TO EV READINESS		5			
ZP-3A	Define transportation electrification technologies (EVs, EVCSs) to be considered.		2		2	
ZP-3B	Establish zoning regulations to facilitate EVCS installation, assuring it no more difficult to site EVCS than any other equipment or use, and clearly communicate rules.		5		5	
ZP-3D	Establish new or articulate existing regulations for content and appearance of advertising on EVSEs.		5		5	
ZP-3E	Establish new or articulate existing regulations for whether and under what conditions EV charging stations are allowed in the right of way.		5		5	
ZP-3F	Establish new or articulate existing regulations for the appearance of public EVCSs.		5		5	
x	Clearly and concisely communicate EVCS zoning regulations to the public.		2		2	



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# EV Readiness Bronze



▪ DuPage County was a part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cohort to go for an EV Readiness award in 2024

- Aurora
- Batavia
- Bensenville
- Chicago
- DuPage County
- Elgin
- Hickory Hills
- Kane County
- Montgomery
- Richton Park
- Wilmette



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# EV Readiness Silver



▪ **Chair Rutledge** and at the time, **Vice Chair Garcia** had so much fun at the ceremony they wanted us to go for silver!

▪ DuPage County then joined the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cohort to pursue silver

- City of Berwyn
- Village of Brookfield
- Village of Deerfield
- City of Evanston
- Village of Glenview
- City of Highland Park
- Village of Northbrook
- Village of Park Forest
- Village of River Forest
- City of Rolling Meadows
- Village of Streamwood
- City of Warrenville



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# EV Readiness Silver Achieved!



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# Powering Safe Communities



## Metropolitan Mayors Caucus & ComEd Powering Safe Communities

- **Powering Safe Communities Program Award**— Annual individual grants up to \$10,000 for local public safety and electrification projects
- DuPage County submitted EV Charging at the Care Center project
- **Level 3 charger** part of sidewalk project
- **Level 2 charger** in the main parking lot to meet ComEd’s Make-Ready Rebate requirements



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## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-1811

**Agenda Date:** 8/5/2025

**Agenda #:** 7.A.

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**DUPAGE  
COUNTY**

## ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

630-407-6767

[www.dupagecounty.gov/environmental](http://www.dupagecounty.gov/environmental)

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Sheila Rutledge, Chair  
Environmental Committee Members

FROM: Joy Hinz, Environmental & Sustainability Programs Manager

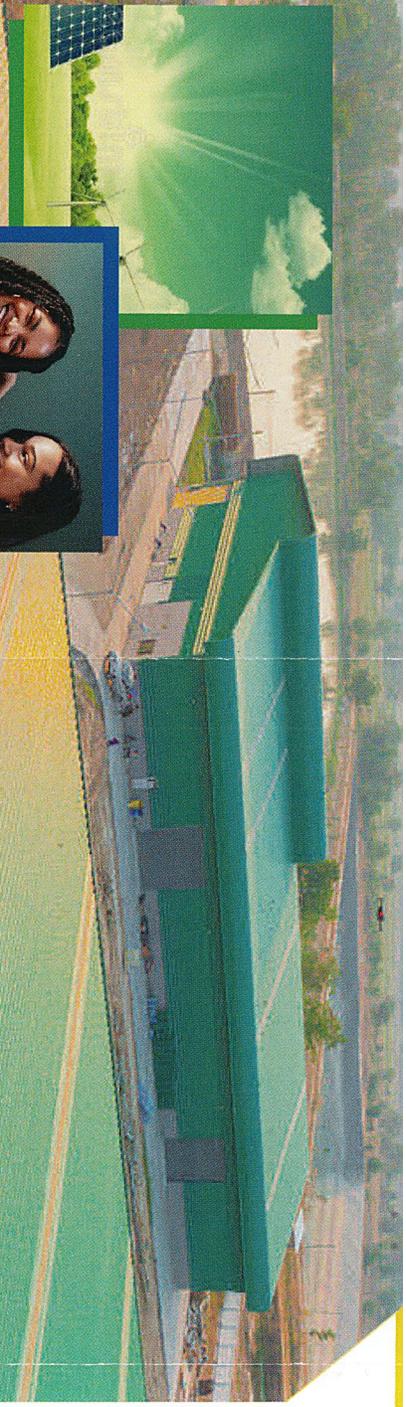
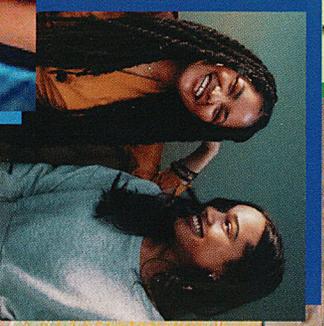
DATE: July 30, 2025

RE: Green Energy Justice Cooperative & GrowGeo Chicagoland

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The Environmental Division has been asked to partner again with the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) and Geothermal Alliance of Illinois on the GrowGeo Chicagoland. The program is similar to the solar Switch Together program with CUB providing education to residents about geothermal without the group buy aspect. At the end of the sessions, attendees will be directed to the Geothermal Alliance of Illinois' contractor list if/when attendees are interested in obtaining a quote. The County's role is to assist with the outreach and participate in the educational sessions. The Division will push out the opportunity using the Cool DuPage outreach platforms.

CUB is also partnering with the Green Energy Justice Cooperative on a community solar opportunity. The cooperative facilitates community-based solar projects as part of the State's Illinois Shines program also known as the Adjustable Block program. The Illinois Power Agency's contractor, Energy Solutions, provides solar renewable energy credit incentives to solar vendors to develop projects within the State that support the State's renewable energy portfolio goals. The project targets participation in Winfield and Naperville Townships but is open to others in DuPage and Will County. The Division will also push out the opportunity using the Cool DuPage outreach platforms.



**CONTACT US:**  
 Email: [info@gejc.org](mailto:info@gejc.org)  
 Phone: (773) 948-8870



**INTERESTED IN  
 SAVING MONEY  
 ON YOUR  
 ENERGY BILL?  
 THE GREEN  
 ENERGY JUSTICE  
 COOPERATIVE CAN  
 HELP!**



# WELCOME TO THE GREEN ENERGY JUSTICE COOPERATIVE (GEJC)!

Founded in 2023 by Blacks in Green, GEJC represents a groundbreaking approach to **community-owned clean energy**. As a multi-race, multi-class, intergenerational, and Black/Brown-led cooperative, we're building more than just solar panels -- we're creating pathways to economic independence and environmental justice.

Our nine megawatts of solar power in Winfield and Naperville Townships stand as a testament to what communities can achieve when they come together.

It's more than clean energy -- it's about taking control of our energy future!

## WHY SIGN UP?

- Save up to 20% on the energy you use.
- Never pay more than ComEd's residential rate.
- Own your energy!

## HOW TO SIGN UP:

- 1. Sign Up**
  - Become a member by paying a one-time membership fee
  - Anyone can be a member and help support clean energy!
- 2. Subscribe**
  - Verify you live in our service area and that ComEd is your current utility provider
  - Our agents can help you verify this, or you can check online at [gejc.org](http://gejc.org)
- 3. Save**
  - You could save up to 20% on the energy you use each month
  - You pay nothing to subscribe!

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Q: DO I PAY AN EXTRA FEE TO SUBSCRIBE?

No, you only pay for the energy you use at a discounted rate. The only fee is a one-time, lifetime membership fee to join the cooperative.

### Q: HOW DO I SAVE MONEY ON MY ELECTRIC BILL?

Members purchase the electricity from their subscription at up to 20% savings over ComEd's rate. GEJC can't guarantee savings but we do guarantee that you'll never be charged higher rates than ComEd.

### Q: CAN I JOIN IF I'M NOT A LOW- INCOME HOUSEHOLD?

Yes! We offer different membership tiers to ensure everyone can participate while maintaining our focus on serving low to moderate-income communities.

### Q: I'M A RENTER OR LIVE IN AN APARTMENT, CAN I STILL QUALIFY?

Yes! No solar panels have to be installed on your home, so anyone can sign up.