



DU PAGE COUNTY

Environmental Committee

Final Regular Meeting Agenda

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

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

8:30 AM

Room 3500A

- 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
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File #: 25-1810

Agenda Date: 8/5/2025

Agenda #: 5.A.



DU PAGE COUNTY

Environmental Committee

Final Summary

421 N. COUNTY FARM ROAD
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Tuesday, July 1, 2025

8:30 AM

Room 3500A

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.

| | |
|----------------|---|
| PRESENT | Cronin Cahill, Evans, Honig, LaPlante, and Rutledge |
| LATE | 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](#)

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| RESULT: | APPROVED |
| MOVER: | Cynthia Cronin Cahill |
| SECONDER: | 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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File #: 25-1812

Agenda Date: 8/5/2025

Agenda #: 6.A.




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Environmental Committee Informational Presentation

EV Readiness
August 5, 2025

1


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 | Planned for next 12-18 months | Not planned | Contract/Other | 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 | | | | | | | |
| | | WS2 Reduce the use of paper in municipal offices | | | | | | | |
| | | WR4 Conduct waste audits to identify waste reduction opportunities | | | | | | | Y |
| | | WRS Support exchange of goods and services among residents (i.e. Rummage Sale, Sporting Goods Swap) | | | | | | | |
| | | WR4a + Adopt a Pay-As-You-Throw program | | | | | | | Y |
| | | WR4b Support by-product synergies among industries | | | | | | | Y |
| | | WR4c Make public events "zero waste" | | | | | | | Y |
| WASTE & RECYCLE | Recycle materials across all sectors | WR9a 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 | | | | | | | |
| 2 | | WR11 Provide access to recycling infrastructure and services at public places | | | | | | | |
| | | WR4c Support regional efforts for developing a food scrap composting services | | | | | | | Y |

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2

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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3

EV Readiness Checklist

2024 - *bronze*

| EV READINESS CHECKLIST ACTIONS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---------------|--------|------|-------------------|
| Action # | Objectives and Actions | <div>Clear Filters</div> | Action Points | | | |
| | | | Bronze | Silver | Gold | 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. <i>(Conditional Points)</i> | | 5 | | | |
| PI-1A | Develop a clear and code-compliant standard permitting and inspection process for single family residential EVCS. | | 5 | | | |
| PI-1B | Develop a clear and code-compliant standard permitting and inspection process for multiple family and commercial EVCS. | | 5 | | | |

2025 - *silver*

2025 - 2030

| EV READINESS CHECKLIST ACTIONS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------|--------|------|--------------|
| Action # | Objectives and Actions | <div>Clear Filters</div> | Action Points | | | |
| | | | Bronze | Silver | Gold | Extra Points |
| CR | COMMIT TO EV READINESS | | | 1 | | |
| ZP-3A | Define transportation electrification technologies (EVs, EVCs) to be considered. | | 2 | | 2 | |
| ZP-3B | Establish zoning regulations to facilitate EVCS installation, assuming 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 2nd 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 3rd 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!



INSERT PICTURES FROM SILVER CEREMONY

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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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8



Staff Report

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File #: 25-1811

Agenda Date: 8/5/2025

Agenda #: 7.A.



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

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.



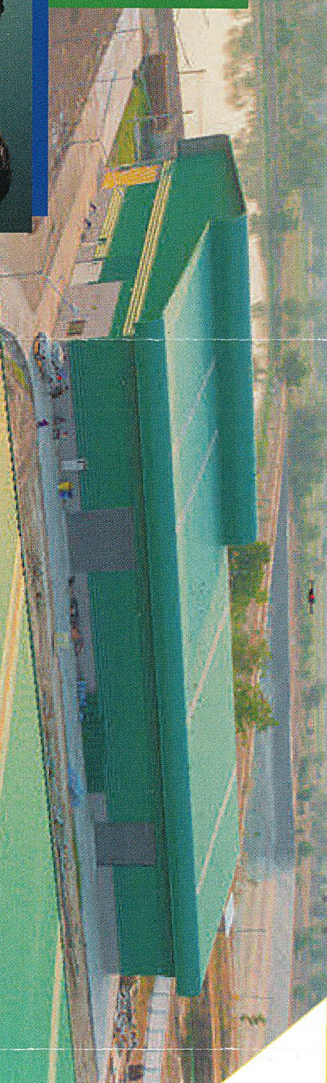
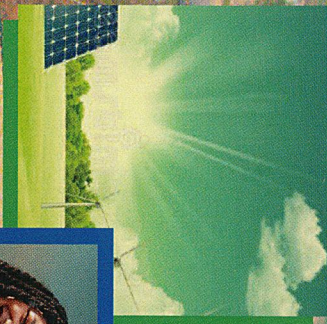
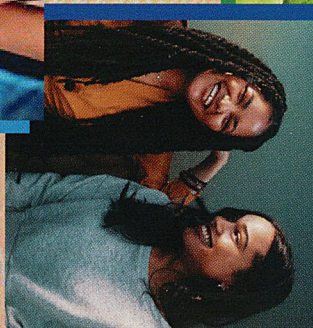
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JUSTICE**
COOPERATIVE

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

CONTACT US:

Email: info@gejc.org

Phone: (773) 948-8870





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

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.