

Sustainability in America's Energy Capital



Action Plan for Sustainability

Gillette, Wyoming

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City of Gillette, Wyoming

Nestled in the Powder River Basin, between the Black Hills and the Bighorn Mountains, Gillette stands as the epicenter of one of the United States' most energy-rich regions. Gillette was incorporated in 1892, less than two years after Wyoming attained statehood, however the first native peoples came to the region ten thousand years ago to hunt buffalo and antelope. Ranchers arrived in the region in the 1880's to raise longhorn cattle and sheep, and they were followed by homesteaders drawn by the allure of free land. Yet, it is the vast resources of the Powder River Basin that have made Gillette one Wyoming's most prominent cities.



The Powder River Basin not only supplies more than 30% of the nation's coal, but it also contains extensive reserves of oil and coal bed methane gas. Given these vast stores of energy, it is clear why Gillette is known as the Energy Capital of the Nation. Nonetheless, Gillette lies in a region rich not only in energy, but in outdoor recreational opportunities as well.



The nearby Black Hills National Forest attracts millions of visitors each year to its rugged rock formations, lakes, grassland parks, canyons, and gulches. Devil's Tower National Monument, sixty miles northeast of Gillette, has for decades represented both a challenge to climbers and a marvel to tourists. It is its proximity to some of the nation's most popular destinations for outdoor enthusiasts that, coupled with its status as leader in energy, make Gillette as unique as it is prosperous.



Executive Summary

Gillette has made a number of strides in energy use, water conservation, and waste management. Gillette has partnered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy on multiple programs and initiatives. The City has utilized the DOE's ENERGY STAR® program to help benchmark energy use in City buildings, and the City plans to continue toward ENERGY STAR® certification for its buildings. Gillette has been a WaterSense partner through the EPA for six years, and in 2011, the City became an Education Partner, indicating the City's continuing leadership in water conservation. Despite its notable achievements, Gillette recognizes that there remains work to be done, and the City intends to implement a number of programs over the coming decade.

In 2012, Gillette took a major step in its efforts to reduce energy use by agreeing to join the DOE's Better Buildings Challenge. As a part of this program, Gillette has committed to a 20% reduction in energy use across a portfolio of City buildings by 2020. Gillette has developed a multi-faceted plan to achieve this target, which includes extensive lighting upgrades as well as modernization of key controls in several of its facilities. The City seeks to reach an 18% reduction in per capita water usage by 2014 through a combination of technological advancements and policy initiatives. Finally, by making recycling more convenient and increasing the list of accepted items, Gillette aims to double its recycling diversion rate by 2015.



Gillette is committed to ensuring the support and participation of citizens in its sustainability efforts. Gillette will continue to use both traditional media and social media to inform the public of sustainability programs and initiatives and to emphasize the importance of actions like recycling by maintaining a presence at City functions. Furthermore, Gillette will strive to increase the number of programs like Keep Gillette Beautiful and the Recycle Bowl, through which residents of all ages can actively participate in sustainability. Gillette recognizes that it is only through the commitment of both its leaders and its citizens that it will expand its role as a sustainability leader in the State of Wyoming and nationwide

Energy

Achievements in Energy

Over the last several years, Gillette has made significant advancements in the energy efficiency of both its buildings and its operations. The City has introduced technological improvements, including motion sensors for lights and sub-meters to better gauge energy usage, plus instituted efficiency programs such as ENERGY STAR®. The strides Gillette has made in energy efficiency have resulted in reduced operating costs, which benefit both the City and its residents. Yet the City does not intend to cease the push for energy efficiency here. In June 2012, Gillette joined the United States Department of Energy's Better Buildings Challenge, a program focusing on substantially increasing energy efficiency of the nation's buildings by 2020. With this and other targets in sight, Gillette will continue to establish itself as an energy efficiency leader in Wyoming and beyond.

City Buildings

In 2011, Gillette engaged extensively in the process of benchmarking current energy use of City buildings and seeking ways in which to lower energy consumption. To do so, the City used tools provided through federal agencies including the ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager and The Department of Energy's Commercial Lighting Tool. The ENERGY STAR® program is a joint effort between the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy aimed at promoting energy efficient practices and technologies. Portfolio Manager is an online tool allowing organizations to track energy and water usage across a portfolio of buildings and receive recognition for exceptional performance. The City collected historical utility data to establish benchmarks for six City buildings: City Hall, the Central Warehouse, Animal Control, the Wastewater Treatment Plant, City West, and the Old Warehouse. Having established a benchmark for energy usage in Portfolio Manager, Gillette can now evaluate the effectiveness of any steps taken to curb consumption in order to maximize the efficiency of its efforts. The Department of Energy's Commercial Lighting Tool enables users to evaluate and make changes



to current lighting systems. The City utilized this tool to estimate energy usage for lighting on the second floor of City Hall, and to identify the best lighting scenario for energy efficiency.

Planning and benchmarking are vital to any energy efficiency program. However, Gillette’s efforts to reduce energy consumption in its buildings have gone beyond these stages and well into implementation. Both conference rooms and bathrooms in City Hall are now equipped with motion sensors that turn off lights when the areas are unoccupied. To prevent unused electronic devices from draining energy needlessly at night, computers in City Hall have been programmed to shut down at night, while printers and phones go into sleep mode after extended periods of inactivity. At times when City buildings must use energy, Gillette has taken steps to ensure they consume as little as possible. Inside buildings, T12 ballast bulbs have been replaced with more energy efficient T8 ballasts that over time save both energy and expense. Gillette has also instituted a pilot project using an LED light in a City Hall stairwell that, using a sensor, drops to 50% illumination when the stairwell is unoccupied. In order to continue reducing the amount of energy used, it is important to pinpoint the areas in which excess energy consumption takes place. Recognizing this, Gillette has installed sub-meters in City Hall that can better isolate sources of excess energy usage.



City Operations

A centerpiece of Gillette’s efforts to curb energy consumption in its City operations has been the replacement of many existing streetlights, as well as the lights around several facilities, with LED lighting. LED lighting has the dual advantage of consuming less energy and preserving Gillette’s night sky by focusing light more precisely. In 2009, using funds from the Department of Energy’s Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program, the City replaced seventy-seven lights surrounding facilities and twenty wall packs on the side of buildings with BetaLED lighting. The project continued in 2010, when 65 LEDway streetlights replaced 400 watt HPS systems along Highway 59. The project received little to no feedback from residents, which, in a venture such as this, is



akin to high praise. The overwhelmingly positive results from this project pave the way for future projects similar to this in Gillette.

Targets for Continued Progress

ENERGY STAR® Certification

In addition to providing organizations the Portfolio Manager tool, ENERGY STAR® sponsors a certification program for buildings. To earn an ENERGY STAR® certification a building must receive a score of 75 or greater on the EPA's energy performance scale, indicating that the building performs better than at least 75% of similar buildings nationwide. The performance scale takes into account differences in operating conditions and regional weather, amongst other considerations. The importance to Gillette of achieving an ENERGY STAR® certification for its buildings is twofold. First, these distinctions demonstrate to municipalities throughout the state and nation Gillette's commitment to achieving reductions in energy use. Second, by working toward ENERGY STAR® certification for its buildings, the City will also make strides toward reaching its short and long term goals for reduction in energy use.

Gillette took the first step toward ENERGY STAR® certification in 2011, when it benchmarked the six buildings included in its Challenge portfolio using Portfolio Manager. Several buildings lacked the requisite data to acquire an ENERGY STAR® score. Furthermore, although the benchmarking process revealed that some City buildings are performing well in terms of energy use, it also uncovered that City Hall has been performing extremely poorly. Therefore, the next steps are first to acquire an ENERGY STAR® score for all buildings that were benchmarked, and then to push toward ENERGY STAR® certification for all the buildings in Gillette's Challenge portfolio, most notably City Hall by 2020.

Better Buildings Challenge

The Better Buildings Challenge ("Challenge") began in 2011 and is administered by the Department of Energy. At the heart of the Challenge lies a pledge by partners to reduce energy use across a designated portfolio of buildings by 20% or more by the year 2020. As corollaries to this pledge, partners agree to conduct energy assessments of their building portfolio and to share energy efficiency strategies and results with one another throughout the project. The program



already boasts over 90 partners that range in size from states to building owners and collectively have committed nearly 2 billion square feet of commercial and industrial real estate.

In July 2012, Gillette officially became the first municipality in Wyoming to join the Challenge, pledging almost 190,000 square feet of its portfolio. This portfolio includes City Hall, City West, Old Warehouse, New Warehouse, Animal Control, and the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Gillette's commitment to the Challenge represents both an important step for the City and a significant undertaking.

From June 2011 to August 2012, these buildings consumed a total of 5,891,396 kWh of energy. During the same period, these six buildings cost the City more than \$371,000 in electric bills alone. By 2020, Gillette intends to lower the annual energy use in this portfolio of buildings by roughly 1,178,280 kWh, saving the City nearly \$75,000 per year in energy costs.



Actions

City Hall

Retrocommissioning

Any efforts to reduce energy use can be rendered moot if a building contains fundamental flaws that have either developed over the life of the building or existed from the time of its construction. Retrocommissioning is a process by which a building's equipment and systems are examined as a whole and inefficiencies are identified. HVAC systems can be the source of significant energy waste, thus initial retrocommissioning will focus on an examination of City Hall's HVAC systems including, but not limited to: system and zone fan scheduling/fan control sequence; space temperature controls; economizer control sequence; functional performance testing of large air handling units, chillers, boilers, pumps. Once retrocommissioning has been completed, the City will have a clear picture of where it can best invest funds to upgrade HVAC systems. Retrocommissioning has been estimated to reduce energy consumption by as much as 215,785 kWh per year, 12% of the annual energy consumption by City Hall.

Lighting Upgrades

Currently, City Hall primarily uses two-lamp and four-lamp, four-foot T-12 fixtures with magnetic ballasts and U-lamp T-12 fixtures for its lighting. To a lesser extent, City Hall incorporates compact fluorescent fixtures, incandescent fixtures, T-8 fixtures and T-5 fixtures. Many of these fixtures are not the most energy efficient fixtures available. DOE's Commercial Lighting Tool determined LED lighting would produce the most energy savings. Replacing the four-foot T-12 fixtures with LED linear lamps would reduce energy consumption in these fixtures by around 50%. Gillette is currently planning a renovation of the second floor of City Hall and the City plans to use LED lighting in place of the old T-12 fixtures. With regard to the U-lamp T-12 fixtures, these can be replaced with T-8 lamps and electronic rather than magnetic ballasts. This change in fixtures would result in an energy savings of 30% relative to the old fixtures; the City also plans to incorporate these changes in its second floor renovation. Overall, if the above changes were made to all of City Hall, it would reduce energy consumption in City Hall by 9%, or 156,917 kWh, per year.



Variable Flow Pumping

The chilled water and hot water pumping systems in City Hall both represent excellent candidates for conversion to variable flow pumping. Chilled water is distributed by two constant-speed chilled pumps that maintain loop temperatures by a three-way mixing valve. A conversion would involve changing the constant-flow loops to variable-flow by adding variable frequency drives to the chilled water pumps and either replacing the three-way mixing valves or converting them to two-way mixing valves. A conversion to a variable-flow pumping system will bring about substantial energy savings. It is estimated that this conversion would reduce energy consumption in City Hall by 215,785 kWh per year, or 12% of City Hall's annual energy consumption.



New Warehouse and Old Warehouse

The light fixtures at each warehouse are currently controlled manually by the occupants via wall switches. This produces uneven results as it relates to lights being shut off when rooms are unoccupied.

The City intends to install wall-mounted infrared occupancy sensors in the conference rooms, garages, bay areas, locker rooms, and break rooms of both warehouses to turn off light fixtures when the areas are unoccupied. The sensor controls will be programmed with a delay to allow fixtures to remain on for a set period of time after the space becomes unoccupied. The installation of lighting occupancy sensors in both facilities will create an estimated energy savings of more than 2,200 kWh per year.



Animal Shelter

Lighting upgrades would prove the most effective means to reduce energy consumption at the Animal Shelter. This building uses the same two-lamp and four-lamp four-foot T-12 fixtures with magnetic ballasts that are found at City Hall. The City plans to retrofit the T-12 fixtures with T-8 lamps and magnetic ballasts as it becomes necessary to replace them. As discussed above, this retrofit produces a 30% energy savings over the T-12 fixtures. The City also intends to retrofit the exterior lights at the Animal Shelter with LED equivalent wall packs. When completed, this retrofit will reduce annual energy use at the Shelter by 3,942 kWh.



Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Wastewater Treatment Plant uses by far the most energy of any building in Gillette’s Better Buildings Challenge portfolio. The City recognizes that it must address energy consumption at the Wastewater Treatment Plant if it is to reach its goal of a 20% portfolio-wide reduction in energy use by 2020. In order to achieve reductions in energy use at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, Gillette intends to better control its dissolved



oxygen levels and upgrade to fine bubble diffusers. By making these changes, the City will lower substantially the energy use of not only this facility, but across its entire Better Buildings Challenge portfolio.

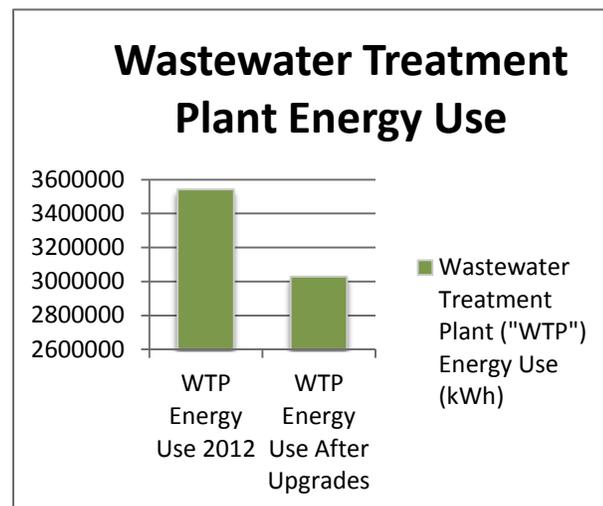
Dissolved Oxygen Controls

As presently set, the aeration blowers provide a constant airflow regardless of the dissolved oxygen levels in aeration basins. Currently dissolved oxygen levels average around 3 mg/L. Typically dissolved oxygen levels are set at 2.0 mg/L, and plants with tight controls on their dissolved oxygen levels can lower their set point to between 1.4 and 1.5 mg/L. Gillette intends to achieve dissolved oxygen levels between 1.4 and 1.5 mg/L, reducing energy use at the Wastewater Treatment Plant by 177,536 kWh per year.

Fine Bubble Diffusers

The size of bubbles in aeration processes plays an important role in the oxygen transfer efficiency of such systems, and increasing oxygen transfer efficiency lowers the amount of energy consumed by aeration fans. Fine bubble diffusers have become the industry standard, and the more energy intensive coarse bubble diffusers, like those used in the Wastewater Treatment Plant, are being phased out nationwide.

Upgrading to coarse bubble diffusers can result in up to a 25% reduction in airflow. This retrofit also brings with it considerable energy savings, as it is estimated that installing fine bubble diffusers would lower energy use by 335,572 kWh annually.



Employee Behavior

Employee involvement is an essential element of any campaign to lower energy consumption. It is vital that every employee take small incremental actions to help lower energy usage and costs for each building. A change in behavior as simple as dressing for work according to the season can make a noticeable difference in energy use. By wearing light, breathable clothing in the summer and bringing multiple layers to work in the winter, employees can facilitate a rise or fall in the thermostat depending on the season. Every degree the thermostat is raised in warm months or lowered in the cold ones translates to an energy savings of 2-3%. Seemingly minor improvement in employees' habits while at work can add up to significant energy and cost savings. Employees should turn off computers when planning to be away for more than two hours and monitors if they do intend to use them for twenty minutes; likewise, each copier and printer

must be turned off at night and on the weekends. All “extras,” such as hot water or coffee makers, should be turned off when not in use, and space heaters should be discouraged. Although the actions listed above represent a voluntary behavior change on the part of City employees, Gillette intends to take steps to encourage and reward cooperation with the City’s energy efficiency efforts.

Gillette recognizes that the first step toward effecting a behavior change in employees is to foster an understanding of why the new behaviors are important. Initially Gillette will send out several e-mail flyers to all individuals in City Hall with a functioning e-mail address. One flyer will address the Better Buildings Challenge, including a description of the Challenge and Gillette’s short and long term targets to fulfill the Challenge. A second flyer will include a list, plus graphics, of the actions outlined above; in addition to an e-mail flyer, lists of these actions will be posted at various locations throughout City Hall. Finally, at least initially, the City will provide daily electronic reminders to turn off computers, monitors and other electronic devices. While education is important, it is not alone sufficient. Gillette also intends to provide incentives to employees to engage in the desired behaviors. The incentive program will start with a catered kickoff lunch in which City officials can further explain the importance of energy conservation and the important role each employee plays in this effort. Gillette further plans to encourage energy efficient behavior by incorporating Gold Bucks, a City program through which employees are awarded for positive actions with certificates they can use at local vendors.

Water

The recent drought conditions in Wyoming, and throughout the nation, have highlighted the importance of water conservation. Excess water consumption has long carried with it an unnecessary expenditure of both energy and money, and these problems are only exacerbated by the current water shortage. Therefore, if Gillette is to reach its goals of reducing energy use and lowering costs for the City and residents, excess water use must be addressed. Recognizing the importance and benefits of water conservation, Gillette has already instituted various programs aimed at curbing consumption, and the City plans to continue with its water conservation efforts.

Achievements in Water Conservation

WaterSense is an Environmental Protection Agency partnership program focused on promoting the value of water and on assisting organizations to conserve water both through programs and technologies. Since its inception in 2006, the WaterSense program has helped to save 287 billion gallons of water



and 38.4 billion kWh of electricity. These reductions in consumption have carried with them a \$4.7 billion reduction in water and energy bills. In 2006, Gillette became a WaterSense partner and in 2011 the City became an Education Partner; this has established Gillette as leader in water and energy conservation. Partnership in WaterSense also provides Gillette access to a network of municipalities committed to reducing consumption as well as training and promotional materials available only to WaterSense partners.



Gillette recognizes that, in order to significantly lower water use, its citizens must become active participants in conservation efforts. The City has instituted various programs to facilitate this grass roots change in water consumption. Gillette's Retrofit and Repair Rebate program provides homeowners a rebate of \$5 on a purchase of low-flow fixtures up to \$25 and a \$25 rebate on purchases up to \$100. In addition, the City has sponsored an initiative that offers rebates of up to \$60 per barrel for the purchase and use of rain barrels, and a program that pays for the installation of low-flow nozzles for sprinkler systems. To better educate citizens on water conservation, Gillette has created the Homeowners' Toolkit for Managing Water Conservation, a document containing targets for curbing water consumption and simple actions to achieve them. Finally, Gillette has created a Xeriscape Plant List to provide homeowners with a list of native plants for landscaping which consume less water than nonnative species.

Targets for Continued Progress

Gillette intends to continue its efforts to curb water consumption. The City's efforts to reduce water usage center around lowering per capita consumption. Gillette's baseline per capita consumption is 150 gallons. In 2012, Gillette's daily per capita water use ballooned to 168 gallons, an increase of 18 gallons per capita over baseline. By the end of 2014, Gillette aims to lower its daily per capita water use to 130 gallons, a reduction of 18% in per capita consumption relative to 2012 and 13% relative to its baseline per capita consumption.

Actions

AquaHawk Systems

In 2011, Gillette began using AquaHawk Analysis, a program which allows the City to gain a better picture of how customers are using water. The AquaHawk Analysis system allows the City to identify accounts that could be using water inefficiently; to monitor customers' response to conservation efforts; and to

measure the amount of water saved by conservation efforts. In 2013, the City will add the AquaHawk Alert system to its conservation efforts. AquaHawk Alert is a web-based application that works in conjunction with smart meters to provide both customers and utility personnel valuable information regarding water consumption. AquaHawk Alert uses advanced statistical data analysis tools to spot leaks as they arise using data from meters. Once leaks have been detected, City staff can take the appropriate action to inform the consumer and stop unnecessary water use. The Aquahawk Alert system also allows customers to set up an individual online account that enables them to monitor their monthly water consumption as well as take advantage of various features that support their efforts to consume less water. For example, customers can determine before a month begins how much water they intend to consume and the maximum amount that they intend for their water bill to reach. The AquaHawk Alert system will then monitor their water consumption habits and notify them by e-mail if trends in their usage patterns suggest that they will exceed the pre-set limits. Gillette plans to pilot the AquaHawk Alert system on a limited basis in the spring of 2013.

Tertiary Treatment

Reducing the amount of water consumed is a vital step in water conservation; however another important step in water conservation is increasing the ways in which consumers can reuse water. Tertiary treatment is an advanced step in the wastewater treatment process, which allows the water to be used in a sensitive environment. Once wastewater has undergone tertiary treatment it can be used to irrigate areas like parks or golf courses and for agricultural purposes. By using wastewater that has undergone tertiary treatment for purposes such as these, Gillette intends to reduce the amount of potable water used as much as possible.

Policy Measures

In addition to technological advancements, Gillette plans to institute several policy changes aimed at water conservation. In the summer of 2012, Gillette instituted a voluntary watering schedule for its citizens. Watering was discouraged across the board on Monday, and depending on address, citizens were encouraged to water only from 7pm to 7am on Wednesday-Friday-Sunday or Tuesday-Thursday-Saturday. In 2013, the City plans to make this watering schedule a mandatory program. Another policy-based method that Gillette has adopted to encourage water conservation is tiered pricing, designed to increase prices for excessive consumers. Gillette plans to expand this program in the future to place an even greater burden on those who consume an excessive amount of water.



Waste

Excessive waste represents a drain on all a municipality's resources, including energy. In order to reduce paper waste, Gillette has introduced programs to use electronic plans. The City has made recycling a priority throughout City facilities, including initiatives like its scrap metal recycling program. Finally, Gillette has encouraged citizens to reuse as much waste as possible. Gillette plans to continue these and other programs to reduce waste in the future.

Achievements in Solid Waste Management

The less waste produced, the fewer resources Gillette must expend to manage it. To minimize the amount of waste it generates, the City has become the first city in Wyoming to adopt a program called ePlans Electronic Review. The ePlans Electronic Submission and Plan Review web site allows construction plans to be submitted and reviewed electronically across Departmental boundaries, eliminating the significant amount of paper waste produced by this process in the past. Although the ePlans program has reduced significantly the amount of waste produced, City operations necessarily use large amounts of paper. To encourage recycling at City Hall, Gillette has placed paper recycling bins next to employees' desks, in meeting rooms, and adjacent to copiers and printers. Bins have been placed throughout City Hall and at many local functions to collect plastic bottles and aluminum cans. Finally, various operations in Gillette including Fleet Maintenance, Electric Services, and City Hall have instated programs to recycle the metal used in wiring and other areas. Not all waste can be recycled, and Gillette is committed to reusing as much of this as possible. The City operates a Yard Waste Program, providing curbside and drop-off options for citizens to divert yard waste. Yard waste is then composted and sold to the public. In addition, the City has initiated a pilot project to compost food waste delivered from local businesses.



Targets for Continued Progress

With the programs currently in place, Gillette has accomplished a recycling diversion rate of 9%. By 2015, the City intends to double this rate and to divert 18% of waste to recycling. Gillette also seeks to lessen the impact of the products that City departments consume. To this end, the City seeks to adopt a universal procurement policy that will guide product purchases across City departments.

Actions

Improvements to Recycling Programs

Currently, Gillette has a curbside recycling program, by which citizens place their recyclables in “blue bags,” which are then picked up by a contracted hauler. Citizens can acquire a starter kit with blue bags from the City as well as purchase blue bags from various local retailers. Not only does this system increase the effort to which citizens must go to recycle, but blue bags are prone to blow away on windy days, creating more waste. In order to streamline the recycling process, Gillette intends to transition to a cart system for curbside recycling in the future. Under this new system, citizens will place their recyclables in 96 gallon carts to be collected rather than blue bags, making recycling as simple as possible for residents. Gillette is also working to expand the list of items that citizens can recycle. The City has recently added glass to the items accepted at drop-off locations, and it intends to add glass to its curbside recycling program as a part of the new cart system. In addition, the City intends to add plastics 3-7 and boxboard, commonly used in packaging, to the items accepted for curbside recycling.

Procurement Policy

In a continued effort to close the materials loop and minimize the release of pollutants, Gillette plans to enact a procurement policy to guide purchases of essential supplies in City buildings. The policy will dictate that City employees utilize a number of best practices to guide purchasing decisions, to the extent that the products perform comparably and are not unreasonably expensive. Best practices will include packaging, which should be recyclable or compostable whenever possible. Matching the standard set for Federal agencies in 2007, Gillette plans to direct that, whenever possible, paper and cardboard products used in City buildings contain a minimum of 30% post-consumer fiber content. The City intends to mandate the use of cleaning products that, at a minimum, meet Green Seal Standards, certifying that the chemicals contained therein produce minimal damage to the environment.



Community Education and Involvement

The participation and support of Gillette's residents is of vital importance to many of the programs discussed above. Education is the first step to encourage participation and support. The City will continue using every avenue possible including social media, traditional media, e-mail blasts and utility bill inserts to keep citizens informed of all its sustainability initiatives. Community events and gatherings represent another opportunity to reach the citizens of Gillette. As discussed above, the City has already begun to emphasize the importance of recycling at many of these events by setting up bins for citizens to deposit their used plastic bottles and aluminum cans. Gillette will continue to emphasize to its citizens whenever possible, through every avenue available, the importance of energy use, water conservation, and waste management.



In addition to educating citizens regarding the importance of sustainability, Gillette has provided various avenues for citizens to become actively involved in sustainability efforts. Keep America Beautiful is a national organization that has promoted cleaner, greener, and safer communities for sixty years by organizing citizens through a network of certified local affiliates. On November 8, 2012, Gillette completed the process of certifying a Keep Gillette Beautiful chapter to organize the efforts of its citizens. Gillette has sponsored various events and programs to encourage public involvement including community clean ups, a trash-a-thon, and the Adopt-a-Planter program whereby citizens pledge to maintain one of Gillette's many planters using plants supplied by the City. Finally, Gillette's children age K-12 compete annually with other schools in a nationwide recycling contest known as the Recycle Bowl; and students at Gillette College participate in RecycleMania, a national contest for secondary students. Gillette plans to continue and to expand its community programs in the future with the goal that all its citizens will take an active role in the City's sustainability efforts.

