

AIR CURRENTS

Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air Newsletter

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WPCA Message from the Chair

With the summer days beginning to fade into fall, it was exciting to be part of the WPCA's outdoor Mobile Workshop with Bublr Bikes. This new transportation addition to Milwaukee is a solid example of some real grassroots work that can have a positive impact on air quality. Plus, it was a lot of fun!

Give some consideration to the request below to hosting a facility tour or sharing your success story we can spotlight so we can all learn from each other.

Dona Wininsky, WPCA Chair

Mobile Workshop

The Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air members were offered an opportunity to see, learn, and test Milwaukee's recently launched bike share system—Bublr Bikes. Executive director, Kevin Hardman, met our group to provide an overview of bike-sharing and future network plans.

Bublr Bikes currently has 10 stations in the Milwaukee downtown area with near term plans to add about 30 more stations, and eventually a network of 100 stations throughout Milwaukee and surrounding communities.

Funding for the system came from business sponsors, non-profits and grant programs such as the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality and Transportation Alternatives Programs. Since demand is outpacing supply, there are certainly more opportunities for growth and sponsorship.

According to Kevin, most of the bike usage is for transportation, in other words, to get from one destination to the next. Our destination was the recently opened access points and pathway to the Hank Aaron State Trail (HAST) off the 6th Street Bridge overlooking the Reed Street Yards, home of the new Global Water Technology Park and future water related businesses.

It may have been a (low) moderate air quality day, but it was a great day for a leisurely bike ride that followed the eastern portion of the HAST through Lakeshore State Park, Milwaukee's Third Ward and Walker's Point. The new trail access points include a ramp on one side of the bridge and stairway with bike gutters on the other. A pathway goes along the river where the development site includes water recycling technology, bio-swales and permeable paving to capture stormwater runoff.

To top off the ride, the group supported a local business with a stop over for some ice cream.

For more about Bublr Bikes, Hank Aaron State Trail, and Global Water Technology Park, visit:

<http://bublrbikes.com/>

<http://hankaaronstatetrail.org>

<http://www.watertechnologypark.com/>



Kevin Hardman (right) with leaders of the pack

Share Successes - Open Doors

The Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air recognizes that one of the benefits of a coalition is to work collaboratively and learn from one another. This is a primary purpose for our annual recognition awards event and the *Success Spotlight* feature of this newsletter.

With this in mind, join the following members who have either sent us emission and environmental success stories to feature in the *Air Currents* newsletter, or opened their doors to WPCA members to show how and what they do:

Success Spotlights:

Frito-Lay (Beloit) Inc.
Milwaukee County Transit System
Strattec Security Corporation
Union Cab
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Urban Ecology Center

Facility Tours:

Bublr Bikes
Rockwell Automation

Contact Peter McMullen with offers, intentions, and questions by email: peter.mcmullen@wisconsin.gov or phone: 414-263-8751.

Quantifying Emissions: Tools and Resources

The Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air consists of a variety of entities committed to reducing emissions from individuals, organizations, or collectively as a whole. The quantification of emission reductions and associated benefits can be a challenge. We recently put together a list of potential resources that may be of assistance to you in calculating emission reduction goals and objectives. To see the list, visit:

<http://www.cleanairwisconsin.org/QuantificationTools.php>



Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air

Success Spotlight:

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee is a public urban university with the main 104-acre campus located on Milwaukee's upper eastside, serving roughly 27,000 undergraduate and graduate students. In recent years, the university has undergone several expansion projects including developing three satellite residence halls, taking ownership of the vacated Columbia Hospital, developing a new (and the only) School of Freshwater Sciences research facility, breaking ground on the Innovation Campus on Milwaukee County Grounds, creating the Joseph J. Zilber School of Public Health, and building a new interdisciplinary research facility. While undergoing these development projects, UWM continues to maintain, improve and upgrade its existing infrastructure. Several of these developments have, or are expecting, a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification by the U.S. Green Building Council.

In 2008, UWM had the foresight to be one of the first in the University of Wisconsin System to establish an Office of Sustainability. This office is responsible for a variety of initiatives in areas of energy conservation, stormwater management, waste and recycling, alternative transportation and urban gardening. All of the initiatives are done in a collaborative manner with student, staff and community. Sustainability is part of UWM's curriculum in several academic departments as well as working with local non-profits, state and local units of government.

In 2013, as a member of the Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, UWM received a Silver Rating for Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS). The program is a transparent, self-reporting tool for higher education institutions to measure sustainability performance. The STARS initiative is designed to provide a framework which enables meaningful comparisons over time that sparks collaboration to increase sustainable practices.

In 2009, the university began working on performance contracting of existing buildings on campus making water and energy upgrades and establishing performance measures to demonstrate a lesser environmental impact. Between 2008 and 2013, despite a growing campus, UWM reduced its energy consumption by 22% based on a 2005 baseline. Since 2008, UWM reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by over 10%. The university includes use of renewables as part of their energy portfolio consisting of a 15 kilowatt (kW) solar photo voltaic (PV) system on Bolton Hall, a 30kW solar PV system on the Golda Meir Library and a 10kW solar PV system on the Cambridge Commons Residence Hall. Rounding out the use of renewables is a recently installed wind turbine at the University Services and Research Building, which is a 15kW turbine that is part of micro-grid research project.

Sustainability initiatives have spread into areas of purchasing of food and beverage to meet the STARS criteria of purchasing locally grown and processed items including organically certified within a 250 mile area of the institution. For fiscal year 2012, the purchasing criteria achieved 14.2% local and/or third party certification and continues to increase with on-campus gardens. Waste was reduced by 16% between 2005 and 2012, with the diversion of 1,500 tons of materials through composting, recycling, and reuse.

In 2014, UWM was recognized by WPCA with the Commuter Champ Award for the multitude of efforts for providing transportation options to students and staff. Between 2008 and 2012, UWM students increased 59% to 63% their use of more sustainable commuting options. These options included carpooling, carsharing, transit, biking, and walking. UWM is living up to their tagline of Powerful Ideas— Proven Results.

Want to be featured in WPCA Air Currents' Success Spotlight?
Send us your emission and environmental success story.



Wisconsin Clean Cities

National Alternative Fuel Vehicle
Odyssey Day Event

October 15, 2014

2:00-5:00 p.m.

Mequon, WI

more information, visit:

<http://afvdayodyssey.org/archives/1138>



Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air is a coalition committed to improving air quality through voluntary action. Comments, suggestions, and successes, contact: Peter McMullen phone: 414-263-8751 or email: peter.mcmullen@wisconsin.gov