
RAPID CITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

11.21.2022



The purpose of the Rapid City Standing Committee on Sustainability is to encourage education, stewardship and policy leadership that will make our community a leader in economic, social and environmental sustainability.



AGENDA

- Sustainability Defined
- Committee Membership
- Subcommittees
- Year in Review: Events & Awards
- Community Partners
- Sustainability Coordinator & Program

SUSTAINABILITY DEFINED

Sustainability means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.



Three Pillars of Sustainability ~ All Factors in Decision-Making

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

14 MEMBERS (... & A WAITING LIST!)

Members

Dr. Ilke Celik
Stacie Granum
David Holland
Kelli Juhl
Jason Phillips
Garth Wadsworth
Lysann Zeller
Nicole Uhre-Balk – *Alternate*
Olivia Boerger – *Alternate*

Officers

Alan Anderson – *Chair*
Dr. Scott Kenner – *Vice-Chair*
Ria Hannon – *Secretary*
Patricia Scarborough –
Treasurer
Cathy Thrash – *Social Media*
Coordinator

City Liaisons

Pat Roseland –
City Council
Calli Pearson –
Mayor's Office

SUBCOMMITTEES



**Events, Education
& Outreach**

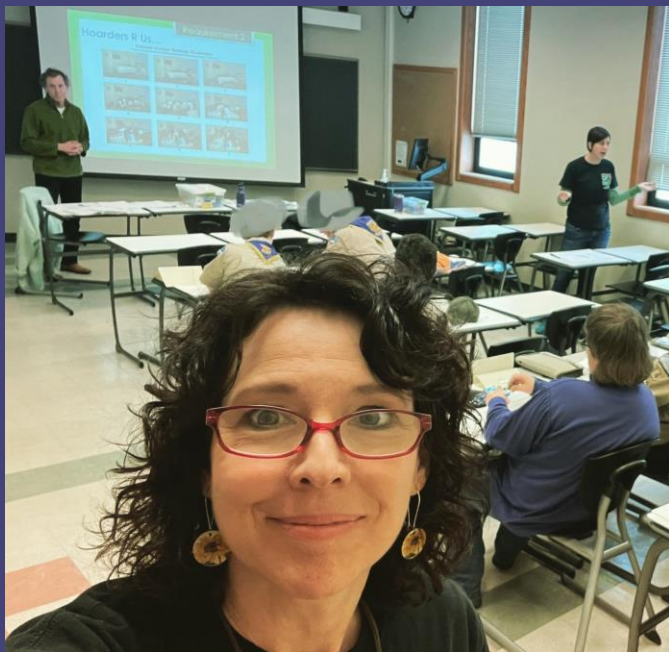


City Facilities



**Sustainable
Development**





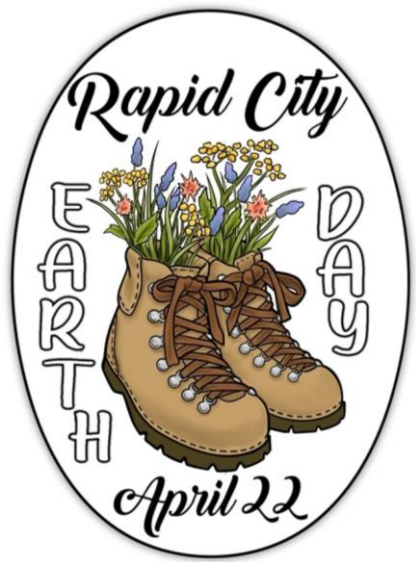
YEAR IN REVIEW

Events

- Scouts Sustainability Merit Badges
- Stevens High School Student Pollution Solutions
- SD Mines Student Poster Presentations
- Dark Sky Week
- Thomson Park Cleanup
- International Visitor Leadership Program Tour
- Goodwill & YFS Garden Tours

Sustainability Awards

- Home Grown Goods
- Black Hills Solar



EARTH DAY

APRIL 22 @

THE DAHL

- STM Student's Award-Winning "Hell on Earth" Documentary and "2040" Movie Presentation
- ~175 People & 15 Environmental Organizations
- Information, Prizes, Stickers, Food Truck, and Fun
- 2nd Annual Earth Day Trail Challenge (2x participants!)



POLLINATOR WEEK & ADVOCACY

City Hall – BH Farmers Market



Thank You to the Mayor's Office & Davis Purcell



BEE CITY USA
AN INITIATIVE OF THE XERCES SOCIETY

Thank You to RC Parks & Rec, RC Garden Club, & DRB Beekeeping (Tim Moran)



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Fullerton Farm – Box Elder



SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Rapid City

- Beautification Committee
- Urban Wildlife Committee
- City Departments & Staff
- Youth City Council

Education

- Western Dakota Tech
- South Dakota Mines

Local Organizations

- International Dark-Sky Association – SD Chapter
- Black Hills Farmers Market
- Rapid Creek Watershed Action
- West Blvd Neighborhood Assoc.

New!

- Visit Rapid City – Destination Stewardship Planning
- Apolda, Germany – Sister City Grant for Sustainability Education

RAPID CITY SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR & PROGRAM (😊!)

SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR & PROGRAM

HISTORY & MOVING FORWARD

Advocacy

A Sustainability Coordinator position has been advocated for since the formation of the Rapid City Sustainability Committee in 2012.

It was also included as a recommendation of the 2014 Rapid City Comprehensive Plan.

Information Gathering

Starting in 2020, RCSC members spoke with sustainability coordinators in other communities, did many hours of research, and created a draft job description.

Education

RCSC worked with City Council liaisons over the past several years to educate them about the benefits of this position.

RCSC also met with city staff members to discuss the proposed position and formally presented findings to the Mayor and Legal & Finance Committee in Aug/Sept 2022.

Action

The Rapid City City Council included the position in the 2023 budget (thank you!) with the idea that a sustainability program needs to be created first. The Mayor has taken the lead in this effort and a retreat was held on October 12, 2022, with the Mayor, City Council, Department Heads, and RCSC members.

Next Steps

A survey identifying focus areas for the position was recently completed and will be the foundation of the sustainability program going forward.

Other details are still be worked on by the Mayor, City Council, and Staff.

We are ready and willing to help!

RCSC 2023

Following the hiring of a Sustainability Coordinator, we anticipate the role of our committee to evolve, but not be eliminated.

In the meantime, RCSC will continue to work on sustainability initiatives throughout the community.

SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

FOCUS AREAS

- Sustainable Growth & Development
- Water
- Waste Management
- Transportation
- Local & Sustainable Food Supply
- Energy
- Sustainability Education & Outreach
- Green Spaces
- Resiliency
- Crime Prevention through Environmental Design
- Water Reclamation
- Social Sustainability
- Storm Water
- Employee Satisfaction

Goals for a better world



SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

2nd & 4th Mondays of the Month
@ 5:30 pm

(In person or Zoom)

Everyone is Welcome!

CONNECT WITH US:

Facebook: RapidCitySustainability

Instagram: RapidCitySustainability

Web: www.rapidcitysustainability.com

Email: rapidcitysustainability@gmail.com

Thank You!

