



Goals, Target Areas, and Project Ideas

These are just suggestions - feel free to improvise.



Sustainable Neighborhoods Program



Goal:

Promote energy conservation and the use of renewable energy sources throughout the neighborhood.

Target Areas:

- Residential Energy Conservation
- Renewable Energy Sources
- Green Building

Initiative & Project Ideas

Home Energy Audits

Partner with local businesses and energy providers to get technical assistance and rebates for optimizing home energy efficiency.

Neighborhood Energy Blitz

Organize energy contractors to provide audits, energy-saving improvements and education for a neighborhood all in one day.

Renewable Energy Fair

Invite local renewable energy businesses to the neighborhood to teach about options for adopting renewable energy practices including purchasing offsite and onsite installation.

Home Improvement Directory

Create a list of home energy improvement products and where neighbors can find them.

Energy Incentives Catalog

Assemble a list of discounts, rebates, low-income programs, and other financial incentives for installing solar panels or energy-efficient improvements.

Solar Mapping

Map the solar potential of rooftops in your neighborhood and share the results with the neighborhood.

ENERGY STAR Campaign

Have neighbors take the ENERGY STAR pledge to change energy behaviors, install energy-efficient appliances, and track energy usage.

Energy 101

Host an educational seminar about how Colorado's energy system works and how your neighborhood fits into the system.

Weatherization Workshop

Invite local hardware stores to present on products and projects to insulate homes against too-cold and too-hot temperatures.

Green Building Design Workshop

Hold a workshop with local experts to educate neighbors on green building design options including landscaping for energy and green roofs.

Power Check

Check out a "Power Check" meter from the City to learn about how much energy your appliances use.

Efficient Front Porch Light Bulbs

Go door-to-door replacing conventional light bulbs to save energy.





Goal:

Reduce emissions generated in the neighborhood and improve both outdoor and indoor air quality.

Target Areas:

- Outdoor Emissions
- Indoor Air Quality
- Trees and Vegetation
- Carbon Footprint Reduction

Initiative & Project Ideas

Neighborhood Transportation Pledge

Research different pledge programs that promote improving air quality by reducing weekly trips. Set-up a prize system to incentivize participation.

Vehicle Maintenance Educational Workshop

Learn to improve efficiency and reduce emissions.

Bike to Work Day

Plan a group bike ride or host a station for riders on Bike to Work Day.

Carpool Network

Promote regional carpooling programs or create one for the neighborhood.

Alternative Transportation Map and Guide

Develop a resource for existing and new residents in the neighborhood highlighting bike, pedestrian, vehicle sharing and other features.

Missing Links Assessment

Map barriers to walking and bicycling in the neighborhood.

Electric Vehicle Showcase

Invite neighbors to display their EV's and educate the community on the benefits of going electric.

Fireplace Replacement

Reduce the number of wood-burning fireplaces in use in your neighborhood by educating neighbors about the impact they have on air quality.

Tree Planting

Hold events to plant yard and street trees to improve air quality.

Carbon Footprint Challenge

Create a neighborhood challenge for reducing household carbon footprints.

Electric Lawn Equipment

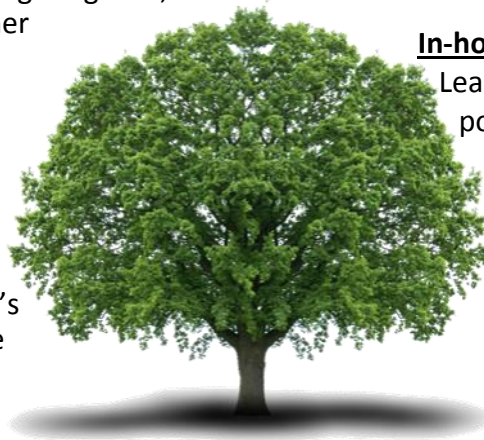
Promote the use of electric lawn equipment. Research and communicate different purchasing options with the community.

In-home Air Quality Workshop

Learn about sources of indoor air pollution and how to address them.

Radon Detectors

Test homes for high levels of Radon.





Goal:

Conserve water resources and improve water quality.

Target Areas

- Indoor and Outdoor Water Conservation
- Storm water Management
- Stream/Gulch Protection

Initiative & Project Ideas

Home Water Audits

Partner with Denver Water to sign neighbors up for audits to identify home water inefficiencies.

Water Efficiency Blitz

Organize contractors to provide water audits, leaky faucet repair and education for the neighborhood all in one day.

Water Conservation Fair

Give neighbors the opportunity to learn about WaterSense products and services to reduce water use, discover rebates available from Denver Water, and talk with local businesses about water use reduction and conservation services.

Garden in a Box

Acquire a simple garden in a box template from a local entity or develop one for the neighborhood as a resource. These systems contain low-water plants for addressing landscaping needs.

Leaky Faucet Repair Team

Build a team of neighborhood volunteers who can be contacted to repair leaky faucets.

Stream Bank Projects

Protect vegetation and prevent erosion around neighborhood waterways.

Rain Barrel Workshop

Rain Barrels are now legal in Colorado! Hold a workshop to inform residents of what they need to know for installing rain barrels in their yard.

Adopt-a-Gulch

Commit to regular clean-up days of local waterways.

Fertilizer and Pesticide Reduction Campaign

Learn about the impacts of chemicals on water quality and create a pledge to reduce chemical use.

Porous Surfaces

Educate neighbors on how to use porous pavements and other alternatives to concrete.

Xeriscape Workshop and Regional Rain Garden Tours

Learn about landscaping using water wise plants. Tour the Kendrick Lake Garden or request a speaker to educate on best practices.





Goal:

Encourage stewardship and conservation of ecosystems and resources.

Target Areas

- Sustainable Landscapes
- Wildlife & Habitat Enhancement
- Chemical Pollution
- Recycling & Waste Reduction

Initiative & Project Ideas

Community Garden Development

Connect with gardening groups to transform yards and community spaces into gardens. Denver Urban Gardens (DUG) is a great resource.

Wildlife Friendly Yards

Get neighbors to commit to pollinator and wildlife friendly yards through elimination of harmful chemicals to treat landscape.

Noxious Weed Removal and Native Plant Workshop

Hold a workshop to educate neighbors on noxious weeds and what native plants work well for landscaping.

Alternative Methods Workshop

Put on an educational workshop to inform neighbors of alternative, safe methods to pest management.

Neighborhood Biodiversity

Tracker

Inventory species in the neighborhood in order to track changes.

Habitat Tree Inventory

Identify older neighborhood trees that provide important habitat.

Living With Wildlife

Learn how to reduce conflicts with coyotes, skunks, foxes and other wildlife.

Household Hazardous Material Recycling

Organize a special collection to take neighborhood hazardous materials to Rooney Road Recycling Center rooneyroadrecycling.org.

Green Purchasing Guide

Create a guide to purchasing environmentally friendly household cleaners and other products.

Curbside Recycling Sign-up

Encourage curbside recycling by residents as part of their trash service.

Leaf Drop

Organize a leaf drop to compost neighborhood yard waste.

Compost Workshop

Host a workshop on backyard composting.



Neighborhood Repair Café

Organize a new Repair Café in your neighborhood to repair your broken items, learn skills from experts, and provide your own repair expertise.

Hard to Recycle Event

Hold an event for neighbors to drop off hard to recycle items.



Goal:

Enhance the social vitality of the neighborhood by encouraging community interaction, partnerships, and outreach programs.

Target Areas:

- Health & Wellness
- Community Outreach
- Youth Programs
- Neighborhood Heritage
- Local Economy & Green Purchasing

Initiative & Project Ideas

Develop a Community Outreach Plan

A community outreach plan should include all possible outlets of communication to the neighborhood including social media, phone and email trees, mailing lists, webpages, etc. It would be very beneficial to identify which of these resources have the capability to be multi-lingual.

Community Asset Inventory

Create an inventory of all organizations, schools and non-profits in the neighborhood to explore potential partnerships.

Community Clubs

Create a group that meets regularly do activities such as exercise or clean-up trash in the neighborhood.

Walkability Analysis

Identify missing sidewalk links and other barriers.

Community Charity Events

Host food, coat, school supply or other charitable drives.

Helping Hands Network

Establish a network of volunteers to assist with home maintenance.

Historic and Cultural Resources Inventory

Research neighborhood history and identify properties of historic significance.

Local Lunch Club

Create a group to meet regularly at local restaurants.

Neighborhood Historic Tour

Create a self-guided tour that includes stories and myths about the neighborhood.

After-school Activity Enrollment

Encourage participation in after-school programs for neighborhood children.

Recreation Programs

Set a goal for increasing recreation program participation.

Green Initiative Youth Team

Help form a volunteer team of neighborhood youth to lead sustainability projects.

Elderly Driving Assistance Network

Identify volunteers willing to be contacted to assist elderly neighbors with getting around town and to appointments.

Local Business Partnerships

Work with area businesses to accomplish projects and support the neighborhood.

Community Gardening

Build a community garden, share produce from home gardens.

