



**AGENDA**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2022**  
**6:30 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE**

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

- A. Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Commission meeting on January 19, 2022

**4. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Nothing scheduled

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Draft presentation to Council
- B. Draft 2022 Work Plan
- C. Environmental Resource Expo

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. VLAWMO Pool Guidance

**7. DISCUSSION**

- A. Staff updates
  - Rotary Park restoration project planning
  - VLAWMO MS4 SWPPP tips webinar
  - 2022 street project and raingarden program
- B. Commission member updates
- C. Do-outs
- D. March agenda

**8. ADJOURNMENT**



**City of White Bear Lake**  
Engineering Department

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** Environmental Advisory Commission  
**From:** Connie Taillon, P.E., Environmental Specialist  
**Date:** February 16, 2022  
**Subject:** **Action Items - February 16, 2022 EAC Meeting**

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**Agenda Item 5A. Draft Presentation to Council**

The draft presentation from member Greenleaf is included in the packet.

*Action:* Review the draft presentation and provide comments.

**Agenda item 5B. Draft 2022 Work Plan**

The draft 2022 work plan is included in the packet

*Action:* Review the priority list and choose the initiatives with the most votes to include in the 2022 work plan. Consider a motion to approve the draft 2022 work plan.

**Agenda Item 5C. Environmental Resource Expo**

The 2021 Expo list is included in the packet for review. The Marketfest Coordinator invited the EAC to hold the Environmental Expo at Marketfest on July 28, 2022.

*Action:* Consider a motion to accept the July 28, 2022 Marketfest date for the Environmental Resource Expo.

**Agenda Item 6A. VLAWMO Pool Guidance**

VLAWMO created a pool drainage guide and is asking for feedback from the Environmental Advisory Commission.

*Action:* Review the pool drainage guide and provide comments.

2022 Proposed Goals	Bob	Bonnie	Chris	Rick	Sheryl	Gary	TOTAL
plastic bag ordinance		x					1
Zero waste events			x	x			2
pollinator plantings		x	x			x	3
Downtown recycling	x			x	x		2
reduce recycling contamination workshop	x	x		x	x	x	4
no mow May	x		x				1
Prairie city initiative							0
pollinator garden tour /promotion							0
electric lawn equipment			x	x		x	3
solar on buildings		x		x	x		3
restaurant composting							0
drinking water quality	x						0
microplastics awareness							0
city plastic recycling with Merrick	x			x			1
rebates for water efficient appliance		x		x	x		3
water conservation promotion						x	1
buckthorn removal event with RWMWD			x			x	2
Develop Zero Waste Plan							0
promote residential energy audits							0
Create Sustainable community goals							0
Earth day event							0
Increase green space tree plantings					x		1

NOTE: for other ideas, review the GreenStep Cities 'best practices' list at <https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/b>

## Environmental Advisory Commission 2022 Work Plan - DRAFT

Month	Recurrent Agenda Items	Activities/Events /Speakers
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Resource Expo planning</li> <li>Priority goal(s) planning</li> </ul>	Vadnais Heights Park, Recreation, and Trails Commission
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spring newsletter articles - adopt a drain &amp; spotlight on sustainability</li> <li>Environmental Resource Expo planning</li> <li>High priority goals</li> </ul>	Prairie City USA
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Resource Expo planning</li> <li>High priority goals</li> <li>National Mayor's Water Challenge</li> <li>Discuss upcoming annual SWPPP meeting</li> </ul>	<p style="color: red;">Street Project discussion</p> <p style="color: red;">SWMP discussion</p>
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Resource Expo planning</li> <li>High priority goals</li> </ul>	
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Resource Expo planning</li> <li>High priority goals</li> </ul>	
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Resource Expo planning</li> <li>High priority goals</li> </ul>	
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Resource Expo planning</li> <li>High priority goals</li> </ul>	Environmental Resource Expo, July <span style="color: red;">XX</span>
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No official meeting this month</li> </ul>	
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2023 Work Plan</li> <li>Volunteer Recognition Dinner slide show ideas</li> <li>Prepare for joint meeting with Parks Commission</li> </ul>	R&E Center Tour <span style="background-color: yellow;">(when?)</span>
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2023 Work Plan</li> <li>Commission Officer Election – Chair, Vice-Chair</li> <li>Prepare for joint meeting with Parks Commission</li> </ul>	
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint meeting with Parks Commission</li> </ul>	
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approve 2023 Work Plan</li> </ul>	Holiday Treats

### High Priority Goals for 2022

- Presentation to City Council (introductions, past accomplishments, upcoming initiatives)

## **High Priority Goals from 2021**

- Plastic bag ordinance
- Zero waste events
- Pollinator plantings
- DT area recycling
- Reducing contamination in recycling (scrap metal, batteries, plastic bags) – staff request

## **Other Goals**

- No Mow May
- Solar on buildings
- IDDE lawn clippings and trash
- Partnering with Xcel Energy on special projects
- Salt management education
- Expo exhibit upgrades: tent weights, banner, battery powered lawn equipment display
- Promote high quality of drinking water (reduce bottled water use)
- Enforcement of water ordinance and illicit discharge ordinance (grass clippings)– door hangers, etc
- EAC duties/goals
- Restaurant composting
- Pollinator garden tours/promotion/map of gardens
- Shoreview water smart app
- Microplastics
- Drinking water quality
- Enforcement of water ordinance and illicit discharge ordinance (grass clippings)– door hangers, etc

**Review GreenStep Cities website:** <https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/best-practices>

## **Climate Smart Municipalities topics**

- Community solar and solar panels on City buildings
- Charge for plastic bags
- Single use plastics
- Climate change resolution
- Partner with Xcel Energy for Projects
- Air quality-lawn equipment (City and private).
- Energy focus, specifically renewables

## **Ramsey County Solid Waste Master Plan topics**

- Curbside collection of bulky items for recycling
- Inclusion of small businesses in City recycling service
- Textile recycling (curbside, special collection, or drop-off) – required by 2019

## **MS4 Permit topics**

- Salt management education
- Dog waste

## **Current initiatives**

LED lighting in City Hall, Public Safety, and Public Works

EV chargers in DT parking lots

Fleet vehicle analysis

Climate Action Steering Committee

Sports Center Upgrades and solar

# City facility energy Audit - Trane

**Environmental Resource Expo - Exhibitor and Volunteer Master List**

**August 5, 2021 5:00pm to 9:30pm**

EAC contact	Organization	Need table & canopy?	2017 status	2018 status	2019 attendance	2021 status
?	Lawns to Legumes?					
?	Met Council Environmental Services?		yes	no	no	
Bob	White Bear Lake Seed Library	no - share with Master Gardeners			yes	no
	Metro Transit	NA	yes	yes	yes	no
	Ramsey County Master Gardeners	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
	Rainbow Tree Care	yes		yes	yes	yes
Chris	Tesla Dealership					no
	Tesla owner/Electric Vehicle Group Contact		yes	yes		yes - 3 vehicles
	Electric Lawn Equipment Demo	save a space next to the EAC tent			NA	
	Scouts - Troup 494	no - volunteers	yes	yes		sign up available
Bonnie	MN State Horticultural Society - magazines	no	yes - books	yes - 2 boxes of magazines and a membership to raffle	yes - 1 box magazines	Complete
Sheryl	Tamarack Nature Center	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
	Conservation Minnesota		yes	yes	no	no
Gary	Rush Line Corridor	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
	Adopt a Drain - Watershed Partners/RCWD	yes		-	yes	
	Ramsey County - curbside composting					no
	RWMWD					new invite for 2021
Connie	Pollinator Friendly Alliance	yes	yes	yes - no show	yes	yes
	EV owner - WBL resident	no		yes - 1 additional vehicle	yes	did not contact
	NE Metro Climate Action				yes	yes - has a tent. Email map to <a href="mailto:katewinsor@comcast.net">katewinsor@comcast.net</a>
	MN350					emailed 07.19.21
	Citizens Climate Lobby	yes			yes	no
	Bruce Vento Regional Trail - New as of 06/02/21					may be interested if timing is right
	Zero Waste Task Force - Sierra Club	yes			yes	yes
	VLAWMO	no	yes	yes	yes	yes - has a tent
	Race to Reduce + H2O for Life		yes	no	no	invite sent 052421
	WBL City, EAC, Ramsey County Envir Health	yes - shared table	yes	yes	yes	yes - need 2 spaces, 2 tables, 1 tent
	Xcel					yes - Sponsor for Expo - has their own tent. Do they need a table?
	Footprint Earth Foundation		yes	yes	yes	invite sent 052421
	Wilderness in the City				interested for 2020	invite sent 071921
Center for Energy and Environment (CEE)	yes	yes	yes	yes	invite sent 052421	
University of Minnesota Turfgrass Research Group					new invite for 2021?	



# Pool & Spa Drainage Guide

## Why careful pool water disposal matters:

Improper release of swimming pool water can harm local waterbodies, degrading water quality and wildlife while harming vegetation. Local waterbodies depend on responsible actions from everyone to remain healthy and functional for the community.

## Pool draining Steps:

1. A week prior to draining the pool, stop adding chlorine.
2. Test the water before draining: pH should be 6.5-7.8, chlorine levels not detectable.
3. Pump pool water over an open area such as a lawn before letting it drain into a stormdrain. Look for natural drainage paths or alter the drainage path to keep water away from adjacent property and buildings.
4. Never drain pool water directly into a body of water such as a lake, stream, or wetland.
5. Used pool filters can be thrown into the trash. Extra or partially used filters can be disposed at Ramsey County household hazardous waste collection.



## Pool draining tips:

- Careful use of pool chemicals can save money and help simplify the pool draining process.
- If pool drainage is a regular or semi-regular occurrence, it will be worth taking the time to make a permanent plan that includes hoses, pumps (pictured left), and potentially landscaping strategies.
- Consider a backyard raingarden with an overflow feature as a strategy to capture pool water and rooftop runoff.
- Filter out any paint chips before draining.
- If using an acid product to clean the pool, make sure pH levels have adjusted to normal before draining. Always follow instructionf on chemical labels for disposal and usage. Never mix two or more chemicals.
- Remember that stormdrains connect directly to waterbodies.





## Current Do-Outs

### Commission Members

- Consider supporting NEMCA environmental resolutions in the upcoming precinct caucus.
- ~~Bonnie to revise the presentation slides by February 2<sup>nd</sup> and email to commission members for review.~~
- Rick to schedule a meeting with Connie to review unfinished GreenStep Cities Best Practices.
- Review GreenStep Cities list for 2022 work plan ideas
- Gary offered to lead the 'reduce recycling contamination' work plan item.
- Bonnie to add to token spreadsheet
- Gary to organize a potential buckthorn removal event with RWMWD and YMCA at the YMCA and Lakewood Hills Park
- Gary to contact Jake from Specialized Technologies to speak at a future EAC meeting

### Staff

- ~~Email 2022 draft goals spreadsheet and ask Bob to add his top 5 priorities to the spreadsheet~~
- Email updated photos to Bonnie for inclusion in the presentation slides.
- Research where to properly dispose of concrete wash water
- ~~Request grant application from Ramsey County for DT recycling containers~~
- Check with PW to determine why there aren't trees in some of the cutouts on Banning
- Update from the MPCA on the status of testing at County E and Bellaire
- Email air quality sensor info to Public Works
- Schedule tour of Newport facility at a date TBD – add to 2022 work plan
- Purchase compostable products for City events
- Add water use tracking app to CSM action items
- Show the WBAHS winning video at a future meeting
- Add AIS ID information to the website and update adopt a drain page
- Watershed district map (large scale with aerial photo)