



ILLINOIS GREEN OFFICE CHALLENGE



ILLINOIS SUSTAINABLE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER
PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE



WHAT IS THE ILLINOIS GREEN OFFICE CHALLENGE?

The Illinois Green Office Challenge is a program patterned after the Chicago Green Office Challenge that encourages friendly competition amongst office buildings to achieve energy and water conservation and waste reduction. It aims to make Illinois more livable, sustainable, and prosperous.

WHY SHOULD YOUR OFFICE PARTICIPATE?

The Illinois Green Office Challenge aims to:

1. Reduce the consumption of energy and water, output of waste, and carbon emissions
2. Economic Benefits - Participants that completed the 2013 Chicago Challenge saved over \$17.5 million in energy costs alone
3. Meet Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability Goals while improving reputation and image for customers and staff
4. To have fun and receive recognition by peers and the media



WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

For our pilot program this year, all office buildings located in the cities of Peoria, Bloomington-Normal, or Urbana-Champaign are eligible. Other communities will be added in future years. The challenge welcomes all public and private buildings that are used primarily for office space.

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

Sign up to receive updates.

WHO DO I CONTACT?

Bart Bartels

Illinois Sustainable Technology Center

217-244-7572

bbartel@illinois.edu



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WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE INVOLVED THAT YOU CAN CHOOSE FROM?

ENERGY

1. Learn about energy management as a Green Team
2. Complete energy use baseline questionair
3. Track energy use with Energy Star Portfolio Manager
4. Learn about energy sub-metering
5. Conduct a lighting and lighting controls audit
6. Retrofit lighting and lighting controls
7. Conduct a pre-Challenge plug load survey
8. Reduce plug load by communicating with co-workers
9. Write a power-down policy
10. Install appliance controls
11. Reduce HVAC energy use

WASTE

1. Learn about waste management as a Green Team
2. Complete the Waste Management Questionnaire
3. Conduct a pre-Challenge DIY waste audit
4. Conduct a post-Challenge DIY waste audit
5. Utilize duplex printing
6. Create new recycling program
7. Create a new recycling policy
8. Raise awareness of existing recycling program
9. Expand collection of recyclable materials
10. Donate to local charities

OUTREACH

1. Create a Green Team
2. Add members to your Green Team
3. Invite other office buildings to join the Challenge
4. Initiate a sector-based mini-Challenge

PURCHASING

1. Learn about green purchasing as a Green Team
2. Complete Green Purchasing Questionnaire
3. Conduct pre-Challenge purchasing survey
4. Write a new green purchasing policy or enhance the existing one to include EPEAT, ENERGY Star, etc.
5. Join the State Electronics Challenge (public organizations only)

TRANSPORT

1. Learn about alternative transportation as a Green Team
2. Complete the alternative transportation questionnaire
3. Conduct a pre-Challenge commuter survey
4. Conduct a post-Challenge commuter survey
5. Bike to Work: Participate in bike-to-work week
6. Implement a new transit benefit system
7. Establish a company car or bike share account
8. Teleconferencing is available to avoid travel

PURCHASING

1. Learn about water conservation as a Green Team
2. Complete the Water Conservation Questionnaire
3. Track water use with Energy Star Portolio Manager
4. Audit water fixtures
5. Install aerators
6. Replace water fixtures
7. Sign up for the Billion Gallon Water Challenge