

Excerpt from *Community Sustainability Action Plan*



EDUCATION

VISION: Everyone understands fundamental life-support systems, feels connected to environment, and has high awareness of environmental footprint and what it takes to balance economic, environmental, and community needs while building opportunities for future generations to meet their own needs.

Goal 1: By 2015, 100% of area school districts and private schools will integrate sustainability concepts into their curricula and adopt and model sustainable practices in 100% of their facilities.

Interim Goal: By 2011, school district will integrate sustainability concepts into single grade level.

Strategy 1: *Develop a District/School Sustainability Plan. By September 2010, form a Sustainability Advisory Team that may include community experts, administrators, teachers, facilities staff, board members and students.*

Action 1. School boards adopt sustainability as a priority focus area and form district or school Sustainability Advisory teams to develop comprehensive sustainability plan.

Action 2. Designate/hire Sustainability Coordinator by 2010.

Action 3. Prioritize, integrate and model sustainable practices, such as alternative energy use in school, use of sustainable materials in construction, use of environmentally friendly products.

Strategy 2: *By 2015, integrate sustainability concepts into curriculum at every (100%) grade level.*

Action 1. Determine how sustainability can be integrated into existing state standards and current educational offerings K-12. Identify funding needs.

Action 2. Establish Sustainability lesson plans. Identify curriculum resource materials.

Action 3. Maintain and increase support for natural resource education and funding (e.g., Outdoor School). For example, develop comprehensive plan to seek funds through "No Child Left Inside" (if passed).

Strategy 3: *100% of district teachers and staff will receive sustainability concept training.*

Action 1. Offer teacher in-service days on sustainability topics.

Action 2. Adopt requirement that teachers attend professional development workshop on sustainability to maintain certification. Continuing education requirement.

Action 3. Develop sustainability education forum for private school teachers to attend.

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Goal 2: By 2012, 100% of area institutions of higher education will make a sustainability course required for graduation (a variety of courses will meet this requirement) and expand course offerings to the community.

Strategy 1: *Encourage, train, and engage students in sustainable practices through courses, mentoring, and service-based projects.*

Action 1. Identify sustainability concepts that all students should understand. Identify and develop courses that currently meet the requirement. Seek national funding to develop sustainability leaders training programs.

Action 2. Connect OSU with community to promote sustainability through mentoring programs (college to K-12; youth projects) and internships with organizations and businesses.

Action 3. Develop graduate and undergraduate degrees or certificates in sustainability; include a community outreach sustainability component such as internships and mentoring programs.

Strategy 2: *Publicize sustainability approaches, courses, and groups at OSU and Linn Benton Community College (LBCC): Operations, Events, Outreach, Planning and Policy, Research, Student Resources, and Transportation.*

Action 1. Integrate sustainability focus at career fair; invite 'key note' speaker to talk about sustainability topic.

Action 2. Have sustainability clubs hold events to promote new requirement.

Action 3. Develop and encourage sustainability training for staff and faculty.

Strategy 3: *Develop sustainability courses targeted at individuals and businesses/ organizations through OSU Extension and/or LBCC.*

Action 1. Develop guidelines for sustainability program like the Master Gardeners program and identify workshops and training sessions that already meet these guidelines.

Action 2. Develop guidelines and Sustainable Leadership Training Program for businesses and organizations.

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Goal 3: By 2012, sustainability information from various sources, including Corvallis Sustainability Coalition work groups, partner organizations, and external resources, will be available to all members of the community, e.g. businesses, government entities, general public.

Interim Goal:

Strategy 1: By 2010, establish a permanent “sustainability center” for coordinating and disseminating sustainability education to all sectors of the community.

Action 1. Identify location and funding for potential sustainability center sites.

Action 2. Develop, hold, and promote training, courses, talks, workshops on all aspects of sustainability, including green tours of city sites (landfill, waste treatment plant, water treatment plant, watershed).

Action 3. Develop creative array of community media resources to reach all community members, such as website, kiosk, riverfront display, sustainability beaver column in GT, resource guide for sustainable products, programming for public access TV and radio, incentive campaigns, and neighborhood leaders program.

Strategy 2: City, county, and organizations, such as schools, faith-based communities, businesses, and nonprofits, actively communicate how they utilize sustainable practices.

Action 1. Work in conjunction with Corvallis Sustainability Center to communicate goals and achievements.

Action 2. Publicly display progress toward Sustainability Coalition goals such as kiosk, riverfront display, publish goal, progress reports including info on all community partners.

Strategy 3: Businesses actively communicate how they are using sustainable practices.

Action 1. Develop criteria and guidelines for what a sustainable business is, like “LEED” (green building) certification for building.

Action 2. Hold sustainable business and products fair to showcase.

Action 3. Publicize 'supply chain' of everyday products and foods.