



OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

of a meeting of a City Board, Commission, Department
Committee, Agency, Corporation, Quasi-Municipal
Corporation, or Sub-unit thereof.

Meeting: SUSTAINABILITY, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE

Members: John Kroll (C), Carol Lukens, Scott Charette, Jay Coldwell, Mary Kluz,
Ashley Lange, Jesse Kearns

Location: Board Room of Wausau City Hall, 407 Grant Street.

Date/Time: Thursday, July 6, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Public comment
3. Approve minutes of May 4, 2023 meeting
4. Updates: Green Tier Legacy, Committee Membership, Youth Representation
5. Discussion and Possible Action: Food Resiliency and Security – Municipal support for local initiatives
6. Discussion: Greenhouse Gas Resolution progress
7. Discussion and Possible Action: Alternatives to No Mow May for 2024
8. Next meeting date: August 3
9. Adjourn

It is likely that members of, and a quorum of the Council and/or members of other committees of the Common Council of the City of Wausau will be in attendance at the abovementioned meeting to gather information. **No action will be taken by any such groups.**

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the City of Wausau will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs or activities. If you need assistance or reasonable accommodations in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call the ADA Coordinator at (715) 261- 6622 or ADAServices@ci.wausau.wi.us to discuss your accessibility needs. We ask your request be provided a minimum of 72 hours before the scheduled event or meeting. If a request is made less than 72 hours before the event the City of Wausau will make a good faith effort to accommodate your request.

Questions regarding this agenda may be directed to the City Planning Office @ (715) 261-6760.

This Notice was posted at City Hall and emailed to the Media on 06/30/2023

Any person wishing to offer public comment may email City Clerk Kaitlyn Bernarde at clerk@ci.wausau.wi.us with “SEEC comment” in the subject line prior to the meeting start. All public comment, either by email or in person, will be limited to items on the agenda at this time. The messages related to agenda items received prior to the start of the meeting will be provided to the Chair.

Other Distribution: Media, Alderpersons, Mayor, City Departments

MINUTES

May 4, 2023

Members Present: John Kroll, Carol Lukens, Jay Coldwell, Mary Kluz,

Others Present: Brad Lenz, Andrew Lynch, Amy Neigum, Tracy Knudson, Kingsley Forbes

In compliance with Chapter 19, Wisconsin Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and transmitted to the Wausau Daily Herald in the proper manner.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Meeting started at 5:00pm.

2. Public Comment

Tracy Knudson: had concerns with project coordination related to water utility replacement at his property and the impact on street trees.

Kingsley Forbes: Wanted to know how serious the committee was about zero carbon initiatives. Felt this was important because nothing else mattered in comparison.

3. Approve minutes of April 6, 2023 meeting

Motion/second by Coldwell/Kluz. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Presentation: Amy Neigum, USDA. Urban Agriculture Conservation

Kluz introduced Amy Neigum from the USDA NRCS. She helps farmers with conservation practices and urban agriculture in Marathon, Lincoln, and Langlade counties. Provides technical assistance for local agriculture producers without charge. They have a seasonal High Tunnel or temporary green house on the west side of Wausau. NRCS helps urban farmers with soil health, irrigation and water conservation, weeds and pests. Is looking for someone to join the state technical advisory committee for urban agriculture. Kluz asks if there are particular concerns that inhibit urban agriculture. Zoning, and soil quality are noted as concerns. Lukens asked if schools were eligible for a seasonal high tunnel now that they have gardens in order to better line up with the school year. Coldwell asked about creating a food production plan for the city but Neigum didn't recall a specific resource due to how new the program is. NRCS is available to provide resources and is a voluntary program.

5. Updates: Wisconsin Rapids Sustainability Group, Youth Representation

Kroll was approached by Clean Green Action Group in Wisconsin Rapids. They are trying to do something similar in their city. They will stay in contact with Kroll in the future and were provided with resources. Lukens has contacted teachers and principals at the Wausau high schools and found teachers that have interested students. Lynch discussed the need to align their term with the school year and that as the rules currently stand the student could apply now. Kluz noted that the student doesn't have to be scientifically inclined but also interested in government process and civic engagement. Desire, aptitude, and schedule for the student should be considered and the schools contacted after the start of classes.

6. Discussion and Possible Action: Green Tier Legacy Communities Representation

GTLC has asked for members and Kroll may be an advisory committee member. Kroll needs a back up in case of absence. Member would give monthly update. GTLC has quarterly update with the next one in Bayfield in July.

7. Discussion: Urban Agriculture and Local Ordinances

This item was moved up to number five. Kluz shared that this was brought forward to better understand how urban agriculture can function in the city and any barriers that could be removed. Lenz explained the packet materials where the zoning code is largely designed to regulate larger commercial operations but a residential garden is largely unregulated. Lenz explained the difference between permitted, conditional, and accessory uses. Animals such as bees and chickens are regulated by permit through the humane officer. Coldwell suggested finding a way to provide guidance to residents to encourage personal gardens and maybe have the city create a plan on food production. Kearns pointed out that a personal garden could provide food security and curb inflation in prices. Kroll suggested the committee roles are education and awareness.

8. Discussion and Possible Action: Investigating Alternatives to No Mow May for 2024

This item was not discussed due to lack of time.

9. Next meeting date:

June 1 at 5pm

10. Adjourn

Lukens/Kearns motioned and seconded to adjourn. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:23pm.

2023 BUSINESS OFFERINGS

SCHOOLS & GOVERNMENT BENCHMARKING OFFERING



HOW TO APPLY

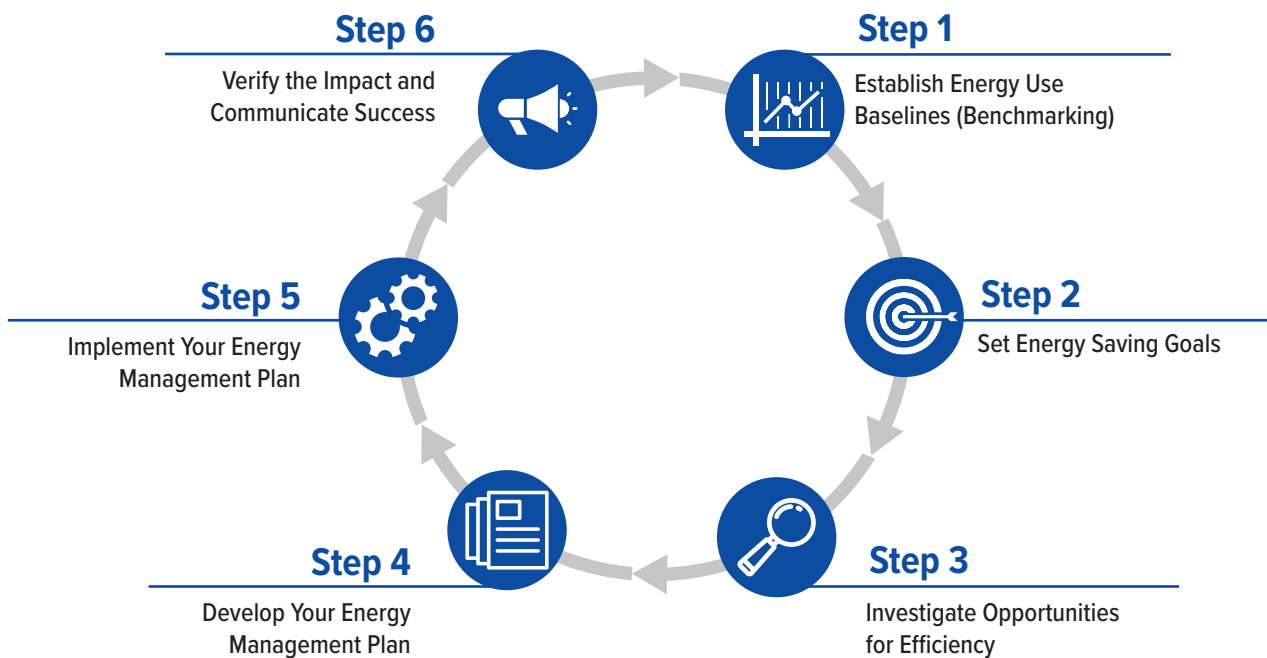
NEED HELP? Call 800.762.7077



According to [energy.gov](https://www.energy.gov), benchmarking is the practice of comparing the measured performance of a device, process, facility, or organization to itself, its peers, or established norms to inform and motivate performance improvement. Energy reduction cannot be measured just by installing new equipment. Start with a baseline and then create a plan.

Benchmarking your buildings is the first step in managing your energy and creating a plan with targeted savings. By analyzing your historical energy usage, you can identify energy savings goals and the steps to reach them. Enrollment is competitive. FOCUS ON ENERGY® will select ten customers committed to benchmarking their facilities from July 2023-June 2024.

BUILDING AN ENERGY PLAN



WHY PARTICIPATE?

Besides the benefit of managing the energy you measure in your facilities, Focus on Energy will support you throughout the process with regular check-ins, training, and strategies for energy savings. You will also receive \$1,000 for tracking your bills (evaluated quarterly) and a 25% bonus (up to \$500) for any qualified energy-related project you complete between July 2024 and June 2025.

BENCHMARKING PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

section 1

BEFORE YOU APPLY

- Confirm your gas and/or electric utility participates in Focus on Energy at focusonenergy.com/utilities.
- Contact your Focus on Energy Advisor for assistance. If you do not know who your Energy Advisor is, visit focusonenergy.com/ea-map.

section 2

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Benchmarking enrollment application.
- Identified process for energy bill tracking.
ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager® (ESPM) will be used to track benchmarking progress throughout the participation period. The person in charge of tracking energy bills will create an ESPM login and share it with Focus on Energy.

section 3

TIMELINE AND EXPECTATIONS

- Customer is expected to enter historical building data into ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager by August 15, 2023, and share the account information with Focus on Energy.
- Energy Advisor will meet with the customer and energy teams (if applicable) monthly. During this time, strategies and ideas can be discussed for deeper savings.
- Customer is expected to update ESPM quarterly.
- Customer is required to attend a Practical Energy Management training session during the participation period.
- Upon verification of all requirements, Focus on Energy will process the benchmarking incentive (\$1,000) and provide you with a bonus code for your next energy incentive application (25% bonus up to \$500).

Submit your completed enrollment application to business@focusonenergy.com or to your Energy Advisor.

REQUIREMENTS	DEADLINE
Enrollment.	June 30, 2023
Focus on Energy will select and confirm the ten (10) participating customers.	June 25, 2023
Record your historical monthly utility data in ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager for 24 months (July 2021-June 2023).	August 15, 2023
Record your monthly utility data ongoing throughout the year from July 2023-June 2024.	Reviewed Quarterly
Host or attend a Practical Energy Management training presented by Focus on Energy.	June 1, 2024
Attend at least one training held by Focus on Energy. A list of eligible training sessions available at focusonenergy.com/training .	June 1, 2024
Meet with Energy Advisor to evaluate your benchmarking data and discuss recommendations.	June 1, 2024
Upon completing the requirements, receive incentive payment and a bonus code from Focus on Energy.	August 30, 2024

SCHOOLS & GOVERNMENT BENCHMARKING APPLICATION



Offering eligibility is restricted to ten total customers in 2023. Enrollment is competitive and limited to customers with the best plan benchmarking their buildings and overall energy planning goals. Complete all sections. Incomplete applications cannot be processed and will delay payment of incentives. Applications must be submitted no later than **June 30, 2023**.

section 1

ACCOUNT AND CUSTOMER INFORMATION

Tax Identification Number (Check one) FEIN or SSN

If you use a Social Security Number (SSN) as your Tax Identification Number, do not provide it below. You will be contacted by the Program via email to provide a copy of your W-9 using a secure online portal, if it is not already on file. **You must list an email address in Section 3.**

FEIN

TAX CLASSIFICATION OF CUSTOMER

(Check one. Required for all businesses, including non-profits.)

- Sole Proprietorship Individual Single-Member LLC
 C Corporation S Corporation Partnership
 LLC - C Corp LLC - S Corp LLC - Partnership
 Other _____

OWNER NAME (REQUIRED IF SSN IS USED AS TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER)

COMPANY NAME

LEGAL ADDRESS (AS SHOWN ON COMPANY W-9)

CITY STATE ZIP

WHO DID YOU WORK WITH FROM FOCUS ON ENERGY? (CONTACT NAME)

section 2

PARTICIPATING SITE INFORMATION

(Refer to your utility bills for account numbers below.)

PARTICIPATING SITE ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

ELECTRIC UTILITY AT JOB SITE ELECTRIC ACCOUNT #

GAS UTILITY AT JOB SITE GAS ACCOUNT #

- PARTICIPATING SITE ADDRESS IS SAME AS LEGAL ADDRESS
 PARTICIPATING SITE ADDRESS IS DIFFERENT (COMPLETE BELOW)

section 3

CUSTOMER CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME

TITLE

EMAIL

PHONE

section 4

BUSINESS PAYMENT INFORMATION

Payee is responsible for any associated tax consequences.

Mail check to: Customer Legal Address Participating Site Address
 Alternate Address (complete below)

COMPANY NAME

ALTERNATE ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

ATTENTION TO (OPTIONAL)

section 5

BENCHMARKING PLAN

Detail your plan to track energy usage throughout the year as well as how it fits into the larger energy plan for your organization. Attach an additional page if needed.

section 6

CUSTOMER SIGNATURE

By signing this agreement, I demonstrate my alignment with the objectives of this offering, and I pledge to support the efforts at this site. By signing this agreement, I also provide my permission for my electric and gas utility(ies) to share my energy data directly with Focus on Energy.

CUSTOMER SIGNATURE

NAME (PRINT)

DATE



PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

NEED HELP? Call 800.762.7077



Use the eligibility requirements below to see if your business qualifies for program incentives. You can also visit [focusonenergy.com](https://www.focusonenergy.com) to find savings opportunities specific to your business.

CUSTOMER ELIGIBILITY

All non-residential customers (agriculture, commercial, government, industrial, multifamily, and schools) located in a participating utility territory are eligible to receive Focus on Energy incentives.

To see if your utility participates, go to [focusonenergy.com/participating-utilities](https://www.focusonenergy.com/participating-utilities). Typical facility types include:

- ▶ School facilities (e.g., public and private K-12, technical colleges, colleges, universities)
- ▶ Commercial facilities (e.g., banks, hotels, offices, convenience stores/gas stations, manufacturing, breweries, restaurants)
- ▶ Healthcare facilities (e.g., nursing homes/skilled nursing, Community-Based Residential Facilities (CBRF), hospitals)
- ▶ Multifamily residential properties with four or more dwelling units under one roof (e.g., apartment/condominium buildings, student housing). Common areas of multifamily buildings such as hallways, exercise rooms, or laundry rooms, along with central HVAC systems are eligible for business incentives included in this catalog. For in-unit efficiency incentives and offerings, refer to [focusonenergy.com/residential](https://www.focusonenergy.com/residential).

INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

Before you start your project, make sure you are familiar with participation requirements, program information and Terms and Conditions.

General Terms and Conditions

Review the Focus on Energy Terms and Conditions at [focusonenergy.com/terms](https://www.focusonenergy.com/terms) or call 800.762.7077 to request a copy.

Incentive Limits

Incentives are limited to \$300,000 per project and \$400,000 per customer per calendar year for all Focus on Energy incentives (prescriptive and custom).

Depending on the business tax classification of the payee, the entity receiving the incentive payment may receive IRS form 1099 for incentives totaling over \$600 in a calendar year.

CUSTOM INCENTIVES

Does your project not fit in one of our prescriptive offers? Custom project incentives are calculated on a case-by-case basis for non-standard technologies and are based on estimated first-year energy savings. Whether you operate a large industrial facility, a chain store or franchise, an office, school or municipal building, a farm, or anything in between, we can show you how to be more energy efficient — and how to save on the cost of making improvements.

Before purchasing equipment or proceeding with upgrades, you must contact an Energy Advisor from Focus on Energy. Your Energy Advisor will help you determine if your project qualifies for a Focus on Energy custom incentive and will help you obtain necessary pre-approval. Refer to the green 'Custom Project Idea' boxes throughout the catalog for ideas.

To get started with your custom project, download and complete the Custom Incentive Guide at [focusonenergy.com/custom](https://www.focusonenergy.com/custom).

REDUCING ENERGY WASTE ACROSS WISCONSIN

FOCUS ON ENERGY®, Wisconsin utilities' statewide program for energy efficiency and renewable energy, helps eligible residents and businesses save energy and money while protecting the environment. Focus on Energy information, resources, and financial incentives help to implement energy efficiency and renewable energy projects that otherwise would not be completed.

©2023 Wisconsin Focus on Energy



LOCAL

No Mow May spreads to additional Wisconsin communities to support pollinators



Duke Behnke

Appleton Post-Crescent

Published 5:00 a.m. CT May 1, 2023

APPLETON – It's May Day, and that means residents in Appleton, Fond du Lac, Green Bay, Oshkosh, Stevens Point, Wausau, Wisconsin Rapids and other communities can postpone mowing their lawns during the month as a way to help pollinators.

Appleton Common Council member Israel Del Toro, an assistant professor of biology at Lawrence University and an early promoter of No Mow May, said about 60 communities across the country have implemented the program.

Under No Mow May, local governments suspend the enforcement of ordinances regulating tall grass and weeds so property owners can let their lawns grow to promote the maturation of flowering plants that provide food for bees and other pollinators early in the growing season. Participation is voluntary.

"It's an opportunity to think about all of the other little things that we can do for our pollinators," Del Toro told The Post-Crescent. "Not mowing is a place to start, but it shouldn't be the last thing to do to help our pollinators. Instead, consider planting native species, restoring pollinator habitat or talking to your neighbor about maybe reducing pesticide and herbicide use. All of those are great things that go a long way in helping pollinator populations."

Appleton was the first city in the U.S. to experiment with No Mow May in 2020. The city made it an annual fixture last year, when the council voted 10-4 to adopt No Mow May as an ordinance.

Appleton council member Chad Doran last month introduced a resolution to eliminate No Mow May from the books. He said the program "doesn't have any scientific backing behind it," but his effort was rejected by the council on an 11-3 vote, keeping No Mow May in place.

Rather than cut the program, several Appleton council members are interested in expanding No Mow May to Ellen Kort Peace Park. Del Toro, Nate Wolff and Alex Schultz introduced a resolution to suspend mowing at the Peace Park during May "to allow for the establishment and growth of natural habitats for pollinators."

Del Toro said longer grass at the riverfront park might have a side benefit of deterring geese.

"We know that geese populations can sometimes be problematic in public spaces," he said.

The resolution will be considered May 8 by the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Other Wisconsin communities to embrace No Mow May include Beloit, De Pere, Eau Claire, Egg Harbor, Elm Grove, Fort Atkinson, Greenfield, Howard, La Crosse, Marshfield, Milwaukee, Monona, Shorewood, Sun Prairie, Superior, Turtle Lake and Waunakee.

More: Appleton police see increase in thefts and property damage

More: Appleton council approves road diet for College Avenue

Kaukauna forgoes No Mow May and opts for Slow-Mow Summer

Kaukauna approved No Mow May in 2021 and 2022, but this year the city is touting Slow-Mow Summer to support pollinators all summer long.

"We're promoting less mowing to allow the pollinating plants to grow throughout the whole summer rather than just in May," Kaukauna Mayor Tony Penterman said.

Participation in Slow-Mow Summer is voluntary. The program recommends property owners:

- Raise the lawnmower blade to 4 inches and mow only when the lawn reaches 6 inches.
- Plant native flowering plants, especially those with early season flowers.
- Eliminate or reduce chemicals on lawns and other plants.

Menasha encourages Low Mow May as a compromise

The Menasha Sustainability Committee is encouraging residents to participate in Low Mow May, in which they mow less often yet don't allow grass and weeds to exceed the 8-inch height limit established by ordinance.

Council member Austin Hammond said Low Mow May doesn't require council approval because it doesn't change or suspend the ordinance. He sees it as a compromise after the council voted 5-3 last year to reject No Mow May.

"The concept is to meet in the middle," Hammond said. "There are some folks in the city who are concerned about the aesthetics of unruly lawns, and there are those who want to use their front lawns as a focal point of advocacy for sustainability and pollinators."

Madison also has a Low Mow May program.

Contact Duke Behnke at 920-993-7176 or dbehnke@gannett.com. Follow him on Twitter at [@DukeBehnke](https://twitter.com/DukeBehnke).

Support Pollinators All Summer Long

Raise your lawn mower blade and maintain your lawn height at 4 inches, mowing only when it reaches 6 inches.

Plant native flowering plants, especially those with early season flowers.

Eliminate or reduce chemicals on your lawn and other plants.

Participate in Citizen Science to help collect data on native pollinators.



Slow-Mow Summer