



Village of Deer Park Sustainability Report

January 2020



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Prepared by the Village of Deer Park // January 2020

Did you know... Deer Park is generating and using about 16,118,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of green power annually, which is enough green power to meet more than 65 percent of the Deer Park’s electricity use?! This green power comes via a Community Choice Aggregation program. By using wind power and setting this goal, the Village of Deer Park is helping advance the voluntary market for green power and development of those sources.



COLLABORATING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Greenest Region Compact Participant



William H. Miller Award for Outstanding Contributions to Conservation



*SolSmart Silver Certification
U.S. Department of Energy*



EPA Green Power Partner Community



TREE CITY USA®
Arbor Day Foundation

*Arbor Day Foundation
"Tree City USA"*



*Community of the Year, 2018
Lake County Stormwater Commission*

Part 1: Summary



The **Village of Deer Park** took proactive steps in 2018 to assess its sustainability status and prepare a Sustainability Report. This Report highlights activities taken in 2018-2019 and outlines plans for 2020. It documents Village participation in the Greenest Region Compact (GRC) and sets the baseline for subsequent years. The Greenest Region Compact outlines goals for environmental sustainability. It's Framework is a companion tool built on 30 sustainability plans and guiding documents in use by municipalities and serves as a valuable guide for Village efforts. For more information on the GRC methodology, see the full report at [Greenest Region Compact, Opportunities, + Impact, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, 2014](#). Deer Park reviewed the following categories for initial focus:

GRC Framework Categories

1. Climate and Resiliency
2. Economic Development
3. Land Use & Maintenance
4. Leadership
5. Mobility
6. Municipal Operations
7. Energy Use – Renewable Energy Initiatives
8. Community Engagement (Sustainable Communities)
9. Water Management
10. Waste Management & Recycling

2018-2019 Sustainability Highlights

- Community of the Year, 2018 (Lake County Stormwater Management Program)
- William H. Miller Award for Outstanding Contributions to Conservation, 2018 (BACOG)
- SolSmart 'Silver' Designation (U.S. Department of Energy)
- Community-Wide Recycling and Solid Waste (Led by Groot)
- EPA Green Power Partner Community (EcoGreen Energy Aggregation Program)
- Recipient of Stormwater infrastructure Grant from the State of Illinois (\$268,000)
- Integrated Stormwater Management Improvements and Street Resurfacing Program
- 97% of the Village streets were resurfaced (Since 2009)
- Arbor Day USA Community (Member in Good Standing)
- 30+ Trees Planted in Village Parks via Matching Tree Grant Program
- Renovated 8 of 12 neighborhood and community parks

Part 2: Introduction to Deer Park



The Village of Deer Park was incorporated in 1957 and resides within Lake County and limited portions of Cook County in the Northwest suburbs of Chicago. Deer Park is located minutes from two Metra Train Stations and Route 53. Deer Park is home to Deer Park Town Center, Town Center Promenade and other retail stores that provide upscale and family friendly dining and entertainment. Deer Park is also home to 236 Luxury housing units offering 1- and 2-bedroom apartments and 3-bedroom townhomes. The Solana at Deer Park is a senior living and memory care facility operated by Atria Senior Living Residence.

Deer Park has a growing business community at Deer Park Office Center and the Reserve at Deer Park. The rolling open countryside of the residential community includes 12 parks and miles of walking- and bicycling-paths. The Village offers residents access to open space at a rate of 1.23 acres/person, more than 10 times national standards (National Parks and Recreation Association).

The most recent population in 2018 was 4,260 residents with an average age of 44 years as compared to state-wide average age of 37 years. Since 2017 the population of Deer Park has increased over 800 residents. Average household income in 2017 was \$163,000, one of the highest per capita incomes in the State. Deer Park encompasses approximately four-square miles with boundaries to the West of Barrington, to the South of Palatine and to the northeast Lake Zurich and to the east Kildeer.

Deer Park is served by two outstanding School Districts: Barrington Community School District 220 and Lake Zurich Community School District 95.

Did you know... The Village of Deer Park owns 73+ acres of parkland and open space, which consists of 7 neighborhood parks, 3 community parks, 2 natural areas/open space lots, and is adjacent to two Forest Preserves.

Part 3: Sustainability Overview

Sustainability is defined as the ability to be maintained at a certain level which when translated to environmental concerns, is the avoidance of the depletion of natural resources to maintain an ecological balance. Sustainability focuses on meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs as per the UN World Commission on Environment and Development. There are three pillars in sustainability: economic, environmental and social or sometimes referred to as profits, planet and people. With increasing urbanization and population growth, sustainability concerns have increased in the last few years.

While sustainability actions vary from the local scale to the regional and global scale, it is useful to align Deer Park’s goals and strategies with these higher levels. The GRC allows alignment with regional and national goals. To align with global strategies, the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s) are referenced. These 17 SDGs and 169 targets were established in 2015 and underpin broad sustainability thinking across the globe and across all sectors. The SDGs are listed on the following page along with the connectivity to Deer Park priorities.



Village Maintained Butterfly Garden Next to Vehe Barn

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)



Deer Park Sustainable Development Goals: Deer Park is focused on the most relevant SDG goals for the Village as illustrated by the green boxes highlighted below:

GOALS	Climate	Econ. Dev.	Energy	Land Use	Leadership	Mobility	Ops	Sustain. Comm.	Water	Waste
1. No Poverty										
2. Zero Hunger										
3. Good Health/Well Being										
4. Quality Education										
5. Gender Equality										
6. Clean Water + Sanitation										
7. Affordable Clean Energy										
8. Recent Work + Econ. Growth										
9. Industry Innovation + Infrast.										
10. Reduced Inequalities										
11. Sustainable Cities										
12. Responsible Production										
13. Climate Action										
14. Life Below Water										
15. Life on Land										
16. Peace, Justice, Strong Inst.										
17. Partnerships for the Goals										

Part 4: Accomplishments + Activities

1. Climate & Resiliency

- a. Coordinate resiliency efforts with government agencies**
 - Conducted workshops and presentations at international level (UN Global Platform May 2019), and domestic conferences (Great Lakes Chicago; Park Forest; The Solana; etc.)
 - b. Assess infrastructure/safety threats from extreme weather events**
 - Include disaster preparation steps in quarterly Newsletter
 - Support Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
 - Interacted with BACOG in 2/2019 threat workshop on groundwater contamination
 - c. Educate public about climate change**
 - Quarterly Community Newsletter Articles
-

2. Economic Development

- a. Create/promote community brand featuring natural resources**
 - Reinforce Sustainability branding in Newsletter
 - Community events publications and announcements
 - Stormwater management plan implementation
 - Removal of dead/dying trees in Village right-of-ways, parks and residential properties
 - Renovation completed at 8 of 12 parks with D'Angelo Park finished in 8/2019
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3. Energy

- a. Implement energy efficiency measures with short term payback**
 - Boiler replacement with energy efficient equipment (Nicor Grant)
 - Energy audit of Vehe Barn by ComEd (5/2019)
 - Installation of six energy efficient doors on Vehe Barn (12/2019)
 - LED bulb installation in Village facilities
 - Stand-by generators installed/maintained at office and Vehe Barn
- b. Collaborate to educate community about clean energy options**
 - Community workshop conducted 11/2019 on residential solar
- c. Implement energy efficiency measures with longer term payback**
 - New Village office in construction; designed to be LEED certified (5/2020)
- d. Collaborate to upgrade streetlights and integrate smart technologies**
 - Streetlights upgraded to LED
- e. Formally adopt and promote International Energy Conservation Codes (IECC); formalize support for current/updated IECC codes to assure optimal energy use in new buildings**
 - Comments provided on new IECC code development
- f. Advance renewable energy**
 - Eco-Green Energy Aggregation “EPA Green Power Partner Community”
 - SolSmart Community designation at “Silver” designation which includes updated ordinances that allow solar development more broadly and training inspection staff on best practices for permitting and inspecting solar systems (8/2019)



Rendering of New Village Hall Facility



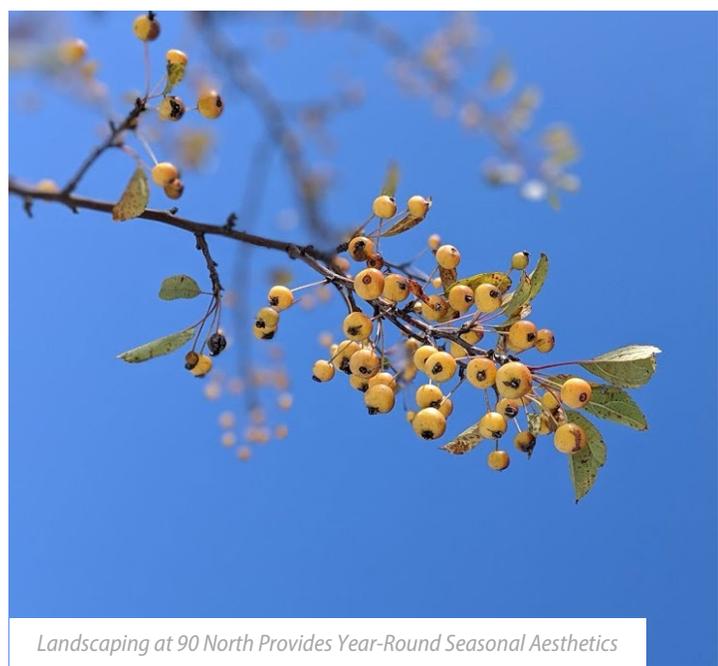
Local Pollinators Hard at Work in Deer Park



Deer Park Crossing Rendering



Bike Paths and Trails Encourage Healthy Lifestyles



Landscaping at 90 North Provides Year-Round Seasonal Aesthetics

4. Land Use

- a. Encourage development of compact, complete residential neighborhoods**
 - Deer Park Crossing is luxury apartment complex with 236 units (1- and 2-bedroom apartments, 3-bedroom townhouses) fitness center, dog park, swimming pool, and walking proximity to miles of walking/bike paths, shopping center, movie theater and restaurants. This was first residential development in years, other than single family home construction at available building lots in the Village.
- b. Redevelop under-utilized properties**
 - Ten properties were annexed into Deer Park from Un-incorporated Lake County to bring more standardization and compliance with codes of Village.
 - Launched a property development program with Peter Poulos, Real Estate Consultant to work with Rand road property owners to 'bundle' small acreage lots (1-3 acres) into larger parcels (15 to 20-acre parcels) to attract Commercial Developers. Best effort was initiated however property owners' evaluation of land value was not competitive with market, hence program was terminated after one year.
 - One project going forward is an undeveloped two-acre parcel on Rand/Plum Grove road by "True North" for a Convenience store, car wash and fueling station.
 - The Village is also considering the creation of TIF District of properties along Rand Road.
- c. Integrate resiliency into land development decisions** (ongoing)
- d. Evaluate proposed developments for effects on groundwater, water quality** (ongoing)
- e. Prioritize acquisition of land to produce groundwater recharge areas**
 - Ongoing maintenance of Ferndale Rain Garden to mitigate local flooding
- f. Engage resident in public stewardship through cost-share planting programs**
 - Reimburse HOA's for neighborhood common areas as ongoing program
- g. Use canopy data to strategically plant trees for public health, stormwater benefits;**
 - Consider existing canopy and stormwater considerations for location of 30 trees from the matching Tree Grant program
- h. Diversify urban forest for long term resilience**
 - Receipt of matching Tree Grant program to allow for planting 30 trees (\$15K) expanded
- i. Encourage planting of gardens through Million Pollinator Garden Challenge**
 - Village maintains a "Butterfly Garden" and is evaluating participation in 2020
- j. Protect sensitive aquifer areas via land use regulations**
 - Monitor ground water level through BACOG; Five-year summary report in 2020.
- k. Collaborate with government to prepare for, respond to invasive pest threats**
 - Deerpath Park removed invasive species (Buckthorn)
 - Developed drainage improvement program for implementation in 2020
 - Provide aquatic servicing of Village ponds for algae control
 - Conducting five-year stormwater management program
- l. Manage landscapes sustainably utilizing Integrated Pest Management**
 - Committed to Mosquito Abatement program that includes Village -wide mosquito spraying during summer months

5. Leadership

- a. **Share information about municipal leadership in sustainability in community, externally**
 - Participate in Mayors Caucus Environmental Committee meetings
 - Provide climate related presentations across Chicagoland, domestically and internationally
- b. **Seek recognition for community sustainability achievements**
 - Achieved U.S. Dept. of Energy SolSmart certification at Silver level
 - Recognized as “Lake County Community of the Year” by Lake County Stormwater Management Commission for Five-Year Stormwater Plan
 - Received Citizens for Conservation 2018 William H. Miller Award (BACOG)
- c. **Partner with other governments to achieve efficiency, sustainability**
 - Member of Mayors Caucus, Mayors Caucus Environment Committee, Member of Lake County Municipal League (Board member), Northwest Community Municipal Conference, Lake Zurich Chamber of Commerce, Barrington Chamber of Commerce

Did you know... The Village of Deer Park was the first (and currently only) community of its size to be receive a Silver SolSmart Designation by the U.S. Department of Energy.



Village Staff (Josie Doniec and Kim Kelly) and Trustee (Keith Olson) Accept the Silver Level SolSmart Designation

6. Mobility

a. Support regional transportation innovations

- Engaged with Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
- Participant in Extension of IL Route 53 project via Tri-County Access group

b. Encourage residents, visitors to walk, bike

- Utilize Newsletter to bring attention to bike paths and walking paths
- Engage with residents on park redevelopment program to create more walking paths.

c. Promote availability of regional transit options

- Deer Park residents have access to Metra train service via Barrington & Palatine Stations
- Village survey asked if shuttle to train station was desired – response was ‘no’
- Village financially supports the operation of a shuttle between the Hampton Inn hotel and the Deer Park Shopping Center to reduce auto traffic

d. Identify gaps in pedestrian, bike networks and barriers to active modes of travel

- Bike and walking paths have been expanded and maintained
- New developments also provide walking paths and bicycling paths

e. Create bike and pedestrian plan to improve connectivity in the community

- Plan not formalized but use Community Newsletter to reinforce connectivity to Forest Preserves, Village Parks and surrounding Villages

f. Implement recommendations from above plan (ongoing)

g. Collaborate to provide alternative fuel infrastructure at public sites

- Town Center has leadership for electric vehicle charging station in Town Center
- Continental Building offers charging stations for tenants

7. Municipal Operations

a. Leverage government & private grants and resources to advance sustainability

- Received matching Tree Program Grant for \$15,000 / \$30,000 total spent (2018)
- Received “Rebuild Illinois Infrastructure” grant for \$263,000 (2019) for distribution in 2020-21

b. Achieve third party certification for sustainability public facilities – LEED

- Pursuing LEED Certification for new office building to be constructed 2019-2020

c. Formalize Sustainability Goals & develop first Sustainability Report

- Report produced as of 12/31/2019

d. Extend useful life of physical assets

- Continue to conduct repair and maintenance in Vehe Barn and outbuildings to maintain 1850’s farm setting to preserve useful life of these assets and beneficial use by residents

e. Integrate sustainability into capital planning (ongoing)

f. Inventory, assess and manage municipal assets sustainably (ongoing)

8. Sustainable Community

- a. **Collaborate with government to prepare for/respond to pest/disease threats**
 - Continue to liaison with Lake County Health Department on pest threat and controls
- b. **Collaborate to offer active, healthy lifestyle programs**
 - Available through local fitness centers and Deer Park Crossing apartments
 - Use of walking paths and bike paths encouraged
 - Conduct 5K and 10K running races in Village (Cocoa Classic 5K, St. Patrick's 5K, 10K)
- c. **Support balanced active play for families**
 - Parks updated with regular play equipment inspection and replacement as needed
 - Village Family Bike event to promote biking and bike safety in Charles Brown Park in 2019
- d. **Prioritize safe practices and collaborate to reduce accidental injuries and death**
 - Conducted review of 2019 auto accidents in Deer Park to identify trends and patterns
- e. **Cultivate/preserve a welcoming, inclusive community character**
 - Community events held annually to build sense of community
 - Partner with Deer Park Town Center to co-sponsor events
- f. **Develop housing policies, programs, regulations to support/promote sustainability**
- g. **Educate community about sustainability initiatives** (ongoing)
- h. **Assure community education messages are accessible** (ongoing)
- i. **Use community festivals, lectures, workshops to share info on sustainability** (ongoing)
- j. **Use partnerships with other community organizations to promote sustainability**
 - Ongoing with membership in BACOG, NWMC, LCML, Mayors' Caucus, CMAP, Center for Urban Resilience and Environmental Sustainability (CURES) as part of State of IL program
- k. **Participate in regional and national sustainability networks**
 - Ongoing at local, regional, state, federal and international level (United Nations)
- l. **Encourage community participation in sustainability initiatives and events;**
 - Renewable energy workshop conducted 11/2019
- m. **Promote green building practices to residents, businesses, developers** (ongoing)



9. Water

- a. **Collaborate to encourage business owners/operators to conserve water**
 - Reviewing water usage of commercial and retail operations to determine if water may be reallocated to emerging uses. Once completed, further steps may be taken to facilitate water reduction actions.
 - b. **Collaborate to identify sensitive aquifer recharge areas**
 - In collaboration with BACOG
 - c. **Support post-development runoff reduction/mitigation** (ongoing)
 - d. **Educate and support the community to conserve water** (ongoing)
 - e. **Educate the community on the value of clean, safe drinking water;**
 - Offer annual well water sampling/testing program through BACOG and Lake County
 - f. **Educate the community on practices that reduce contamination of water resources** (ongoing)
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10. Waste & Recycling

- a. **Engage community volunteers in recycling education and events**
 - Emphasize recycling through Solid Waste Contractor Groot where waste barrels for solid waste and for recycled materials are provided in order to segregate waste type
- b. **Collaborate with the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) to reduce waste and increase recycling**
 - Participate in SWALCO's county-wide efforts to attain 60% recycling rate
 - Promote recycling events to the community to increase recycling of items not serviced through curbside program (holiday lights, electronics, etc.)

Did you know... The EPA estimates 75% of the American waste system is recyclable, but we only recycle about 30% of it. – www.dosomething.org



Part 5: 2020 Goals

1. Climate + Resiliency

- Evaluate the applicability to Commit to Compact of Mayors Climate Pledge
- Support development of a regional climate plan led by CMAP and the Mayors Caucus
- Encourage use of battery-operated landscape equipment by service providers
- Assist businesses to have Resiliency Emergency Operations Plan in place

2. Economic Development

- Encourage green innovation among residents, local businesses

3. Energy

- Recognize buildings that achieve specific energy efficiency targets

4. Land

- Manage Village green space using natural products, low-impact practices
- Collaborate with neighborhoods to create sustainable developments
- Conduct community wide urban tree canopy assessment in public properties
- Review requirements for Mayors Monarch Pledge, determine if Deer Park should join

5. Leadership

- Establish community committee for sustainability initiatives

6. Mobility

- Collaborate with largest employers to offer flex schedule, telecommuting, public transit
- Educate community on impacts of car idling
- Earn Bike Friendly Community designation
- Earn Walk Friendly Community designation

7. Municipal Operations

- Support interdisciplinary team to coordinate internal sustainability efforts
- Dedicate staff to sustainability initiatives
- Achieve LEED certification for new office
- Evaluate feasibility to establish municipal finance practices to re-invest cost savings into sustainability initiatives
- Adopt environmental purchasing policy

8. Sustainable Communities:

- Connect community members to existing services that support health, wellness
- Become certified as a Safe Community
- Support/promote family and community gardens

9. Water

- Conduct five-year ground water analysis via BACOG

10. Waste

- Organize community-wide Cleanup Day
- Publicize proper disposal of prescriptions, electronics, hazardous household wastes
- Ban or discourage use of products resulting in unmanageable wastes