



Memphis and Shelby County Office of Sustainability

A 4-STAR Sustainable Community

A Year in Review: Achievements in 2015

GRANTS



Hyde Family Foundations & Greater Memphis Chamber - Greenprint Coordinator	\$214,000
TN Clean Energy Grant (TDEC) - Solar panels on Lichterman	\$80,000
Green Development Grant (TDEC) - Rain gardens and homeowner education	\$20,000
Carton Council Grant - Printing county-wide information on recycling	<u>\$2,500</u>
	\$316,500

Total since 2011 = \$3.9MM

AWARDS



In April 2015, Memphis-Shelby County was awarded a 4-STAR Community Rating for national excellence in sustainability.

In April 2015, GREENPRINT 2015/2040 was awarded the 2015 Excellence in Sustainability for a Plan Award from the American Planning Association Sustainable Communities Division.



In October 2015, GREENPRINT 2015/2040 was awarded an honor award in the category of "Planning and Analysis: Regional" from the Tennessee Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (TNASLA).

In October 2015, GREENPRINT 2015/2040 was awarded Outstanding Plan Award from Tennessee Chapter of American Planning Association (TAPA).

In October 2015, the Office of Sustainability's rain garden installation project at the Peggy W. Edmiston Administration Building won a merit award in the category of "Natural Resource Conservation: Sustainable Design" from the Tennessee Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (TNASLA).

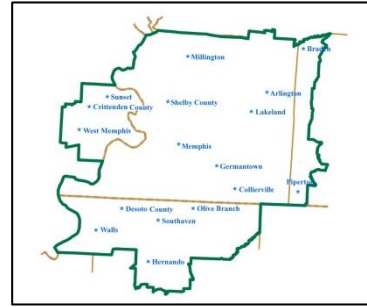
In 2015, the Office of Sustainability nominated John Charles Wilson, President of Agricenter International, who won the Governor's Robert Sparks Lifetime Achievement award.

COMPLETED PROJECTS



Mid-South Regional Greenprint and Sustainability Plan Completion. The Mid-South Regional Greenprint and Sustainability Plan was funded by a \$2.6 million Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant awarded to Shelby County Government from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in November 2011. From 2012 to 2014, the Memphis-Shelby County Office of Sustainability led a consortium of over 80 organizations and 300 individuals toward the development of the Greenprint plan and related studies. The final plan, GREENPRINT 2015/2040, was published in November 2014. The Greenprint Plan has been adopted by 19 jurisdictions, representing populations from all three states and four counties within the region. www.midsouthgreenprint.org

Greenprint Implementation. In January 2015, the Office of Sustainability and Greater Memphis Chamber in partnership received a grant from the Hyde Family Foundations to hire a full-time Greenprint Coordinator to transition the plan into its first phase of implementation. Hired in April, John Michels has been fostering jurisdictional support for the plan, working with consortium partners to complete the plan's near-term targets, and laying the groundwork for the establishment of an independent Greenprint entity. Three teams traveled to St. Louis, MO, Houston, TX, and Atlanta, GA in late September where they met with model entities that are implementing regional sustainability plans similar in scope and scale to the Mid-South Greenprint.



Mid-South Regional Food System Plan. In July 2015, the East Arkansas Planning and Development District (EAPDD) and the Memphis-Shelby County Office of Sustainability released *Delta Roots*, a Mid-South Regional Food System Plan aimed at improving healthy food access and the local food economy over the next 20 years. The resulting regional food plan prioritizes critical strategies to support food business growth, improve healthy food access, and promote environmental sustainability throughout the Mid-South region. Read the document here: <http://bit.ly/1YulWj0>



National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC). The NDRC is a national competition for \$1 billion for activities to advance resilience efforts. The County assessed the remaining recovery needs from the flood in 2011 in the fields of housing, infrastructure, economic revitalization, and the natural environment. Office of Sustainability has worked alongside representatives from Shelby County Division of Public Works, Department of Housing, and Office of Preparedness and City of Memphis Division of Engineering on the Phase I and II applications. A grant request of approximately \$71 million was submitted in October. Read about the application here: <http://bit.ly/1T4FJmA>



Green Prison Initiative. Shelby County Corrections Center received energy upgrades through a \$250,000 TDEC grant written by the Office of Sustainability. To reduce the use of domestic hot water, UV Solar Thermal Collection Panels and an Ozone Laundry System were installed. In addition interior and exterior LED Lighting was installed throughout the compound. Inmates were trained to install the systems as part of a broader strategy for reentry skills training. The inmates provide recycling for 14 Shelby County Government buildings and over 119 tons have been collected since July 2014. In 2016 more buildings will be included in the collection.



Memphis Green Communities Program. The State of Tennessee allocated low interest Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds to local jurisdictions for energy conservation projects. The Office of Sustainability manages the Memphis Green Communities Program funded with these bonds. The projects awarded are the Crosstown Concourse, Knowledge Quest, and The Universal Life Insurance Building which will spur redevelopment and pursue LEED Gold or Platinum accreditation.



Rain Garden Installation for Peggy W. Edmiston Administration Building. Office of Sustainability, Shelby County Engineering program and Tennessee Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, and 40 community volunteers installed four low impact development (LID) demonstration rain gardens at the Peggy W. Edmiston Administration Building. A \$20,000 TDEC Green Development Grant written by the Office of Sustainability was received for this project. Watch the video of the installation here: <http://bit.ly/1LbNgQz>



Rain Garden Installation for Three Shelby County School Buildings. City of Memphis Engineering program in partnership with Memphis-Shelby County Office of Sustainability installed three green infrastructure demonstration rain gardens, one each at Belle Forest Community School, Hickory Ridge Middle, and Kirby High. A \$25,180 TDEC Green Development Grant written by the Office of Sustainability funded this project.



Materials Recovery Marketplace Roundtable. Office of Sustainability convened a group of business and industry leaders to discuss a business-to-business material reuse program in Tennessee. U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Development, TDEC, and International Paper were involved. Future meetings for businesses to convene will be planned in 2016. <http://bit.ly/1NsLV3w>

City Hall Recycling and Curbside Expansion. City Hall expanded the kind of recyclable materials accepted from just paper and cardboard to all single stream materials in 2015. This now matches what City of Memphis home owners can recycle. Office of Sustainability distributed blue desk side bins within City Hall and also helped Public Works with marketing. The Office also assisted Public Works in a campaign to encourage Memphis residents to sign up to receive a 95 gallon rolling cart for their home. Information about the new recycling carts was distributed to over 30,000 residents.



WHEREweLIVEmidSouth.org - Community Dashboard. The Office of Sustainability, Assisi Foundation, Community Foundation of Greater Memphis, and Hyde Family Foundations used a \$150,000 grant to create an interactive dashboard. WHEREweLIVEmidSouth.org allows residents to access datasets at the neighborhood level for an array of indicators that provide a snapshot of neighborhood health based on social, crime, physical, economic and environmental conditions. This will empower neighborhood leaders to drive collaboration and change. Read about the launch here: <http://bit.ly/1Xg5RRU>

Earth Month Business Conference. The Office of Sustainability joined International Society of Sustainability Professionals, the Sustainability Consortium, CRG Sustainable Solutions, and title sponsor FedEx for a conference on sustainable packaging, sustainable



purchasing, and sustainable supply chain for businesses. Over 75 people were in attendance and networking was plentiful. The April 2016 conference is currently being planned by CRG, the local ISSP chapter, and the Office of Sustainability.

Green Matters Women's Group. The Office of Sustainability leads a bimonthly woman's group focused solely on networking for women interested in sustainability. The group meets for a brown bag lunch and features a speaker or goes on a tour.

Sustainable Schools Challenge. Clean Memphis started the Sustainable Schools Challenge as a local certification program to provide a concrete and holistic framework to help schools achieve healthy, sustainable schools and create leaders for a sustainable future. The Office of Sustainability serves in an advisory capacity in establishing criteria and meeting with the schools. An award ceremony was held May 2015 to recognize the 10 schools who participated in the first year pilot.

CURRENT PROJECTS

We Sustain Shelby. The Office of Sustainability will launch a campaign in January 2016 called "We Sustain Shelby." During the six month campaign, participants will do a series of environmentally friendly activities that conserve energy, water, or reduce waste. At the end of each week, a winner will receive a prize. Sign up today to participate: www.wesustainshelby.com



Solar Panels at Lichterman Nature Center. Office of Sustainability received a \$80,000 TDEC grant to install a 50kW solar array at Lichterman Nature Center. City of Memphis Divisions of Parks and Neighborhoods and General Services are also involved in this project.

LEED for Neighborhood Development Charrette. The Office of Sustainability and their Sustainability Advisory Committee will work with Global Green in April to use Crosstown Neighborhood as the model project to form LEED-ND project. It will be an exemplary model of a large-scale, mixed-use redevelopment with leading sustainable thinking and design. A comprehensive sustainability needs assessment would determine strategies to make this culturally and economically diverse neighborhood more resilient to the impending socioeconomic changes while ensuring community sustainability and stability is achieved.



City Energy Efficiency Upgrades - Central Library. As part of the City's Clean & Green program, the Office of Sustainability and Bioworks are coordinating an energy upgrade at the Central Library. The performance contract guarantees that the work completed on the facilities will achieve a specified annual savings on energy costs for each project. The energy savings generated will be used to finance the debt service for each project.

Greenhouse Gas Inventory. The Office of Sustainability plans to commence a GHG inventory in 2016 using a nationally recognized third party system called Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC). This will calculate and report boundary-wide GHG emissions.

Greenprint Business Plan. In the first half of 2016, the Greenprint Coordinator will work with the Greenprint Executive Committee and the Greenprint Finance & Policy Committee to issue a proposal to fund and manage implementation of Greenprint 2015/2040. The proposal will be based on a thorough review of peer city best practices and a feasibility analysis of local funding options and administrative opportunities. The proposal will also include a list of priority projects that will serve as the framework for the future development activity.

Low Impact Development Interactive Map. Office of Sustainability has tracked all low impact development projects across Shelby County. Now, that information has been entered into an interactive map created by Shelby County IT for Shelby County Stormwater. There are currently more than 25 LID projects that are installed or in design phase within the county. The map, which will be online in 2016, will have a description, location, and pictures from each project along with a list of the local professionals who worked on it. This will be used as an education tool and a showplace for local achievements.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS IN 2015

Crye-Leike Presentation– John Zeanah, 1-27-15

Sierra Club TV Interview – John Zeanah, 1-28-15

GreenPrint Final Plan Release Event - John Zeanah, 2-5-15

Green Matters Luncheon – Christine Donhardt, 2-25-15

TDEC Environmental Conference (Knoxville) - John Zeanah, 3-18-15

Sustainability in Memphis with Korean Delegation – John Zeanah, 3-19-15

Building Blocks for a Healthier Memphis – John Zeanah, 3-20-15

Municipal Mayors Breakfast – John Zeanah, 4-1-15

Earth Month Business Conference – John Zeanah, 4-7-15

FedEx Volunteer Day Remarks– John Zeanah, 4-8-15

Memphis Fair Housing Conference - John Zeanah, 4-10-15

TDEC Governors' Award Judging Panel – Christine Donhardt, 4-10-15 *did not speak

National American Planning Association Conference (Seattle) - John Zeanah, 4-18-15

Christian Brothers University Engineering Conference – Christine Donhardt, 4-24-15

TDEC Sustainable Transportation Awards John Zeanah, 5-7-15

Cities Reaching for the STARS (National Webinar) John Zeanah, 5-13-15

National Association of Government Communicators Annual Conference - John Zeanah, 6-4-15

Green Matters Luncheon – Christine Donhardt, 6-17-15

St. Jude Go Green Event (exhibitor) – Christine Donhardt, 6-17-15

Rain Garden Installation with volunteers at Mullins Station - Christine Donhardt, 6-20-15

Southeast Sustainability Directors Network (Charleston) - Christine Donhardt, 6-22-15 *did not speak

archimania Groundbreaking – John Zeanah, 7-14-15

Green Matters Luncheon – Christine Donhardt, 8-19-15

TN Materials Recovery Network, Business Round Table – hosted by Office of Sustainability 9-14-15

Clarksville Green Certification Awards Banquet (Clarksville) - Christine Donhardt, 9-24-15

Tennessee American Planning Association (Chattanooga) - John Zeanah, 10-2-15

Tiger Blue Goes Green (exhibitor) – Christine Donhardt, 10-6-15

NDRC Academy (Washington DC) - John Zeanah, 10-5-15
Tennessee American Society of Landscape Architects State Conference - Christine Donhardt, 10-15-15
ND-GAIN Urban Assessment Chicago Advisor Meeting - John Zeanah, 10-16-15
Green Matters Luncheon – Christine Donhardt, 10-28-15
Greenprint Summit – John Michels, 11-16-15
Judge for Alive Outside Design Competition – Christine Donhardt, 11-17-15
Workforce to Work Summit - John Zeanah, 12-10-15

IN THE NEWS IN 2015



[Can't Decide on a Color for Your Infrastructure? Try Green](#)
[Next quarter-century will write story of Greenprint's vision in action](#)
['Sustainable Schools' aims to produce a cleaner generation of Memphians](#)
[Shelby County submits \\$70 million disaster resilience grant request to HUD](#)
[Funds sought to build Perkins connection to Shelby Farms Greenline](#)
[After 10 years of planning, Universal Life building redevelopment begins](#)
[Lichterhan Nature Center to Go Solar With Rooftop Array](#)
[Memphians ready to ditch beige recycling bins for larger, 'green' containers](#)
[Agricenter President acknowledged for Environmental Stewardship](#)
[Groups Assess the Memphis Area's Food System](#)
[Memphis gets four stars for sustainability](#)