



Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge Annual Performance Report

State Form 53116 (01-09)
Indiana Department of Environmental Management
CLEAN Community Challenge

Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance
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Indianapolis, IN 46204-2251
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The Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge Annual Performance Report should demonstrate progress toward objectives and targets AND certify CLEAN Community Challenge requirements continue to be achieved. The Annual Performance Report should include the status of projects committed to in your community's original application, results of completed projects, and assurance that an annual Quality of Life Plan review was conducted by your community. Indiana CLEAN Communities must submit an Annual Performance Report two months after the anniversary of their CLEAN Community designation date.

Please do not include any confidential community or business information in your Annual Performance Report. Public access laws require IDEM to make the Annual Performance Report publicly available, which may include posting all portions of your report on the Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge Web site.

Your Annual Performance Report should be reviewed and signed by a senior manager at your community prior to submittal. Once signed, fax or mail the report to IDEM. If you have any questions, please contact the CLEAN Community Challenge Program Manager at 800-988-7901.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Name of Community
City of Valparaiso

Street Address (number and street)
166 W. Lincolnway

City, State, ZIP Code
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Web site
www.valpo.us

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Title
City of Valparaiso Mayor

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Mailing Address (number and street)
166 W. Lincolnway

City, State, Zip Code
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Reporting Period Dates (month, day, year)
04-13-2009 to 04-13-2010

If this is your third Annual Performance Report, do you wish to renew your Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge designation?
Yes No

If yes, your community will need to provide five new objectives and targets in the Continual Environmental Improvement section of this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL MEDIA ACTIVITIES

Please identify the five objectives and targets in your Quality of Life Plan and describe the baseline measurement, the progress made during the past year, future plans for achieving each target, and any cost savings experienced as a result of the target.

Environmental Media Activity #1

Objective: Increase Municipal Solid Waste Diversion / Increase business and resident recycling participation.

Target: Raise diversion rate to 70% and recycling participation to 75%.

Baseline	Progress Made
Initial recycling participation rate = 63.8% (January 2008 baseline) Initial diversion rate = 46.51% (January - December 2008 baseline) Establishing a baseline for business recycling participation has not been accomplished at this time. A waste survey was distributed through the Chamber of Commerce with little response. Business recycling is being re-evaluated at this time.	Calendar year April 13, 2009-Dec. 31, 2009 Progress made; 3% increase in diversion to 52% 2,235.75 tons of commingled recyclables 106,210 pounds of scrap 19,917 pounds of electronics 8,350.5 pounds of plastic bags No participation rate was determined at this time due to lack of required equipment for route consolidation. The only efforts made to increase participation / diversion was the issuance of 540 larger recycling bins to city residents. These were meant to facilitate route consolidation in the near future. Plastic bag and electronics recycling programs were established.

	<p>Calendar year January 1, 2010-April 13, 2010 Participation rate is being evaluated at this time to coincide with route consolidation.</p> <p>Progress made over 200 larger recycling bins delivered to city residents. 2 additional trucks were purchased and the city's trash and recycling routes were consolidated allowing all households trash and recycling pick-up on the same day.</p> <p>Hurdles overcome; The largest hurdle was consolidation of routes. Completed May 15, 2010</p>
Upcoming Plans to Achieve Target	Cost Savings
More recycling containers on order	Trash diversion savings was established at \$85,581. Due to fluctuation of fuel prices profits on recycling was negligible after accounting for transportation. These figures are for the first part of the reporting period (April 13 to December 31 2009). 2010 figures have not been determined yet.
If this is your third annual performance report, please provide the final results of this activity. If the objective and target were not achieved in the three year designation period, provide a description of why the objective and target was not met.	

Environmental Media Activity #2	
Objective Fluorescent and mercury containing bulb recycling initiative.	
Target Recycle 100% of municipally generated fluorescent and mercury containing bulbs	
Baseline	Progress Made
Prior to 2010, bulbs were recycled by different departments through different means. There were no records kept.	<p>Calendar year April 13, 2009-Dec. 31, 2009 Progress made N/A</p> <p>Calendar year January 1, 2010-April 13, 2010 Progress made 240 fluorescent tubes and 127 CFLs collected for recycling.</p> <p>Hurdles overcome Our largest hurdle to date is the documenting of fluorescent bulbs and CFLs purchased by the separate city departments.</p>
Upcoming Plans to Achieve Target	Cost Savings
The city's mayor has informed all departments of the need to centralize fluorescent bulb and CFL recycling and purchase, coordinating actions through the Public Works department. A baseline will be established on the number of bulbs replaced during 2010. The city will continue to track the number of recycled bulbs to compare progress to the baseline.	
If this is your third annual performance report, please provide the final results of this activity. If the objective and target were not achieved in the three year designation period, provide a description of why the objective and target was not met.	

Please identify the five objectives and targets in your Quality of Life Plan and describe the baseline measurement, the progress made during the past year, future plans for achieving each target, and any cost savings experienced as a result of the target.	
Environmental Media Activity #3	
Objective To promote and educate on the benefits of using rain barrels for lawn and garden as a water quantity Best Management Practice (BMP) and document the number of rain barrels distributed.	
Target Hold at least one workshop to educate residents on rain barrels by December 2009.	
Baseline	Progress Made
In coordination with Save the Dunes, 134 rain barrels were distributed during 2008.	<p>Calendar year April 13, 2009-Dec. 31, 2009 Progress made</p> <p>Prior to July 21, 2009 flyers were distributed for a workshop held at the Legacy on July 21, 2009. 101 rain barrels were passed out to residents in 2009.</p> <p>Calendar year January 1, 2010-April 13, 2010 Progress made</p> <p>Rain barrel workshops were held and rain barrels distributed at events held on April 27, May 3 (56 rain barrels), and May 11.</p> <p>Feasibility studies continue their progress. No concrete data has been obtained thus far.</p> <p>Hurdles overcome</p>

Upcoming Plans to Achieve Target	Cost Savings
Continue workshops and community outreach to educate and distribute barrels to prior/new residents. Continue studies to retrieve data of rain barrel usage.	
If this is your third annual performance report, please provide the final results of this activity. If the objective and target were not achieved in the three year designation period, provide a description of why the objective and target was not met.	

Environmental Media Activity #3	
Objective To promote and educate local businesses, residents, and builders / developers on the benefits of rain gardens as both a water quality and quantity BMP by treating storm water runoff and enhancing groundwater percolation. The city will spearhead the initiative by constructing rain gardens on city property and by encouraging the installation of rain gardens on private lands.	
Target Construct at least one rain garden on city property by December 2010. Hold at least one workshop to educate local businesses, residents and builders / developers on rain gardens by December 2009.	
Baseline	Progress Made
	<p>Calendar year April 13, 2009-Dec. 31, 2009 Progress made</p> <p>Located and documented all constructed rain gardens prior to acceptance of this document. They are as follows: Porter County Jail, Forest Park Golf Course Hole 16, Water Department</p> <p>A rain barrel and rain garden workshop was held July 21, 2009.</p> <p>Two rain gardens were designed and constructed (#1 at North Calumet Street between Glendale Blvd and Wall Street, and #2 at the City's roundabout in 2009.)</p> <p>Calendar year January 1, 2010-April 13, 2010 Progress of the roundabout rain garden was evaluated after winter. It is estimated that everything survived just fine and is growing well. Complete coverage is anticipated by the end of the year.</p> <p>Forest Park Golf Course Hole 16 rain garden was damaged by severe flooding. Action is being taken to remove the silting blocking the inflow.</p> <p>Hurdles overcome</p>
Upcoming Plans to Achieve Target	Cost Savings
Conversion of a detention basin on all Street into a large rain garden is currently being planned. Timing is open-ended and dependent on funding.	
If this is your third annual performance report, please provide the final results of this activity. If the objective and target were not achieved in the three year designation period, provide a description of why the objective and target was not met.	

Environmental Media Activity #4	
Objective Prevention of loss of species diversity, loss of native species within the city.	
Target Developer compliance with the landscape section of the unified ordinance including municipal projects, relative to old landscape ordinance.	
Baseline	Progress Made
N/A	<p>Calendar year April 13, 2009-Dec. 31, 2009 Progress made Approximately 1 acre of park land cleared of invasive species (Asian honeysuckle shrubs were removed).</p> <p>Calendar year January 1, 2010-April 13, 2010 Progress made approximately .25 acre of park land cleared of invasive species (Again, Asian honeysuckle). This work was performed by the city's horticulture staff and volunteers from a local high school (Washington Township).</p> <p>No changes were made to city codes or ordinances yet, however landscape plans are routinely reviewed and revisions are recommended in order to comply with the anti-invasive species initiative. Commercial construction is very slow at this time, few projects have been affected.</p> <p>Hurdles overcome</p>
Upcoming Plans to Achieve Target	Cost Savings
An environmental publication is being drafted at this time. It is intended to be a universal pro-environment statement that can be	

distributed from any city office or event.	
If this is your third annual performance report, please provide the final results of this activity. If the objective and target were not achieved in the three year designation period, provide a description of why the objective and target was not met.	

Environmental Media Activity #5: Develop a Water Conservation Plan	
Objective: Implement a comprehensive public education/public information program	
Target: Implement five water conservation measures indicated in the Water Conservation Plan by the Fall of 2010	
Baseline	Progress Made
The Water Conservation Plan was approved by the Valparaiso City Utilities Board of Directors on May 11, 2010	<p>Calendar year April 13, 2009-Dec. 31, 2009 Progress made May 2009-Final meeting of VCU (Valparaiso City Utilities) water conservation task force. Sep 2009 Finalized and printed the 168 page water conservation plan. Apr 2010 Prepared a power point presentation of the plan for the VCU Board of Directors.</p> <p>Calendar year January 1, 2010-April 13, 2010 Progress made</p> <p>Hurdles overcome</p>
Upcoming Plans to Achieve Target	Cost Savings
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communicate the Water Conservation Plan to all Valparaiso City Utilities employees 2. Insert water conservation messages in monthly customer account statements whenever there is no pre-scheduled message 3. Add water conservation messages to Valparaiso city newsletters 4. Make water conservation brochures available in the lobbies of municipal buildings 5. Meet with the appropriate Valparaiso Community School officials to discuss the inclusion of water conservation standards being offered in their science curriculum 	The American Water Works Association states: "When public information is the only conservation measure offered by a utility, water savings range from 2 to 5 percent during non-crisis periods."
If this is your third annual performance report, please provide the final results of this activity. If the objective and target were not achieved in the three year designation period, provide a description of why the objective and target was not met.	

ANNUAL EMS AUDIT

Summarize the results of the Annual EMS Audit your community performed on the Quality of Life Plan. We discovered difficulty in tracking fluorescent bulbs and CFLs purchased by the many different departments and the recycling of those items. More coordination between the departments seems to be the answer to this problem. More training for all employees and city residents / businesses on the CCC program is needed. This was what the city's QOL plan was lacking the most in.

COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS OUTREACH

Briefly describe the information presented to the community and businesses to keep residents informed of important issues related to the community's environmental performance, including how the status of Quality of Life Plan objectives were relayed to the community. Primarily City Council meetings were used to keep the residents informed. The Chamber of Commerce was utilized to perform a waste survey on the business community with minimal effect. Valparaiso University recently performed a city wide survey. Some of the results are as follows; 49.9% of city residents support a city ordinance requiring recycling. The quality of parks received a 47.8% approval. Quality of the city's water went from 39.3% approval in 2004 (a recent survey) to 43.2% approval in 2009 (latest survey).

CONTINUAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT

If this is your third Annual Performance Report and your community desires to continue membership as an Indiana CLEAN Community, please provide five new objectives and targets your community will commit to during the next three year designation period, otherwise skip to the next section.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please provide the following additional information.

1. List environmental awards received or voluntary programs participated in during the past twelve months (include information about each particular program).
 2009 Groundwater Guardian Community Award
 2009 IDEM Hoosier Water Guardian
2. Has your community taken advantage of any CLEAN benefits? If so, please describe which benefits were used, the implementation process, and ideas for additional benefits IDEM should consider.
 N/A

3. Is your community pursuing ISO 14001 EMS certification? If yes, how has the Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge program been instrumental in achieving ISO 14001 EMS certification?
N/A
4. Explain the measured or perceived results from receiving, documenting, and responding to external communication and its effect on Quality of Life Plan objectives and targets?
5. Explain the emergencies experienced within the community during the past year. Were the applicable emergency and contingency plans detailed in the Quality of Life Plan effective? What changes, if any, have been made to your community's emergency or contingency plans?
No emergencies were experienced. All complaints were handled within the respective department. Surprisingly little interest has been shown by the city residents / business community for the clean communities certification. This may be due to lack of communication outside city staff concerning the QOL plan. Or it may be the city residents / business community's faith in their city's departments.
Procedures for communicating outside the city administration concerning the QOL plan need to be refined and implemented. This topic will be discussed at the next stakeholder's meeting.
6. How have community residents and businesses reacted to your community participating in the Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge?
Response has been minimal. We need to reach out to the community more.
7. According to the measurement program developed and implemented by your community to measure Quality of Life Plan success, is your community's Quality of Life Plan successful? Why or why not? If not, what changes will be made to ensure continual environmental improvement and future Quality of Life Plan success?
The greatest effect the QOL plan has had on the city is the documentation of, and the dead lining of projects the city intended to work on. This helped the city "stay on track" for projects that may have fallen by the wayside without the written commitment.

CERTIFICATION AND PLEDGE

I certify that the information contained in this Annual Performance Report and attachments is accurate to the best of my knowledge and that this local government is, to the best of my knowledge and based on reasonable inquiry, currently in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local environmental requirements, or has a corrective action program in place to attain compliance.

We, the City of Valparaiso, commit to maintaining the principles and goals outlined in our Quality of Life Plan for our local government's Indiana CLEAN Community status. We agree to strive for full compliance with all regulations promulgated by U.S. EPA, the state, and/or local jurisdictions. We agree to promote the Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge and to share our success stories with other communities. We understand that the Annual Performance Report must be submitted to the local government and IDEM and that we must reapply to the Indiana CLEAN Challenge every three years.

I understand that the information provided in this Annual Performance Report will be public record. I am the highest-ranking community official or I have been fully authorized by the highest-ranking community official to execute this statement on behalf of the local government submitting this Annual Performance Report.

Signature	Title	Date (<i>month, day, year</i>)
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Please submit your CLEAN Community Challenge Annual Performance Report to:

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 100 North Senate Avenue
 MC 64-00 IGCS W041
 Indianapolis, IN 46204-2251
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