



A biocell and soil stabilization reduce water runoff and improve water quality at Cedar Ridge Vineyards in rural Johnson County. The project was approved then completed in 2015 after being reviewed for compliance with the County's stormwater ordinance.

Johnson County Sustainability Update 2015



To Our County Residents and Visitors:

Keeping the county green saves resources, energy and often money. Reducing energy and improving soil and conservation practices are part of ongoing strategic planning. Look inside to learn more about our projects:

- Stormwater
- Sensitive Areas
- Energy Efficiencies
- Green Buildings and more!

Sincerely, Your Johnson County Board of Supervisors

Pat Harney Mike Carberry Terrence Neuzil

Janelle Rettig Rod Sullivan

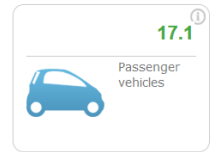
Johnson County Sustainability Highlights: Fiscal Year 2014-15

Energy Efficiency and Greenhouse Gas Reduction



The new Secondary Roads Shop completed MidAmerican Energy's Commercial New Construction program for energy efficiencies. In June 2015, the project earned a \$34,249 incentive and is expected to save \$12,800 annually in electrical costs. Using less electricity reduces annual

greenhouse gas emissions by 81 tons—like taking 17 cars off the road each year.



Internal Energy Fund

The County established the internal Sustainability and Energy Reinvestment Fund in July 2014 to help cover the incremental cost of completing energy-efficiency or other resource-saving projects. The fund supported the purchase of light sensors in the Administration Building and Health and Human Services Building and LED lighting in the Sheriff's Office and Jail. Rebates from projects like the LED lighting are used to replenish the sustainability and energy fund.

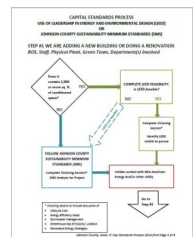
Solar Energy



Two ground-mounted solar photovoltaic systems were built in June 2015 at the Secondary Roads/ SEATS campus. By mid-summer, once electrical hookups are in place, the panels will generate nearly 86 kW of energy each year for the Secondary Roads Shop and West Garage.

Green Buildings

In August 2014, the Board of Supervisors adopted the Green Capital Project Standards Process and Sustainability Minimum Standards to ensure new or renovated County facilities are energy and resource-efficient. For projects of 2,000 or more square feet, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification (LEED) is pursued; if LEED is not feasible, the minimum standards apply.



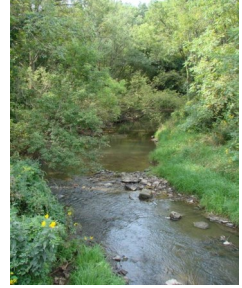
Johnson County Sustainability Highlights: Fiscal Year 2014-15

Stormwater Management

As stormwater flows off roofs, streets and land, it picks up oil, chemicals, debris and soil, which enter draining systems and pollute our creeks, streams, lakes and rivers. Conservation practices such as permeable pavers (left) slow down stormwater and improve its quality. The Stormwater Ordinance, approved in 2011, applies to all major subdivisions and site



plans to reduce stormwater runoff. An internal plan, adopted in 2013, helps manage stormwater runoff on County-owned property. County staff are now developing specific plans for the County's buildings in urban settings.



Sensitive Areas Protection

The County's Sensitive Areas Ordinance prevents damage to environmentally sensitive lands, conserves unique natural resources and promotes land stewardship. Since 2007, the ordinance has helped protect areas such as wetlands, woodlands, stream corridors and prairies while accommodating development and existing agricultural uses. In the past year, nearly a dozen site plans were reviewed for compliance with the ordinance.



Internal Operations

Changes in state law in 2014, thanks to a supervisor-led initiative, eliminated requirements to save hard copies of voter registrations. The Auditor's Office securely shredded and recycled 250 boxes of registrations.



Ride Share, an internal program introduced in March 2015, helps county employees carpool to off-site work meetings and events.

A Green Purchasing Policy adopted in July 2014 fosters the purchase of basic office supplies that are more sustainable than typical purchases.



Johnson County Sustainability 2014-15 Overview

Internal Energy
Fund

Energy Efficiency:
Sensors, LEDs,
Equipment,
Rebates

Solar: In Progress

Sustainable Capital
Projects Standards

Sustainability
Minimum
Standards

Green Purchasing
Policy

Ride Share
Off-Site Meetings

Paper Reduction

Green
Expectations in
Employee
Handbook

A Few Projects in Progress...

- ⇒ A new building for Johnson County Ambulance Services and the Medical Examiner's Office is in the works—and aiming for LEED certification. The building also is participating in MidAmerican Energy's Commercial New Construction program and will be eligible for incentives and annual savings.
- ⇒ Several other energy efficiency and potential rebate projects are underway, including boilers for the SEATS Garage.
- ⇒ The County is creating a Local Foods Coordinator position.

Scan to
"Go Green"

www.johnson-county.com/gogreen

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Johnson County, Iowa

