

2026 Sustainability Report – updated 04/13/26

Principle 1: Purchase and use of environmentally safe and sensitive products

Benefits: The production, use and disposal of many products contribute to pollution and destruction of natural habitats of plants and animals. Making responsible choices when buying can help make an environmentally friendly community.

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES	2026 UPDATE	FUTURE PLANS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase products with recycled content whenever possible • Prioritize use of electronic resources in place of paper, whenever possible • Use environmentally friendly sensitive alternatives to hazardous materials such as cleaning products, whenever possible • Use bulk dispensing systems whenever possible - such as Fitness Center bulk detergent dispensing system and Custodial cleaner dispensing system at both DPDCC and Sportsplex • Purchase 100% recycled content restroom paper products • Include a line item on both Corporate and Recreation Budgets for Sustainability Plan Implementation. Funds will be used to try new environmentally friendly products or equipment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We replace paper with electronic communication whenever practical; including board documents, staff communications, etc. • We print double-sided pages when possible. • Use 30% recycled office paper • Focus on email receipts for patrons vs. printing and mailing them • Staff are tracking how many brochures are left over each season, and continually reduce the amount ordered to minimize waste. • Webtrac (Online) Registration for 2025 was 35% of registration dollars. This was slightly higher than 2024, and staff will continue to track annually. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to encourage online registration, which reduces paper • Continue to look for eco friendly cleaning projects and supplies before ordering • Continue to add funds to budget to expand projects and items purchased, 2026-27 budget was increased to \$5,000 vs \$4,000.

Principle 2: Wise Use and Protection of Air, Water, Soil and Wildlife

All life on earth is dependent upon clean and reliable sources of air, water, and soil. Parks and recreation areas serve an important role in mitigating negative environmental impacts. The District’s sustainable practices improve water and soil quality and protect pollinators.

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES	2026 UPDATE	FUTURE PLANS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use pervious materials for construction of hardscape when practical • Construct permeable paver parking lots, which have a 50 year lifecycle and improve water quality and runoff whenever feasible • Conserve water when practical by using rain barrels • Reduce use of pesticides in parks, use organic in playgrounds and use pesticides only when necessary • Reduce amount of salt used to avoid harming wildlife • Add and maintain native areas when possible to promote wildlife, including butterflies • Add wildlife habitats when possible • Use aerators when possible to reduce need for chemical use • Plant trees annually as part of Arbor Day, but limit number due to area available in parks and focus on tree diversity needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District has 80,414 sf of permeable paver parking lots (24% of all District lots) • Converted Entrance at Holly Park to permeable pavers (spring 2026) • Organic products are being used for weeds in playgrounds • 8 trees planted in 2025-26, as part of Arbor Day • 14 trees planted in 2025-26 as part of our memorial tree program • Tree Inventory Updated with trees removed and trees planted • Purchased materials for a rain water collection system at Garden View Park • Westwood Park wetland project completed year 2 of restoration • Preschool Butterfly garden was completed in Spring 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to use organic products in playgrounds for weeds • Continue to replace parking lots with permeable pavers when funds permit • Look into solar powered pond aerators at Southgrove Pond, when aerators need to be replaced • Continue to participate in Arbor Day for tree plantings – scheduled for April 2026. • Westwood Park wetlands being cleared out and replanted – year 3 of project continuing • District now maintains 6.35 acres of native plantings • District using tree inventory data to continue to guide future plans

Principle 3: Wise Use of Energy Resources

Actively seek and implement ways to conserve energy resources and investigate methods of applying alternative energy technologies.

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES	2026 UPDATE	FUTURE PLANS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate and purchase hybrid or electric vehicles, if practical and budget permits • Investigate and purchase electric parks equipment, if practical and budget permits • Use motion sensor lights in facilities whenever practical • Use LED lights inside and outside facilities and at parks whenever practical • Consider solar panels for buildings when practical and financially feasible • Have outside company perform energy audits to determine ways to increase efficiencies (completed in 2010 at Sportsplex and 2007 at DPDCC) • Evaluate all new lighting for impact on wildlife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchased electric snow blower shovels for DPDCC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to look for hybrid or electric vehicles when purchases are made • Consider solar panels for both DPDCC and Sportsplex when roofs are replaced, if feasible • Convert all remaining park parking lot lighting to LED, if budget permits. Meyers project to be completed in Spring 2026. • Investigate and schedule company to perform future energy audits, when funds permit to improve efficiency at buildings • Solar Powered lighting to be added to Park ID Signs, starting with a test at Garden View

Principle 4: Reduction and Handling of Waste

Recycling can save trees, protect wildlife habitat and reduce space needed for landfills and promote biodiversity. On a global scale, reducing new product manufacturing helps avoid destruction of rain forests, wetlands, rivers and other places essential to wildlife.

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES	2026 UPDATE	FUTURE PLANS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specify recycling in waste hauler contracts at both facilities • Recycle and reuse materials whenever possible • Consider purchasing recycled materials when possible • Consider projects to recycle unique materials • Chip trees and use for mulch • Recycle old DPD electronic equipment annually • District generates no yard waste, as all grass clippings are left on site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will be recycling old DPD electronics annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase wood chipper so that staff can chip trees in a timely fashion. This has been pushed back until 2028-29.

Principle 5: Environmental Education and Interpretation

Parks and recreation spaces provide recreation opportunities that benefit the community through open space. Educating the residents who use these lands helps them further appreciate the different ways these spaces contribute to the community. Environmentally literate residents take better care of the open spaces and support district environmental goals and initiatives.

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES	2026 UPDATE	FUTURE PLANS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide environmental education programs • Support conservation community groups • Educate public through written communication and signage • Work with outside groups (ie. Garden Club and Gift of Carl) for community education and events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp will again offer “Green Week” during Summer 2026 • Preschool will again release butterflies in Spring 2026 • Celebrate Earth Day program continues to grow and expand, held on 4-18-26 with new green-friendly activities each year • Educational signage was installed in front of DPDCC explaining the permeable paver parking lot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Going Green” page will be added to the Fall 2026 brochure - it will continue to be updated, when space permits and there’s relevant information to be shared • Interpretive signs to be added to Westwood Park pathway • Continued educational and program offerings