



Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition

SOLVING GLOBAL WARMING
ONE CITY AT A TIME

Coalition Members Include:

League of Women Voters

Sierra Club

City of Elmhurst

AAUW

Elmhurst Hospital

Elmhurst College

Elmhurst Garden Club

Elmhurst Library

Elmhurst Park District

Elmhurst Dist. 205

York High Eco Club

Elmhurst Bike Club

Elmhurst Rotary Club

Elmhurst City Centre

Heaven and Earth Growers

Community Bank of Elmhurst

1st Congregational Church

Epiphany Lutheran Church

Elmhurst Presbyterian Church

Interested "Cool" Business Leaders

Interested "Cool" Citizens

Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition (founded July 2007) is a local coalition of institutions, organizations and citizens working to achieve goals of Sierra Club Cool Cities Program.

- Before 1st meeting, LWV laid groundwork with City Manager and Mayor providing info on Cool Cities and benefits. Committed to being positive force to bring issue before Elmhurst residents thru a coalition.
- Asked others to join the Coalitions –key was City rep and other key institutions and groups.
- Coalition members commit to being active and play to their strengths.
- First goal was to become Cool city; we spoke at Committee meetings and attended Council meetings. City Staff very supportive.

Mayor signs U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement Oct. 4, 2007

Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition is active:

- Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition meets monthly.
- Planned and organized two Elmhurst Green Fests: August 9, 2008 and August 1, 2009. July 1, 2010 will be third. (see www.elmhurstgreenfest.org)
- Promote Cool Cities Pledge for Individuals
- Coalition members each started own internal green committees (hospital, city, park district, library, churches) to make changes in their places. Dist 205 already ahead in terms of energy efficiencies and \$ savings. Working to improve other practices such as recycling, No Idle.
- Some coalition members sponsor speakers on eco topics: AAUW, LWV, Library, Green book club –Sierra Club, Elmhurst College
- 4 members start ECO clubs at their kid's grade school – now 4 of 8 schools have PTA sponsored ECO clubs.
- Building Green and Retrofit – College's new dorm received Gold LEED Certification, Elmhurst Hospital being built green. Cool Cities showcases new green homes and one of our members is first Eco Broker in DuPage. She is actively working to "green up" homes before being sold.
- City just completed energy audit and has reduced 40% from 1990 levels; mostly from turning off 24/7 motors pumping well water. Working on plan for further reductions especially replacing all streetlights with LED.
- City approves first Sustainability Policy **2/2/09**. Cool Cities gave input.
- Poster Contest for kids in grades 1-6 -44 entries for 1st year; will do again
- TOP 10 List of things for City to Work on in 2009
- City web site adds Green Living Elmhurst and Library adds Living Green in Elmhurst to their web site – resources. Dist 205 adds to their web site a carbon foot print calculator for individuals to use.
- 2010 goals – continue to support Mayor and Council on policies and programs that meet Cool Cities goal. Focus on businesses, energy audits, speakers, educational forums, outreach to churches and PTAs, and follow progress on Top 10 priorities, 3rd Annual Green Fest. Coalition Members play to their strengths.