

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE City of Duluth Communications Office

411 West First Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802 218-730-5230 | www.duluthmn.gov | Don Ness, Mayor

For more information contact Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator 218-730-5309 or Amy Norris, Public Information Coordinator 218-730-4312

DATE: 04/22/2013

SUBJECT: Celebrate Earth Day City of Duluth Launches 'Sustainable Duluth' Webpage

BY: Amy Norris, Public Information Coordinator

Celebrate Earth Day!

City of Duluth Launches 'Sustainable Duluth' Webpage:

http://www.duluthmn.gov/sustainability/

It's April, and we're still trying to shake off a wild winter so we can move into a blossoming spring. Our extreme winter weather makes us pause as we approach Earth Day 2013.

The City of Duluth officially launched today, the newly created 'Sustainable Duluth' webpage in celebration of Earth Day.

The Sustainability Team here at the City of Duluth is excited to share with the public where they have been, what they are up to now, and the direction they are headed for the future. Everyone is in this together -- local government has a unique and vital role to play in guiding the community's efforts to move towards achieving true sustainability

What is **Sustainability**? It means meeting the need of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

What is a Sustainable community? A **sustainable community** is economically, environmentally, and socially healthy and resilient. It meets challenges through integrated solutions, and it takes a long-view perspective -- one that is in the present yet is preparing for the future.

What is Sustainability planning? **Sustainability Planning** is a comprehensive plan that seeks to ensure a city can continue to meet its current and ongoing environmental, social, and economic needs without compromising the future for succeeding generations.

In 2011, the Duluth City Council approved the first <u>City Operations Energy Action Plan</u> for years 2011 -- 2015. The plan set targets to reduce energy use in buildings, operations, and transportation

Community Engagement - Energy Planning - The Duluth LEAP community engagement

process to develop a local energy action plan is nearing completion. The plan will be posted later in April 2013 for comments and will then be presented to the Duluth City Council.

An **Energy Action Plan (EAP)** is part of a climate action plan and a broader, more comprehensive sustainability plan. The City Operations Energy Action Plan will become part of a more comprehensive sustainability plan for City operations at a future date.

Visit our web site and learn about 'Sustainable Duluth' http://www.duluthmn.gov/sustainability/ ###