



Suggested Projects & Resources for Neighborhoods



DENVER
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

These are just suggestions, feel free to improvise.

SustainableNeighborhoodNetwork.org/Denver

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Goal: Air



GOAL: Reduce emissions generated in the neighborhood and improve both outdoor and indoor air quality.

TARGET AREAS

- Outdoor Emissions
- Indoor Air Quality
- Trees and Vegetation
- Carbon Footprint Reduction

Suggested Initiatives & Projects

Emissions Reduction

- **Educate Neighbors About Anti-Idling:** Reduce emissions from idling vehicles at EnginesOff.com
- **Vehicle Maintenance Education:** Learn to improve efficiency and reduce emissions
- **Bike to Work:** Commit residents to ride instead of drive on a weekly or bi-weekly basis
- **Develop a Carpool Network:** WayToGo.org
- **Alternative Transportation Map & Guide:** Develop a resource for existing and new residents in the neighborhood
- **Walking/Biking Audit:** Identify barriers to walking and bicycling in the neighborhood. WALKscope.org
- **Fireplace Replacement:** Reduce the number of wood-burning fireplaces

Landscaping

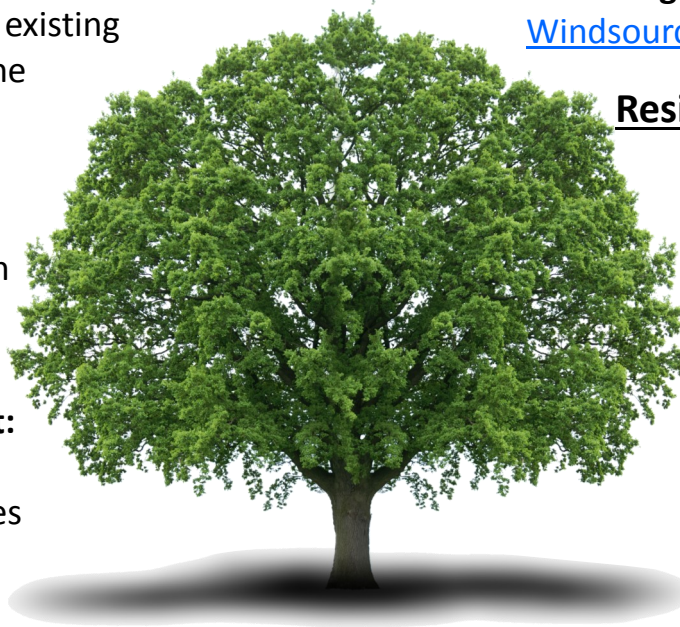
- **Shade Tree Planting:** Plant yard and street trees to reduce solar gain and improve air quality. Denver Digs Trees program: TheParkPeople.org

Carbon Offsets

- **Household Carbon Footprint Reduction:** Set goals for neighborhood-wide reductions in carbon emissions
- **Purchase Energy from Wind:** Sign up for Windsource with Xcel Energy

Residential Air Quality

- **In-home Air Quality:** Learn about sources of indoor air pollution
- **Carbon Monoxide:** Install sensors in neighborhood homes
- **Radon:** Test homes for high levels of radon. Go to: ColoradoRadon.info



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Goal: Encourage stewardship and conservation of ecosystems and resources.

Target Areas

- Sustainable Landscapes
- Wildlife & Habitat Enhancement
- Chemical Pollution
- Recycling & Waste Reduction

Suggested Initiatives & Projects

Sustainable Landscapes

- **Native Plants:** Encourage the use of native plants to provide food and habitat for area species
- **Create a Vegetable Garden:** Promote residential food production
- **Soil Amendment:** Amend soils during landscape and garden projects to increase water nutrients and water absorption

Wildlife & Habitat Protection

- **Noxious Weed Removal:** Prevent the planting and spread of noxious weeds in the neighborhood
- **Neighborhood Diversity:** Inventory various species in the neighborhood in order to track changes
- **Neighborhood Bird/Wildlife List:** Keep a list of species that live in or pass through the neighborhood
- **Habitat Trees:** Identify older neighborhood trees that provide important habitat
- **Living with Wildlife:** Learn

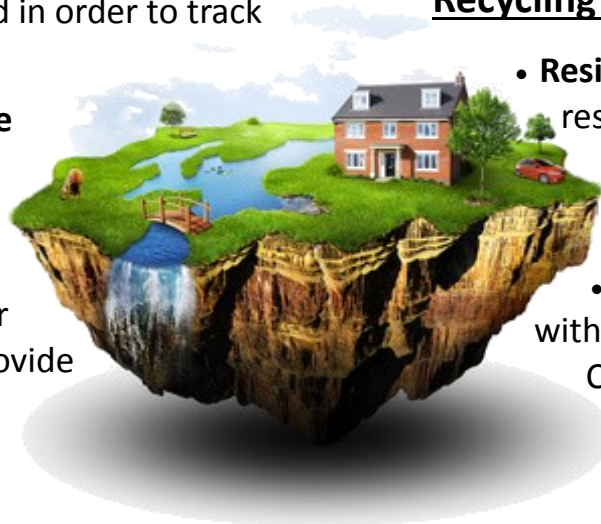
how to reduce conflicts with coyotes, skunks, foxes and other wildlife

Chemical Pollution

- **Household Hazardous Waste:** Distribute information to neighbors about the City's Hazardous Waste collection program. Call 311 for more info.
- **Electronic Recycling:** Share information with neighbors on free and low-cost options for [recycling old TV's, computers and electronics](#). Call 311 for more info.
- **Green Purchasing Guide:** Create a guide to purchasing environmentally friendly household cleaners and other products

Recycling & Waste Reduction

- **Residential Recycling:** Encourage residents to [sign up](#) for the City's FREE home recycling service. Call 311 for more info.
- **Composting:** Share information with neighbors on FREE "Learn to Compost" classes and fee-based home [compost services](#). Call 311 for more info.



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Goal: Energy



Goal: Promote energy efficiency in the neighborhood and encourage the use of renewable energy sources.

Target Areas

- Residential Energy Conservation
- Commercial Energy Conservation
- Renewable Energy Sources
- Green Building

Suggested Initiatives & Projects

Energy Conservation

- Encourage neighbors to make their homes energy efficient with the Denver Energy Challenge: DenverEnergy.org or 720-865-5520
- Encourage local businesses to go green with Certifiably Green Denver: Denvergov.org/CGD or 720-865-5457
- Educate neighbors about the proper way to recycle CFL bulbs. Denvergov.org/DenverRecycles
- **Christmas Light Trade-in:** Replace old lights with energy efficient LED lights
- **Light Impact Assessment:** Reduce the amount of light needed to illuminate your property
- **Weather-stripping:** Reduce leaks around windows and doors to reduce energy use in the summer and winter

Renewable Energy

- **Solar Installation Incentives:** Examine opportunities for going solar at home
- **Purchase Energy from Wind:** Sign-up for Windsource with Xcel Energy
- **Community Solar:** Learn about community solar gardens and examine opportunities for your home

Green Building

- **US Green Build:** Learn the principles of “green building” and get assistance for new projects
- **Green Roofs:** Learn how green roofs reduce energy use and improve water quality
- **White Roofs:** Promote roof colors that save you energy



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Goal: Conserve water resources and improve water quality.

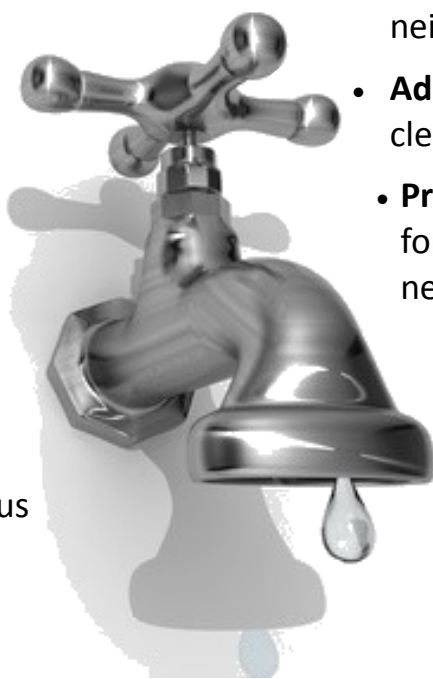
Target Areas

- Water Conservation
- Stormwater Management
- Stream/Gulch Protection

Suggested Initiatives & Projects

Water Conservation

- **Host Workshops to Help Reduce Landscape Water Use:** Waterwise plants & xeriscaping DenverWater.org/Conservation/Xeriscape
- **Turf Conversion:** Convert irrigated areas to waterwise landscapes
- **Irrigation System Audits:** Minimize the time and amount of water used by residents to irrigate
- **Adopt Rain Sensors:** Encourage the installation of rain sensors to prevent watering during rainy weather
- **Leaky Faucet Repair Squad:** Help neighbors fix plumbing leaks
- **Home Water Audits:** Identify inefficiencies in household water use by getting a free audit: DenverWater.org
- **Install Water Efficient Appliances:** Reduce water use and take advantage of numerous rebates available from DenverWater.org



Stormwater Management

- **Porous Surfaces:** Identify areas where porous pavement may improve drainage and water quality
- **Rain Gardens:** Learn how to reduce runoff by creating small wetland gardens
- **Green Roofs:** Identify buildings that might be suitable for a green roof project

Stream/Gulch Protection

- **Stream Bank Projects:** Protect vegetation and prevent erosion around neighborhood waterways
- **Adopt-a-Gulch:** Commit to regular clean-up days of local waterways
- **Protect Storm Drains:** Ask [Public Works](#) for signs and pet waste bags to educate neighbors about storm drain protection
 - **Hold a Fertilizer & Pesticide Reduction Campaign:** Educate on the impacts of chemicals on water quality

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Goal: Enhance the social vitality of the neighborhood by encouraging community interaction, partnerships, and outreach programs.

Target Areas

- Health & Wellness
- Community Outreach
- Youth Programs
- Neighborhood Heritage
- Local Economy & Green Purchasing

Suggested Initiatives & Projects

Health & Wellness

- **Host Healthy Living Workshops:** Cover topics like active living and nutrition
- **Walkability Analysis:** Identify missing sidewalk links and other barriers to non-motorized transportation. WALKscope.org

Community Outreach

- **Community Charities:** Host food, coat, school supply or other charitable drives
- **Helping Hands Network:** Establish a network of volunteers to assist with yard and home maintenance
- **Adopt-a-_____ (park, spot, street, etc.)**

Youth Programs

- **After-school Activity Enrollment:** Encourage participation in after-school programs for neighborhood children
- **Recreation Program Participation:** Set a goal for increasing youth recreation program participation



- **Green Initiative Youth Team:** Help form a volunteer team of neighborhood youth to lead sustainability projects

Neighborhood Heritage

- **Historic & Cultural Resources Inventory:** Research neighborhood history and identify properties of historic significance
- **Neighborhood Historic Tour:** Create a self-guided tour that includes stories and myths about the neighborhood

Local Economy & Green Purchasing

- **Community Garden:** Build a community garden
- **Farmer’s Market Carpool:** Organize shared rides to local markets
- **Neighborhood Garden Exchange:** Share produce or organize a “From our gardens” neighborhood potluck
- **Local Business Directory/Discount Program:** Work with area businesses to get neighborhood discounts for buying local

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