



The Most Livable
City in America

Sustainable Saint Paul Briefings

November 2013

The Sustainable Saint Paul Briefings is intended to provide quick updates on sustainable initiatives and projects in the City of Saint Paul.



Saint Paul Continues to Build Sustainably



The City of Saint Paul continues to be a leader in building sustainably thanks to its Saint Paul Sustainable Building Policy. This policy applies to new city/HRA buildings and all privately developed new construction projects receiving more than \$200,000 in public funding.

The policy became effective in July 2010, and approximately 20 projects that will meet the requirements of the policy are currently underway.

Development projects include the West Side Flats, Sunray Library, Episcopal Homes Nursing Home, and the Regional Lowertown Ballpark. Others, including Kendall's Ace Hardware and Lofts at Farmers Market, are complete and open for business.

At the end of November, The Penfield (see photo above) in downtown Saint Paul - another development subject to the policy - will expect its first occupancy. The new mixed-use building with market-rate apartments is expected to be awarded Silver certification based on the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standard. Click [here](#) to watch a video about this project.

Projects not required to comply with the Saint Paul Sustainable Building Policy are encouraged to adopt the policy voluntarily. City staff are eager to assist. Learn more by visiting www.stpaul.gov/sustainablebuildingpolicy or contact Kurt Schultz at Kurt.Schultz@ci.stpaul.mn.us or 651-266-6590.

Salt Reduction Efforts

In preparation for winter, approximately 12 City of Saint Paul crew members recently completed Road Salt Certification Training offered through Fortin Consulting, Inc., a consulting firm that was awarded a grant in 2005 by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to develop an education outreach program on road salt. This training is based on the Minnesota Snow and Ice Control Field Handbook for Snowplow Operators.

Crew members learned about winter maintenance innovations that protect water through reducing the amount of road salt used during snow removal and winter road maintenance. The City of Saint Paul is close to being the first organization to have 100% of its snow fighting crews road-salt certified. [See more information on road salt education program training.](#)

You can help protect water during winter through these simple tips:

- Shovel – Removing snow and ice means less salt needed. The less salt you need, the more effective it will be in keeping your pathways safe.
- Sand – Use sand in heavy ice and extreme cold conditions – Salt stops working effectively in extremely cold temperatures. While sand won't melt ice, it will provide for traction.

- Sweep – Salt or sand on dry pavement is no longer doing any work. Sweep it up and use it somewhere else or throw it away to help avoid it being washed away.

To learn more about the city's water resources, visit: <http://www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?NID=478>

Accepting 2014 Sustainable Saint Paul Awards Nominations Soon!

Nominations for the 2014 Sustainable Saint Paul Awards will be opening in mid-December. The awards are given to honor outstanding achievements of individuals, businesses and organization that are protecting and restoring the environment in Saint Paul.

(Photo to right: Kennell Tackett - 2013 Winner of the Natural Resources Conservation Award. From left to right: Councilmember Melvin Carter, Kennel Tackett, Mayor Chris Coleman)



Award categories include Energy Efficiency or Conservation, Water Quality or Conservation, Transportation Options, Clean-up or Beautification, Residential Green Building Design, Commercial Green Building Design, Waste Reduction, Composting or Recycling, Environmental Education or Awareness, Natural Resources Conservation, Youth Leadership Award-18 years and under, Green Products, Green Practices, Sustainable City Staff, and Exceptional Environmental Steward. Stay tuned for more information. To see past winners, visit: www.stpaul.gov/sustainableawards

Share your comments about the Sustainable Saint Paul Briefings!

Complete this short [survey](#) and tell us what you like/dislike about these monthly e-briefings.

For more information on Sustainable Saint Paul, visit www.stpaul.gov/sustainable. Questions? Contact Pa Vang at Pa.Vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us or call 651-266-8533.