

Village of Egg Harbor

Green Tier Task Force

2023-2025 Strategic Plan

Amended 1.7.25

Introduction

Since joining the Wisconsin Green Tier Legacy Communities (GTLC) program in 2017, the Village of Egg Harbor has led the way in sustainability efforts, inspiring other Door County municipalities to follow suit. With six designated GTLC communities in the county, collaboration and shared initiatives have the potential to create meaningful regional impact.

This strategic plan outlines the Green Tier Task Force's (GTTF) goals for 2023-2025, focusing on sustainability priorities while leveraging partnerships and resources for maximum impact. Objectives are updated annually to align with available resources and evolving community needs.

Village of Egg Harbor Sustainability Mission

We are committed to integrating sustainability into municipal operations and community partnerships, ensuring a healthier and more resilient future for Egg Harbor.

The Green Tier Task Force educates, advocates, and implements sustainability programs in collaboration with residents, businesses, and government, protecting our environment for generations to come.

Strategic Goals (2023-2025)

Organizational Goals

- **Capacity Building:** Expand resources, partnerships, and staffing to achieve sustainability objectives.
- **Community Engagement:** Foster year-round participation from residents, businesses, and local government.

Program & Project Initiatives

- **Land Management:** Promote sustainable public land use and engage private property owners in conservation efforts.
 - **Energy Use:** Reduce fossil fuel consumption in Village operations and encourage private energy efficiency.
 - **Waste Management:** Improve Village waste practices, promote composting, and reduce single-use plastics.
 - **Water Conservation:** Protect local water resources through conservation efforts and community education.
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Priority Initiatives & Outcomes

Capacity Building (staff, volunteers, partnerships, funding, DNR)

- **Expand Task Force Membership**
 - *Action:* Recruit new members through outreach and event engagement.
 - *Outcome:* Maintain active recruitment; include calls to action in newsletters and events.
 - *Status:* Ongoing.
- **Strengthen Partnerships**

Action 1: Establish collaborations with regional sustainability organizations.

 - *Outcome:* Partner with Door County Trails Initiative, Destination Door County's Green Initiative, Climate Change Coalition, and Clean Water Action Council by 2025.
 - *Status:* In progress.

Action 2: Investigate the potential for Americorps volunteers to supplement Village staff

 - *Outcome:* GTTF member will produce a report regarding the feasibility of using one or more Americorps volunteers to support GTTF efforts and beyond by the end of March.
 - *Status:* Due end of March
- **Leverage Funding**
 - *Action:* Identify grant and room tax funding for sustainability projects.
 - *Outcome:* Staff will report on funding opportunities at the February 2025 meeting.
 - *Status:* Research phase, ongoing.

Community Engagement

- **Public Awareness**

- *Action:* Publish semi-annual reports on GTTF activities and share through newsletter, press release and village board and committee meetings.
- *Outcome:* Reports distributed to residents, businesses, and stakeholders in January and June.
- *Status:* First report due January 25, 2025.

- **Village-Wide Involvement**

Action 1: Conduct annual presentations to Village Board and committees.

- *Outcome:* Annually present a Green Tier wrap up to the Village Board & Committees
- *Status:* Ongoing.

Action 2: Assign a GTTF member to each committee to keep informed.

- *Outcome:* GTTF is well aware of what is happening in the village.
- *Status:* Ongoing.

- **Events & Education**

- *Action:* Host “Every Day is Earth Day” celebration and promote sustainability awareness.
- *Outcome:* Event held annually at Kress Pavilion; increased community participation.
- *Status:* Planning phase for April 2025 with community partner organizations.

Land Management

- **Orchard Research**

- *Action:* Collaborate with Rodale Institute and Seaquist Orchards.
- *Outcome:* Secure Rodale Institute report by February 15, 2025, and determine project evolution by March 1, 2025.
- *Status:* In progress.

- **No Mow May**

- *Action:* Expand participation and integrate pollinator gardens and plants.
- *Outcome:* Meet with Public Works Supervisor and Climate Change Coalition by March 31, 2025.
- *Status:* Scheduled.

- **Zoning Review**

- *Action:* Provide sustainability-focused input on Village zoning ordinances.

- *Outcome:* Assign GTTF member to zoning ordinance review by February 1, 2025.
- *Status:* Pending assignment.

Energy Use

- **Municipal Energy Efficiency**
 - *Action:* Identify and implement fossil fuel reduction strategies.
 - *Outcome:* Develop a procedure for soliciting energy efficiency suggestions from staff.
 - *Status:* Initiated & ongoing.
- **Public Energy Education**
 - *Action:* Develop and distribute energy efficiency resources.
 - *Outcome:* Compile best available materials and activate a distribution system by mid-2025.
 - *Status:* Research phase.

Waste Management

- **Composting Expansion**
 - *Action:* Work with USDA and Door County Composting Initiative.
 - *Outcome:* Recruit volunteers for business compost collection by April 20, 2025.
 - *Status:* Ongoing.
- **Single-Use Plastics Reduction**

Action 1: Collaborate with Egg Harbor Business Association on reusable bag initiative

 - *Outcome:* Meet with EHBA by February 13, 2025, to discuss engagement.
 - *Status:* Upcoming.

Action 2: Collaborate with Destination Door County & EHBA on festival waste reduction

 - *Outcome:* Meet with DDC by March 13, 2025, to discuss engagement, and plan for festivals
 - *Status:* Upcoming.
- **Village-Wide Waste Assessment**
 - *Action:* Identify and implement improvements to municipal waste management.
 - *Outcome:* Develop an action plan through semi-annual meetings with Village staff.
 - *Status:* In progress, with one initiative being improving recycling and waste management at events and festivals.

Water Conservation

- **Well Testing Initiative**
 - *Action:* Partner with UW-Oshkosh for Village-wide well testing.
 - *Outcome:* Launch well testing program by May 1, 2025.
 - *Status:* Initial collaboration in progress.
 - **Sustainable Water Use**
 - *Action:* Identify additional Village-wide water conservation measures.
 - *Outcome:* Develop a water conservation strategy with staff input.
 - *Status:* Ongoing.
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Roles & Responsibilities

Staff

- Foster partnerships and community engagement.
- Plan and implement sustainability events.
- Oversee municipal energy, waste, and water initiatives.

Volunteers

- Assist with recruitment and engagement efforts.
- Support composting and energy education programs.

Staff & Volunteers

- Coordinate No Mow May, orchard research, and village clean-up events.
 - Monitor funding opportunities and assist with zoning updates.
 - Expand composting and waste reduction programs.
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Initiative and Action Chart:

Initiative	Action	Status	Village Committee
Expand Task Force Membership	Recruit new members through outreach and events	Ongoing	GTTF Committee
Strengthen Partnerships	Establish collaborations with sustainability orgs	In progress	Staff & GTTF Committee
Leverage Funding	Identify grant and room tax funding	Research phase	Staff
Public Awareness	Publish semi-annual reports	First report due Jan 25, 2025	Staff
Village-Wide Involvement	Conduct presentations to Village Board	Ongoing	Staff
Events & Education	Host Earth Day celebration	Planning for April 2025	Staff & GTTF Committee
Orchard Research	Collaborate with Rodale Institute and Seaquist Orchards	In progress	GTTF Committee
No Mow May	Expand participation, integrate pollinator gardens	Scheduled	GTTF & Public Works
Zoning Review	Provide input on zoning ordinances	Pending assignment	GTTF & Plan Commission
Municipal Energy Efficiency	Identify and implement fossil fuel reduction strategies	Initiated & ongoing	GTTF, PPW, Utility, Marina
Public Energy Education	Develop and distribute energy efficiency resources	Research phase	Staff & Partner Orgs
Composting Expansion	Work with USDA and Door County Composting Initiative	Ongoing	GTTF & Public Works
Single-Use Plastics Reduction	Collaborate with Egg Harbor Business Association	Upcoming	GTTF & Destination Door
Village-Wide Waste Assessment	Identify and implement municipal waste improvements	In progress	Public Works
Well Testing Initiative	Partner with UW-Oshkosh for well-testing	Initial collaboration in progress	Staff & Utility Committee
Sustainable Water Use	Identify and implement additional water conservation measures	Ongoing	Staff