

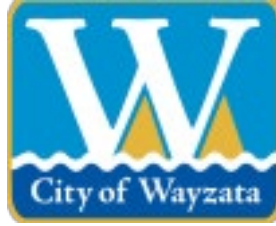


ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 27, 2025 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

**Wayzata City Hall
600 Rice Street East
Wayzata, MN 55391**

1. Roll Call
2. Approve Agenda
3. Approve September 30, 2025 Meeting Minutes
4. Review Sustainability Champion Award Application
5. Member Recruitment
6. [Resilience Plan](#) Discussion
7. Election of Officers
8. Next Meeting – Tuesday, February 24
9. Adjournment



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 30, 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

1. Roll Call

Committee Attendees: Chair Lauren Lindelof, David Ferri, Meaghan Yorro, and David Kirkland.

Wayzata City Staff Member: Nick Kieser, Parks and Environment Planner.

2. Approve Agenda

Motion to approve agenda with addition of discussion with the Wayzata High School, first by Ferri, seconded by Kirkland. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approve August 26, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes, first by Lindelof and seconded by Kirkland. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Dark Sky Event Recap

The Committee discussed the Dark Sky Event that was held on Friday, September 26.

Highlights:

- The event was well attended, with a strong showing of children and families, resulting in a diverse audience.
- Attendees demonstrated significant interest in the subject matter.
- Presentations by Todd from Dark Skies and Ally from University of MN were well received.
- The Wayzata High School Volunteer Club was very helpful with tabling and working the telescopes.
- Audience members asked thoughtful and engaging follow-up questions to the presentations.
- Promotional efforts were effective, including flyer distribution and coverage in the *Sun Sailor*.

- The City Hall venue proved suitable for both the presentation and sky viewing.

Areas for Improvement:

- Increase the number of telescopes available and seek a partnership with the Minnesota Astronomical Society.
- Provide larger telescopes to enhance viewing opportunities.
- Encourage greater participation in the guided walk, potentially by scheduling it earlier in the evening.
- Address long wait times for telescope viewing with more telescopes.
- Invite broader participation from City Council and other community groups.
- Incorporate images in the presentation that highlight local light pollution issues and potential solutions for Wayzata.
- Consider offering speakers an honorarium, either as a personal token of appreciation or as a contribution to their cause.

The Committee discussed the potential to hold this event again in the future or if there are other topics that would work well for another educational event. This discussion will be ongoing at future Committee meetings.

5. Resilience Plan Review

Staff reviewed the top priorities of the Resilience Plan that were chosen by the Committee at a previous meeting. From these priorities, staff also noted that the Committee should determine what other action items that could be implemented by the Committee. Most of the other action items in the Resilience Plan require work by city staff.

The Committee will review the Resilience Plan before the next meeting to bring forward any other action items that they could work on.

6. Presentation at Wayzata High School

Chair Lindelof noted that a presentation to students at Wayzata High School will be held on Wednesday, October 8. The presentation will review the Committee's work and explain the student position on the Committee.

7. Staff Updates

Staff noted that there will be five Committee Members up for reappointment at the end of 2025. Staff will send out the application to each member that would need to reapply.

6. Next Meeting – Tuesday, October 28

Committee Member Ferri noted that he will be absent from the next meeting.

7. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn, first by Lindelof, seconded by Ferri. Motion passed unanimously.

11/26/25

NOVEMBER 2025
APPLICATION FOR WAYZATA SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION AWARD
FOLKESTONE
100 PROMENADE
WAYZATA, MN

Folkestone is a Presbyterian Homes Senior Living facility. It consists of three buildings (North, West and South) that have 221 apartments for independent living, called The Terrace. The North building also houses 104 apartments of higher level of care. Currently there are 393 total residents living in Folkestone. This application is submitted by the EcoTeam, consisting of Sue and Dick Asinger, Co-Chairs, and members Tom von Fischer, Phyllis Mohrlant, Ed Mohrlant, Jim Unglaube, David Tweet and the late, Mike Conley. This group has adopted the slogan “WHAT CAN I/WE DO” to care for the planet, and has worked together with Folkestone’s Administration, Maintenance and Culinary staff.



GEOTHERMAL

When Folkestone was designed and constructed more than a decade ago, it was determined that the heating and air conditioning system would be geothermal. This was a significant decision for such a large facility. The system relies on a nearly constant underground water temperature to provide the heating and cooling year-round.

Geothermal uses electricity to power the circulation pumps and the fans in the living units but uses no fossil fuels itself. It is a closed system, as well, with very little environmental risk.

A geothermal system relies on pipes/hoses running from the living unit underground to a depth where the water is at a steady temperature. There, in winter, the fluid pulls heat from the ground and transfers it to the building using circulation pumps. These pumps then distribute the heated fluid to heat pumps in each apartment and common area. The heat pump fan system circulates air through the apartment. In summer, the process is reversed. The system deposits heat from the building into the earth and brings cool air back in.

A particularly unique aspect of the system at Folkestone is that every apartment has its own heat pump and related circulating system of refrigerant. This makes the system considerably more complicated but allows each residential unit to control its own temperature with its own thermostat.

The geothermal system can be up to 50% more efficient than traditional heating and air conditioning options. The system does not produce greenhouse gases or carbon monoxide. The system also has a significant life expectancy. The advantages of geothermal systems are offset, to a degree, by higher initial, maintenance, and replacement costs.

RECYCLING

Commercial recycling

In 2022 a few new residents of Folkestone, some with background training through the Hennepin County Recycling and Composting Ambassador program, noted that commercial recycling practice at Folkestone had room for improvement. Thus began an ambitious program of education in recycling practice initiated by these residents. This consisted of mobile poster presentations given to Terrace residents

in all three buildings, highlighting examples of what should and should not be recycled. The posters featured common items with a focus on those specific to Folkestone. This was followed by a live education program by our trash/recycling hauler, Nitti Sanitation. More than 100 residents attended the program, and it was clear that there was enthusiasm in learning the basics of recycling. Within several months, our hauler spontaneously commented that recycling compliance had improved and fines for contaminants were eliminated.

Maintaining good recycling practices continues to be one of our primary goals achieved through education directed toward new residents and encouraging questions. We also provide regular Recycling Tips via email to all residents to maintain an ongoing connection. The Terrace Resident Advisory Committee (TRAC) noticed these successes and an EcoTeam was established. The original mission of this team was “to be good stewards of the environment through ongoing education in sound recycling practices”. Administration embraced the mission of the EcoTeam since it is consistent with the core value of Stewardship for Presbyterian Homes and Services. We soon had 8 members and have met monthly, expanding our service to include an off-site Recycling program and, since June 2025, Organic recycling/composting.

Off-Site Recycling

After success in improving standard commercial recycling practices and the enthusiastic response of residents to learn proper recycling, we directed our attention to items that could be recycled if taken to specialized off-site locations. Because of an ongoing connection with Hennepin County Ambassadors of Recycling and Composting, we knew these specialized areas existed. For example, large amounts of Styrofoam from residents, staff and maintenance, appear in our Trash rooms with no option to recycle in Hennepin County. Previously it was taken to the incinerator or landfill. Coon Rapids Recycling in Anoka County, however, does recycle Styrofoam and after obtaining their

permission, we started collecting and hauling Folkestone’s Styrofoam to this facility. In the last 28 months we have taken 29 SUV loads of Styrofoam to Coon Rapids, where it is recycled into a denser shipping product, and other uses, such as making picture frames.

Other opportunities were soon identified; scrap metal is taken to Express Metal in Hopkins, used ink cartridges to Staples, wearable and non-wearable textiles to a local Goodwill, and alkaline batteries and fluorescent and LED bulbs are collected and placed in Folkestone’s licensed hazardous waste area, rather than Trash. We also collect and sort empty pill bottles to facilitate commercial recycling. Plastic film is collected in Folkestone for NexTrex to reuse for making outdoor furniture. Egg cartons are collected and taken for reuse to Coon Rapids Recycling or Interfaith Outreach Community Partners (IOCP) in Plymouth. Most electronics, including, but not limited to TVs, printers, computers, monitors, landline phones plus all cords and peripherals are taken to FreeGeek. The amount collected for these off-site locations is staggering as seen in the table below.

Numbers of Off-site Recycling Items Collected Over 28 months											
	<u>Ink</u>	<u>LED/FL</u>	<u>Holiday</u>	<u>Plastic</u>				<u>Pill</u>	<u>Egg</u>		
<u>Batteries</u>	<u>Cartridges</u>	<u>Bulbs</u>	<u>Lights</u>	<u>Film</u>	<u>Metal</u>	<u>Fabric</u>	<u>Styrofoam</u>	<u>Bottles</u>	<u>Cartons</u>	<u>Phones</u>	<u>Electronics</u>
10,771	718	269	159	212#	713#	295#	29	5,706	292	248	33
#-pounds, PR-printer, S-TV & monitor											PR-15 S-18

Most impressive is that all these items were identified by residents as recyclable or reusable and taken to a specified collection area in our Resident parking garages for volunteers to haul away. It’s this support by our Terrace residents that has made this unique endeavor successful.

Organic Recycling

In the Spring of 2024, the EcoTeam decided to pursue organic recycling for Folkstone's residents. Although in 2003 Wayzata was the first city in Hennepin County to mandate organic curbside recycling service for residential dwellings up to 4 units, there remains no mandate for larger multifamily dwellings. In conjunction with Folkestone's administration and Culinary, we obtained a Hennepin County Energy and Environment grant for a pilot project to develop organic recycling. This pilot study was limited to the 50 independent living Terrace apartments in the North building. Eventually, communal eating areas, specifically the Bistro in the North building and Lakeside Lounge in the South building were included. This grant included a professional educational presentation from Hennepin County and stressed ongoing education for each floor of the North building. With evidence of growing interest in collection of organic waste, along with Biodegradable Product Institute certified (BPI) paper items, we are happy to report that at the end of the pilot, Folkestone administrators approved an organic waste program for all Terrace residents with Nitti Sanitation. This program services 284 residents. We have observed growth in the volume of organics and BPI certified material collected and are on pace to save several tons of organic waste and BPI certified material per year from the incinerator and landfill.

EDUCATION

A key to our recycling successes has been education, and the EcoTeam expanded its mission statement to include environmental advocacy. We have sponsored or co-sponsored (with Education Committee) lectures on environmental topics. These include several programs in the Great Decisions series, and a recent visit to Folkestone by renowned polar explorer Will Steger. Will uses the platform of his fame for public

outreach to highlight his eyewitness accounts of climate change, particularly in the Antarctic.

We also sponsored a tour of the new Dakota Prairie Compost Facility in Shakopee to see where our organic recycling goes and understand how it is processed.

Our EcoTeam is also proud of our 2025 EARTH DAY FAIR. This event consisted of 14 interactive tables, not only highlighting our various recycling initiatives, but also tables with materials for advocacy on related legislation, Wayzata's Dark Skies movement and an EnerChange energy audit for Folkestone. We invited attendees to choose an environmentally friendly gift (paper, steel or glass straws, bamboo toilet tissue, reusable beeswax food wrap, plant clippings, plastic free lip balm, toothpaste tablets and much more). We are planning a 2026 version of the EARTH DAY FAIR.

NO WASTE EVENTS

Almost all our resident-led events are now No Waste Events. EcoTeam members and residents provide reusable or compostable tableware and cutlery for these occasions. Our organics and compostable paper products go to the Shakopee Facility, which requires all compostable paper products be BPI certified. This has required additional monitoring of collection sites and further education of residents.

ENERGY AUDIT/SOLAR

There were 8 energy conservation opportunities identified at Folkestone in the EnerChange energy audit.

1. Behavioral and Operational Opportunities.
2. In Depth Study of Building Automation System.
3. Upgrade the lighting in the garage and stairwells.
4. Perform Boiler Tune Ups-Check with Josh or Ryan Companies.
5. Upgrade kitchen ventilation-cost prohibitive at this time

6. Install high efficiency equipment-on going strategic plan
7. Install a solar system-Folkestone not a good candidate due to lack of flat roof space
8. Review sales taxes on utility bills-completed by Sagiliti

SHORT-TERM INITIATIVES—in next few months to one year

1. Purchase and install new Recycling Stations (with bins for trash, regular recycling and organics) in Bistro and Lakeside Lounge.
2. Update and distribute the new Folkestone Terrace Recycling Guidelines. These will be delivered to all current residents and placed in The New Resident Packet given to each new neighbor. This action would be followed up with a personal visit to new residents from an EcoTeam member.
3. Review and consolidate the informational posters in all Terrace Trash/Recycling rooms.
4. Pursue services that recycle items that are not accepted by commercial recyclers as a sustainable alternative to what we call off-site recycling items. Ridwell may be an option as they expand their collection program from residential to commercial.
5. The EcoTeam will provide a compost bin for all Culinary Department food related events in the Auditorium. There is currently only a trash receptacle in this location.
6. Continue to replace parking garage fluorescent lights with LED bulbs.

LONG-TERM INITIATIVES—longer than a year

- 1) Solicit floor captains to monitor each trash/recycling room.
- 2) We will be working with Administration on the following:
 - a. Place compostable (BPI) bags in public restrooms.

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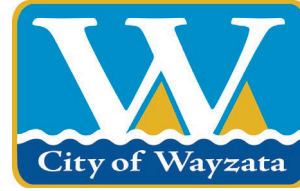
- b. Pursue the purchase of a recycling station for the Auditorium.
- c. Train Folkestone staff in independent living and care facility in all recycling practices (commercial recycling, off-site recycling and composting).
- d. Eliminate disposable tableware and cutlery provided by Culinary Department in Bistro, dining room and Lakeside Lounge over next two years.

City of Wayzata
Energy and Environment Committee
Amended and Restated Bylaws
(Adopted May 2, 2023)

- A. Based on the 2040 Vision Statement, 2040 Comprehensive Plan, 2019-2022 Strategic Plan and the Energy and Environment Steering Committee's recommendation, the City Council of the City of Wayzata hereby finds, confirms and memorializes the creation of the Energy and Environment Committee.
- B. The vision statement for the Energy and Environment Committee is as follows:
The purpose of the Energy and Environment Committee is to conduct research and provide recommendations to the City Council concerning energy and environmental issues and initiatives confronting the City based on research and collaboration with City staff. Under direction from the City Council, the Committee shall work to protect and preserve the ecological resources of the community so that they are in balance with the economic, recreational, and historic resources of our land and Lake Minnetonka for generations to come.
- C. The Committee will act as a research arm of the City Council. Based on extensive research and collaboration with the identified Staff Liaison, the Committee will make recommendations to the City Council that can inform environmental priorities into City departments and operations. Recommendations will emphasize cost saving opportunities for the City. The research of the Committee will pertain to:
- i. Renewable energy options for the City and community
 - ii. City purchasing practices and operations to best conserve energy and save money
 - iii. City Code changes to reflect best sustainability building and design practices
 - iv. Ways the City and community can reduce greenhouse gas emissions
 - v. Ways the City and community can reduce waste
 - vi. Initiatives for improved water quality and conservation
 - vii. Ways to educate the public on energy conservation and renewable energy
- D. The Committee will be composed of up to seven (7) members, which includes up to six (6) regular members and up to one (1) student member. Five (5) of the regular members must reside within the corporate limits of the City of Wayzata or must be a business owner within the City of Wayzata. Student members shall either be residents of Wayzata or be enrolled at a school within Wayzata, or in the Wayzata School District in grades nine (9) through twelve(12).

- E. Committee members shall be appointed by the Council, generally, at the very end or beginning of the year.
- F. The City Council shall appoint a Council Liaison to the Committee at all times. The Council Liaison will be a non-voting member and not count towards the seven (7) total members.
- G. The Committee Chair, Vice Committee Chair, and Secretary shall be elected by a majority vote of the Committee at the first meeting of each year.
- H. The members of the Committee will serve a three (3) year term. Members may serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive years on the Committee. If a Committee member has three (3) or more absences in a year, then that membership will be reviewed by the Committee Chair, City Council Liaison, and Staff Liaison on an annual basis.
- I. The Committee will meet on a regular monthly basis. The Committee Chair, City Council Liaison, and Staff Liaison will manage the meeting agendas. The Secretary will draft meeting minutes for approval at the subsequent meeting. Approved minutes will be posted on the City website by the Staff Liaison.
- J. An Annual Report and Work Plan will be prepared by the Staff Liaison, Committee Chair, and City Council Liaison to be presented to the City Council each year to report on the work that the Committee has completed and that is currently in progress.
- K. The City Council Liaison, Staff Liaison, and Committee Chair will manage and monitor the amount of staff time that is required each month for the Committee.
- L. Official recommendations from the Committee to the City Council must be approved by a majority vote of Committee members.

City of Wayzata 2026 Meeting Calendar



January 2026						
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February 2026						
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↑ E&E Mtg 2/24						

March 2026						
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June 2026						
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July 2026						
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August 2026						
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September 2026						
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October 2026						
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November 2026						
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December 2026						
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- Energy & Environment 5:30 PM
- Planning Commission - 6:30 PM
- City Council - 7:00 PM
Local Board of Appeal & Equalization - TBD April 2026
- Charter Commission - 9:00 AM
- Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD)
- Heritage Preservation Board (HPB) - 11:30 AM
- Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) - 7:30 AM
- Parks & Trails Board - 6:00 PM
- Night to Unite
- Holiday Observed
City Offices Closed
- Election
Precinct Caucuses—2/3/26 (No Public Meetings)

Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Dates can be confirmed by calling City Hall.

Revised
11/4/2025