

A man with glasses and a mustache, wearing a dark suit, light blue shirt, and gold tie, is leaning on two large green recycling bins. He is smiling slightly. The background shows a residential street with houses and trees.

2010

A Year in Review

GET GREEN COLUMBUS

City of Columbus • Michael B. Coleman, Mayor



Dear Friends:

We continue to make significant progress in the greening of Columbus. In 2010 alone we were recognized for our efforts with a variety of awards including: the American Lung Association Clean Vehicle Champion Award, Keep America Beautiful Beautification and Neighborhood Improvement Project Awards, Government Fleet Magazine's Environmental Leadership Award, Leadership Columbus Walk the Talk Award, SWACO Emerald Award and the MORPC Energy & Air Quality Award.

This attention is encouraging and serves as an indicator that we are on the right path. It is clear a healthy environment has many benefits for our individual and collective wellbeing and I am committed to ensuring that Get Green Columbus remains a focus for our city in 2011.

As our city's bicentennial approaches, the significance of sustainability is clear. A commonly quoted definition of sustainability explains the term as meeting our needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own. However, I would prefer that our legacy be more than to simply avoid impinging upon future generations. Instead, I hope that through the efforts of Get Green Columbus, we will set an example for vibrant, sustainable communities around the country.

Thank you city employees, community volunteers, GreenSpot members and program funders who contribute to realizing this vision of sustainability every day. I especially want to express my gratitude to the members of my Green Team for their dedication and to the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio, for its support of the Environmental Steward's Office.

Sincerely,

Mayor Michael B. Coleman



Get Green Columbus

A Year in Review: Detailed Accomplishments

Mayor Michael B. Coleman launched the “Get Green Columbus” initiative January 28, 2005. A “Green Memo” was issued outlining a series of strategies to both meet economic development goals and ensure a healthier environment. This document was updated in February 2010, titled “Green Memo II”, a five year strategic plan which lays out specific objectives and tasks to reach the following three goals:

1. Improve economic, social and environmental prosperity by supporting the growth and development of sustainable ‘green’ businesses
2. Improve livability by improving air quality, water quality and conservation of natural resources
3. Educate and engage the community.

The City of Columbus is committed to improving the environmental performance of the City’s operations: this means that we will reduce the City’s impact on the environment, as well as conserve natural and financial resources and provide a healthy place for people to live, work and raise a family. Throughout 2010 we did this by:

- Improving energy efficiency in older City facilities and constructing projects that are at least LEED certified by the U.S. Green Building Council. To help encourage private businesses and nonprofit organizations to build green, we launched the Green Columbus Fund, a grant program to incentivize green buildings and the cleanup of polluted sites.
- Securing \$6,000,000 in Clean Ohio Revitalization fund grants to clean-up the old 3M site in Weinland Park and the Kimball Midwest site off Goodale Blvd. and prepare for redevelopment.
- Seeing our Bicentennial Bikeways Plan come to fruition, as Bicycling Magazine has named Columbus one of five cities to watch in the future. Columbus built 22 miles of bike routes and trails, bringing our total mileage to 100.3.
- Being repeatedly recognized for our Fleet Management Division recently ranked as the 7th greenest fleet in North America by Government Fleet.

- Growing the GreenSpot program. The program was created to inspire, educate and recognize those making efforts to get green. Currently there are over 2,000 businesses, residents and community groups signed up as a GreenSpot, adding 430 members to the program and 612 fans to the newly created GreenSpot Facebook page.
- And most notably, Mayor Coleman announced that by 2012, every single family household in Columbus (250,000) will have a comprehensive yard waste and recycling collection program without a direct fee. Throughout the year, the Mayor’s ad-hoc Recycling Advisory Group researched best practices, convened focus groups, surveyed the community (online and paper) and developed the program framework.

The internal and external community based Green Team in partnership with the Mayor’s Environmental Steward Office, created the following annual report detailing Columbus’ progress in moving the City and our community towards a sustainable future. The Green Memo II and annual reports including this one can be found online at www.getgreencolumbus.org.

Goal 1: Improve economic, social and environmental prosperity by supporting the growth and development of sustainable ‘green’ businesses.

Columbus historically has experienced relatively low unemployment due to its reliance on service-providing industries (e.g. government, education, banking, insurance, healthcare etc.). For the period 2000-2008 the City’s average yearly unemployment rate fluctuated from a low of 3.6% (2000) to a high of 5.7% (2002). However, Columbus, like the rest of the country has been hit hard by the recession, with the average year-to-date unemployment rate in 2010 reaching 7.8%.

Green Job industries and occupations are defined by the U.S. Department of Labor (Section 171(e)(1)(B)(ii) of the Workforce Investment Act) as including the energy efficient building, construction and retrofit industries; the renewable electric power industry; the energy efficient and advanced drive train vehicle industry; the biofuels industry; the deconstruction and materials reuse industries; the energy efficiency assessment industry serving residential, commercial, and industrial sectors; sustainable agriculture including healthy food production; forestry; recycling and waste reduction; and manufacturers that produce sustainable products using environmentally sustainable processes and materials.

Throughout 2010, the City of Columbus along with regional partners began work to nurture this emerging Green Job industry as well as assist our businesses in becoming more sustainable in their operations and in the products and services they provide.

Objective 1. Create, Attract and Retain Green Job Industries.

Columbus was selected through a competitive national application process to send five people to the Institute for Sustainable Communities, Climate Leadership Academy- Promising Practices in Green Job Creation in May 2010. The team consisted of Mayor's Environmental Steward, Development Department Assistant Director, and representatives from labor, the utility industry and workforce development education. State of the art experts on green jobs made presentations and our team gained valuable knowledge from experiences of other cities.

Action 1. Supply a trained workforce.

The Department of Development, Housing Division conducted Green Training 101—a green building standards course for contractors and builders. 74 individuals participated in the City's half day training in green building standards for contractors and builders. To date, 81 Contractor/Builder companies have now received training and are eligible to

receive bids on City funded, green housing projects; 12 are registered MBE firms.

Action 2. Encourage entrepreneurship.

As part of its incentive program for economic development and job creation, the City provided assistance to two projects with major green components:

- Eartha Ltd. is on the cutting edge of developing and putting into practice sustainable waste management practices in the food service industry. The City of Columbus together with Community Capital Development Corporation (CCDC), our loan partner, closed two loans to Eartha totaling \$134,248. This company will create five new jobs over the next 2 years and has invested over \$20,000 into this green venture.
- Lio Energy Systems Holdings (US) LLC is a global joint venture with Lishen Power Battery and CODA Automotive. The global joint venture was created and announced in 2009. Lishen, is a leading global supplier of consumer cells and batteries for cell-phones, laptop computers and E- bikes. CODA Automotive Inc. is a privately held American company headquartered in Santa Monica, California that designs, manufactures and sells electric vehicles as well as lithium-ion battery systems built for transportation and utility applications. CODA plans to create over 1,000 jobs and invest \$637 Million to redevelop the former Lucent facility at 6200 E. Broad Street. The new plant will manufacture batteries for the CODA Electric Vehicle.

Action 3. Market Columbus' assets to targeted Green Job Industries.

The first step to marketing Columbus' assets and determining which green job industries should be targeted, is to develop an asset map- which is an inventory of the region's assets (i.e. human capital, research and development, financial capital, industrial base, physical infrastructure, legal and regulatory environment, connective organizations, quality of life and culture). The City partnered with the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce's Green Business Council to prepare an asset map outlining green job opportunities to increase prosperity for the region's

citizens, this is expected to be complete in 2011.

The Mayor's Environmental Steward Office met with seventeen start-up green companies and companies looking to relocate to Columbus and or expand manufacturing of new green products.

Columbus partners received a grant from the Ohio Department of Development designating Columbus as the Ohio Hub of Innovation for Manufacturing and Storage of Advanced Energy.

Action 4. Foster market development

The City of Columbus continued to use its purchasing power to help transform the market and support green businesses.

- Tech Disposal UTC - Established a new service contract which provides for the safe disposal of sensitive information while assuring the recycling of the electronic equipment with a zero landfill policy. The city has disposed of approximately 21 tons of electronic waste to date.
- Packaged HVAC units - Seven (7) Carrier rooftop Units specified with Puron® (R410A), an environmentally sound refrigerant.
- Sludge Sampler System Parts - Maintenance parts for units used to test effluent for proper treatment to protect the environment.
- Portable compost Trommel Screen - This unit is used in the recycling of yard waste and sludge and can process more than 150 cubic yards of compost per hour.
- Office Chairs UTC - Nine chairs on the contract are certified by the Greenguard Environmental Institute which certifies indoor products based on strict chemical emissions criteria. Three chairs on the contract are certified by the Indoor Advantage Program. Indoor Advantage certifies conformance with LEED-CI criteria. Environmental friendly fabrics are available for 14 chairs.
- Sanitary Paper Products UTC - The Sanitary Paper Products contract consist of 16 items containing 100% recycled paper content; six toilet tissues (single ply, double-ply, and double-ply quilted); nine paper towels (single-fold, multi-fold, roll type, center pull, and perforated); and one facial tissue

- Various Fleet Vehicle contracts - ten bid contracts were created this year with environmentally preferable items (i.e.: Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), Electric Hybrid, Webasto Heater, and Hydraulic Launch Assist (HLA)).

Objective 2. Educate and Support Businesses in Their Efforts to Get Green.

Action 1. Maximize Tax Incentives:

See encourage entrepreneurship above.

Action 2. Educate businesses about existing resources and partnerships where they can learn to reduce their environmental impact.

GreenSpot

In July 2008, Mayor Michael B. Coleman launched the GreenSpot program. The program was created to inspire, educate and recognize those making efforts to get green. Throughout 2010, the GreenSpot program was heavily promoted. Businesses registered as GreenSpots rose from 250 in 2009 to 365 in 2010.

Those businesses that demonstrate leadership and go above and beyond the basic level of Green Spot commitments are selected for recognition of their achievements. The winners of the 2010 GreenSpotLight award were recognized at the annual Get Green Business Conference held April 14. The conference was organized by members of the Mayor's Green Team Green Business Working Group and award recipients were selected by members of the Green Team's Education and Engagement Working Group. Those businesses were:

- Anshen + Allen (small)
- Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP (medium)
- Limited Brands (large)

Action 3. Assist the manufacturing sector in becoming more sustainable.

The City of Columbus, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, American Electric Power, and the Ohio By-Product Synergy Network co-wrote and received a federal grant from the USEPA to expand the Energy Environment Economy (E3) program to assist an additional 25 small

to medium scale manufacturers in reducing expenses and environmental impact. The six pilot companies that participated in E3: Columbus are Central Ohio Welding; G & J bottling Co. (a Pepsico company); Hirschvogel, Inc.; Crane Plastics; ArchelorMittal; TimberTech. To date, the E3 program has collectively identified \$5,334,008 of annual cost savings (environmental, energy, lean) with a recommended one-time capital investment of \$5,505,704 and projected annual savings of 18,929 tons of CO₂ emissions.

Action 4. Energy Assistance:

With the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), the \$1 million, low-interest GreenSwitch Loan Fund for energy efficiency building retrofits was launched and administered by the Community Capital Development Corporation (CCDC). Unfortunately there was no interest in the program, so the funds were reallocated towards completing lighting retrofits at Columbus fire stations. However, businesses can apply for energy efficiency loans through Columbus' Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. For more information about Columbus' CDBG loans contact CCDC www.ccdc.org or 614-645-6171.

Goal 2: Improve livability by improving air quality, water quality and conservation of natural resources.

Central Ohio's Air Quality

Air quality in central Ohio has improved in recent years. Columbus Public Health notifies all City employees when air quality alerts for ozone / particle pollution are issued for Central Ohio. This notification is given so that department directors can implement procedures in the City's Air Alert Action Day Plan that will protect employee health and reduce harmful levels of ozone and particulates. The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) provides the initial air quality alert to Columbus Public Health.

2010 Attainment Status:

Central Ohio is currently in non-attainment for the 1997 PM_{2.5} (particulates) annual standard but is attaining the 2006 24-hour particulates standard and the 1997 8-hour ozone standard. However, central Ohio will likely be redesignated to nonattainment after U.S. EPA announces a stricter ozone health standard in 2011.

Air Quality Alert Totals for 2010:

There were twelve alerts. Nine of those were issued for ozone pollution, and three were issued for both ozone and particulate pollution.

Objective 1. Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 10% from City operations by 2015.

Action 1. Reduce energy usage from City facilities

Energy Star Portfolio Management System

The City of Columbus is participating in the Energy Star Portfolio Manager, an interactive management tool created by the U.S. Department of Energy and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The City will use the Manager to generate a Statement of Energy Performance (SEP) for each building, summarizing important energy information and building characteristics such as site and source energy intensity and CO₂ emissions. A consultant entered usage data for 2009 and "champions" have been trained from each City department on how to enter energy usage data for 2010. Within the first quarter of 2011, all data will be entered and SEP's will be available for each city facility.

Building Energy Efficiency Retrofits

The U.S. Department of Energy, \$7.4 million Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) has allowed the City to undertake a number of energy efficiency projects:

1. **Fire Stations lighting** retrofits (up to 28 stations), Lighting at fire stations will be retrofitted to lower energy consumption fixtures and systems, saving 25% on the station's electric bills.

2. **Central Safety Building**- the exterior of the Central Safety Building will be sealed and reinsulated as well as retrofits to the HVAC system to reduce energy consumption.
3. **Cultural Arts Center** - lighting retrofit with energy efficient LED and other low energy use lighting bulbs and fixtures.
4. **Pedestrian Traffic Signals** - replacing a total of 3,698 pedestrian signals with an expected annual savings of 1,946,000 kilowatt hours upon project completion in the Fall of 2012.
5. Additionally three other non-city facility projects have been initiated with the EECBG funds:
 - a. **Center of Science & Industry (COSI)** - energy efficiency retrofit to support energy savings in the 300,000+ square foot facility with a projected payback to be fully realized within 6 years.
 - b. **Downtown Bike Infrastructure Parking**- increase critical bike parking options within the downtown core of Columbus. Existing bike parking is minimal, typically uncovered, and often difficult to find so this project will improve usability, visibility, and security of bike parking options and will increase ridership, reduce traffic congestion, and increasing biking downtown.
 - c. **Columbus Power Home Energy Efficiency program** – entered into a contract with MORPC \$50,000 to retrofit at least 60 homes with energy efficient lighting and appliances such as Energy Star rated refrigerators and freezers.
3. **Franklin Park Adventure Center** - replaced an inefficient, out-dated HVAC system.
4. **Big Run Shelterhouse** - outfitted with new doors and windows for energy efficiency. Items removed were recycled.
5. **Fairwood Ave facility** - installed a computer control system for HVAC equipment for night time setbacks; it also staggers the start times for the HVAC units to reduce electric usage and electronically controls boilers for when they need to start on “high fire” mode or “low fire” mode to reduce usage of electricity and natural gas.
6. **Watershed Management** - installed a tankless hot water heater in the main office and in 2011, will install one at the Bell Point facility, replacing two 80 gallon conventional water heaters. An energy audit was complete of all watershed management facilities and lighting retrofits were identified as a 2011 priority, estimating a \$7,000 energy cost savings annually to the Division.
7. **Indianola Ave facility** - installed 45 Energy Efficient High Bay lights in the warehouse which should reduce lighting energy consumption by 60%.

Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities:

The City of Columbus provides 145 million gallons of drinking water to 1,104,500 people daily. The City’s wastewater treatment facilities treat 174.9 million gallons per day. Treating water and wastewater is an energy-intensive process; approximately half of the City’s greenhouse gas emissions are generated from the electricity used at the five treatment facilities.

1. **Dublin Road Water Plant** - higher efficiency pumps were installed.
2. **Hap Cremean Water Plant** - a complete overhaul of the electrical system is almost complete. This will allow for future energy demands and the equipment installed is more efficient.

Additional energy efficiency retrofits underway or completed in 2010 include the following:

1. **City Hall** - in the design stage for a complete replacement of the HVAC system and energy efficient lighting retrofit (some interior and all exterior).
2. **North Market Ventilation System** – in the design stage to achieve a more energy efficient and effective system which will bring about an improved interior air quality environment.

New Construction

The City will continue to build new city facilities to meet or exceed the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED certified standards.

1. **Westside Family Health & Wellness Center** - This facility achieved LEED Silver. Some notable features include: high efficiency lighting and glass, HVAC, natural lighting is maximized, a reflective roof, and the parking lot incorporates a bioswale which contains storm water runoff and is home to native plants and trees.
2. **Moody Hall Police Substation (Substation 4)** - This facility achieved LEED Silver.
3. **Police and Parking Violations Impound Lot Building** - This facility has been designed to attain LEED Silver. One feature of the facility includes recycled asphalt material for the 29 acres of vehicle impoundment area.
4. **Morse Road Eco Transfer Facility** - Design is underway in partnership with SWACO to replace the Morse Road solid waste transfer station with a new facility including truck storage. This will bring about numerous environmental improvements including a CNG fueling station. The current design is intended to achieve a LEED Certified level.

As of December 2010, there are a total of 20 LEED registered projects within the City of Columbus according to the USGBC online inventory.

Renewable Energy:

Biogas: In addition to the beneficial biogenic methane usage currently employed by the City's two wastewater treatment plants, the third party Quasar Energy Group anaerobic digester was constructed in 2010. The City of Columbus is providing up to 25,000 tons per year of biosolids to be anaerobically digested at the Quasar facility for the recovery of biogenic methane and the co-generation of 3 to 5 million kWh of electricity per year. This additional beneficial usage of biogas represents 2,154 to 3,591 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions.

Solar PV- roof mounted: The City of Columbus is currently working with Tipping Point Renewable Energy on a Solar Power Purchase Agreement

whereby Tipping Point Renewable Energy will own, operate and maintain a 531.3 kilowatt photovoltaic (PV) system on the roof of 4211 Groves Road. The City, in return, will agree to provide Tipping Point Renewable Energy a lease on the roof and to purchase the electricity produced by the system. This agreement will allow the City to have the benefit of clean energy without the upfront costs of purchasing and installing the system, or the long-term costs of maintaining the system. It is estimated that this system will provide up to one-third of the Fleet Maintenance facility's electricity use, expected to generate 625,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity in the first year, eliminating 449 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent. Current scheduling assumes a project completion date of late summer 2011.

In addition, the Scioto Mile Café and Public Restrooms will have roof-mounted solar panels installed.

Solar Parking Meters: The City is upgrading its fleet of 4,000 parking meters. New parking meters include solar-recharging batteries. The batteries are specified to last at least three years without need for replacement. This reduces frequency of battery replacement, disposal, and city employee vehicular miles traveled per year. The goal is to replace 1,000 meters per year. Devices have been ordered and installation began December 2010.

Hydro Power: The City's O'Shaughnessy reservoir generated 6,500 MWh of clean energy and prevented 5,300 metric tons of CO₂ from entering the atmosphere.

Action 2. Retrofit Traffic and Street Lights owned by the City of Columbus with energy efficient lighting.

Continue to retrofit traffic and pedestrian lights. With the EECBG funds (\$1,571,650), Columbus is replacing a total of 3,698 pedestrian signals with energy efficient LED technology, with an expected annual savings of 1,946,000 kilowatt hours saving the City \$163,199 annually in electricity costs and avoiding 1,398 metric tons of CO₂. Installation of the first LED pedestrian lights occurred in October 2010 and the project is scheduled for completion in Fall 2012.

Action 3. Reduce fuel usage and vehicle emissions from the City's fleet as well as from employees commuting to work.

Columbus has been repeatedly recognized for its Fleet Management Division, which was just named one of the top ten greenest fleets in the nation at the Green Fleet Conference 2010 Environmental Leadership Awards. It has also been recognized multiple times by 100 Best Fleets, most recently placing in the top 20. Columbus also received ASE Blue Seal recognition for the 3rd year in a row in 2010, making it the largest municipality in the state to receive this recognition.

In 2010, the City continued implementing the 2008 Columbus Green Fleet Action Plan. An updated version of the action plan will be issued for 2011 since the majority of the targets contained in the current plan have been achieved.

- **Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)** vehicles emit fewer nitrogen oxides and less particulate matter than gas powered vehicles. Fuel is available locally. The City's first CNG Refuse rear loader was put into service during the first quarter of 2009. The City expects to have 24 dedicated CNG heavy duty vehicles in operation by the end of 2011. The current CMAQ grant is being used to purchase eleven (11) additional CNG Refuse and ten (10) other heavy duty CNG vehicles. These vehicles are expected to arrive in mid-2011. Fleet has also been awarded funding through the DOE Clean Cities grant to purchase two CNG heavy duty trucks, and to construct a CNG fueling station at the Fleet Facility on Groves Road. Fleet is currently in the design phase of the station with construction expected to begin during second quarter 2011. The station is expected to be operational by the end of fall 2011.
- **Hybrid Electric** vehicles can achieve up to twice the energy efficiency compared with a conventional vehicle. The City currently owns a total of five hybrid vehicles. Two of the vehicles are Ford hybrid Escapes, one located in the Water Division and the other in Sewers and Drains. The 2010 light duty UTC specifications listed hybrids as a preferred option, resulting in award for the Ford Fusion mid-size hybrid sedan as well as the GMC Sierra full-size hybrid pickup. The Water Division purchased three 2010 Fusion hybrids for meter readers, bringing the number of hybrids in the City fleet to five. Through the DOE Clean Cities grant, the City was awarded funding for five hybrid heavy duty vehicles. These will be purchased in early 2011.
- **Plug-In Electric vehicles (PEV) and infrastructure** - began working with state and regional partners on a PEV readiness plan that will integrate this new breed of vehicle and refueling infrastructure into our current transportation system.
- **E85** comes from renewable, American resources like corn and is cleaner burning than conventional gasoline. The City currently owns approximately 315 flex fuel vehicles. The fuel sites at Fairwood Avenue and 910 Dublin Road are being updated to include the first City-owned E85 fuel dispensers. These sites are expected to have E85 available in early 2011.
- **Biodiesel** is a clean, renewable fuel, made by refining any fat or oil such as soybean oil. It behaves and performs much like petroleum diesel but is biodegradable and nontoxic. In 2010, 68.1% of all bulk diesel purchases were biodiesel. Currently, nine fueling sites around the City are dispensing biodiesel. Fuel tanks must be cleaned before they can be switched to biodiesel. As funding becomes available, tanks will be cleaned and fuel will be switched. In tanks that use biodiesel, the City uses at least B2 up to B20, depending on the season.
- **Right-Sizing Vehicles.** Ensuring that the duty requirements of a vehicle match the smallest possible vehicle for the task is an effective fuel saving strategy. Although formal guidelines have yet to be established, Fleet Management reviewed all 2010 vehicle purchase requests and made modifications when necessary to ensure that vehicles were right-sized for their intended usage. Through right-sizing, 27 Ford Focus vehicles were purchased for Police in 2010, vehicles which would have been Impalas or Corsicas in the past. Sixteen (16) 4-cylinder Rangers were purchased in 2010, replacing mainly ½ ton full-sized pick-ups, and four (4) 4-cylinder Transit Connect vans were purchased, replacing full-sized Ford vans. All of these 2010

vehicle purchases get significantly better gas mileage than either vehicles that would have been purchased in the past or the vehicles they are replacing.

- **Emission Controls.** Retrofitting diesel vehicles with emission control devices will reduce particulate emissions by 30 to 90%, depending on the device used. As of 2010 year end, 100% (108) of identified eligible vehicles have been retrofitted with either DOCs or DPFs through the use of federal grant funds.
- **Reduce Vehicle Pool.** Fleet Management has greatly reduced the size of the vehicle pool in order to utilize rental vehicles. Utilizing rental vehicles has proven to be more cost effective than maintaining a pool of City vehicles. Maintenance costs have been reduced and we are able to utilize more fuel efficient vehicles from the rental vendor. The vehicle pool is currently comprised of four City vehicles, and is averaging approximately 44 rentals per month. The Police Division utilizes numerous bike patrols (20 bikes) in the downtown and OSU campus areas, which helps reduce vehicle usage. The reduction in vehicle usage reduces the amount of fossil fuels being used by vehicles with combustion engines. The Strategic Response Bureau (10 bikes) also uses bike patrols to conduct enforcement and calls for service in neighborhoods. Police utilize walking patrols in the downtown and during festivals to conduct crowd control and respond to community needs and calls for service. The Police Division utilizes mounted horse patrols (six total) that reduce the number of cruisers in neighborhoods and also help reduce vehicle usage at festivals and downtown events.
- **Anti-Idling.** Unnecessary idling wastes fuel and increases emissions. Idling for one hour equates to approximately 33 miles of engine wear on a standard automobile. Hydraulic oil and engine heaters (anti-idling retrofits) were installed on 16 Refuse trucks located at Morse Road in 2008 as a result of the MCDI grant. The current CMAQ grant funded the remaining 27 installations on heavy-duty trucks, which are now complete. Hydraulic oil and engine heaters are now being specified as an option on all new Refuse trucks scheduled for delivery to the Morse Road station (trucks sit outside

at this station requiring warm-up if a hydraulic heater is not installed).

- **Reduce use of off-road equipment-** Recreation & Parks established NO MOW areas in parks which started due to budget constraints, but is now used to reduce energy use, air pollutants and increase wildlife habitat. In 2010, over 20 acres were taken out of the mow cycle.

Reduce the commuter miles of employees

In 2010, Columbus began working with MOR-PC and COTA to feature the City of Columbus as a downtown employer promoting alternative modes of transportation for employees commuting to work.

Action 4. Increase the amount of material diverted from the waste stream by City operations and increase recycling options.

Office Recycling Program: In 2010, 476.26 tons of Office Recycling was collected. Some initiatives taken to increase the participation rate include:

1. Placing recycling containers at every employee work station.
2. Establishing visible recycling stations throughout City Hall and the underground parking garage.
3. Removing individual trash cans from offices on an experimental basis which has led to an increase in the amount of recyclable materials collected. Based on the success of this pilot, we intend to remove more individual trash cans and establish community trash receptacles throughout City Hall.

Yard Waste Recycling: Employees clear and recycle yard waste from the City's right-of-way and its parkland. In addition, the City accepts yard waste at its composting facility from landscapers, nurseries, residents and businesses. A total of 10,626.69 tons of yard waste was collected from city operations.

Use of Recycled Asphalt: In 2010, 7,006 tons of recycled asphalt was included when mixing hot-mixed asphalt for new construction or resurfacing. In addition, 4000 square yards of asphalt was installed in the City's parks with 100% recycled substrate material reused in place.

Other Materials Recycled from City Operations:

old steel castings and old tires removed from job sites; used lamps (florescent, metal halide, high pressure sodium and incandescent); batteries (lead acid, NiCad, lithium and certain alkaline); light ballasts; used oil and anti-freeze.

Paper reduction: Various paper saving measures were made through use of technology such as the use of e-newsletters, e-annual reports, online bill pay options and establishing a process to prepare and bid documents using paperless distribution. In addition, the Columbus Human Resources Information System (CHRIS) project is underway which will eliminate the need for the existing paper based payroll and personnel system.

Public Utilities, Division of Sewerage & Drainage, Draft Solids Treatment and Utilization Master Plan: The City continued to shift from incineration and disposal methods to beneficial reuse methods of the biosolids from the wastewater treatment process.

- **Land Application** - Inject treated liquid biosolids 6 - 10 inches below the surface of farm fields to provide fertilizer and organic matter to farmers. This program puts nutrients and organic matter back into area farmland reducing the amount of commercial fertilizer needed to grow crops. The City of Columbus Land Application Program applied over 6 million gallons of biosolids to over 650 acres of farmland.
- **ComTil** - Compost biosolids, yard waste, ash and wood chips to produce valuable mulch and soil amendment products that are sold to the public. The Compost facility was represented with booths at the 2010 CENTS Show (a show for landscapers and nursery growers), the Central Ohio Home & Garden Show, the Chadwick Arboretum's Spring Plant Sale, Green Halloween at the Ohio Governor's mansion, Anheuser-Busch's Sustainability Fair and the Hilliard Garden Club's Garden Affair. ComTil's 2010 sales have grown over 2009 sales. More homeowners, community gardeners, and landscape companies are using Com-Til to improve the soil and provide nutrients so they can grow vegetables and flowers.

In addition, the City became a member of the Ohio ByProducts Synergy Network and began evaluating waste stream for potential reuse applications.

Central Ohio's Water Quality

The greater Columbus area is nationally known for its beautiful, ecologically diverse rivers and streams. Aesthetically, ecologically and economically our streams offer countless opportunities for improving health and enhancing quality of life.

Objective 2. Improve water quality and protect and restore natural areas through city programs.

Action 1. Plant 20,000 trees and acquire 400 acres of parkland by 2015

Parkland:

In 2010, 124.95 acres of parkland was acquired, of which 82.2 acres is open space for conservation. In addition, a Clean Ohio grant was submitted to acquire 210 acres in the Hellbranch Run watershed and purchase 50 acres of active parkland.

Nature Preserves:

The Hamilton Road Wetland Nature Preserve was protected, which is a 71 acre wetland home to the largest heron rookery in central Ohio. In addition, the Hoover Nature Preserve had an increase in nesting pairs of Prothonotary Warblers which is the largest colony in Ohio if not the entire Midwest. Birders from across the country come to see these birds when nesting.

Wetlands & Stream Restoration:

The City constructed two new acres of floodplain wetlands and required restoration of a wetland at Morse and Sunbury through the zoning process. The City also preserved a wetland in Albany Crossing by requiring its protection in the zoning process and accepting it as parkland.

The City continued the restoration of Clover-Groff Run. Phase I, 1.1 miles is complete and won the third place award from the Ohio Parks and

Recreation Association in the Natural Resource Conservation category. Phase 2, 1.2 miles through Spindler Park is underway and grants are being submitted to complete the final phase of the project.

In addition, work on the restoration of the Olentangy River through the removal of the 5th Ave dam and subsequent channel restoration continued, the engineering and design are nearly complete. Fundraising will continue, with a hopeful dam removal in the fall 2011 and stream restoration spring 2012.

Trees:

The City collectively planted 3,405 trees: 824 were planted by Division of Forestry, 2,581 trees were planted under contract or through volunteers within city parks. In addition, 1800 hazardous trees were removed (400 due to Emerald Ash Borer), 5,000 trees were pruned and 4,570 native shrubs were planted in the parks.

Prairies:

The City planted 13.5 acres of native prairie: 10 acres were planted as part of the Clover Groff Stream Restoration Project and 3.5 acres were planted at Indian Mound Park. In addition, a burn permit was acquired for maintenance of the Whetstone Park Prairie to occur in the spring of 2011.

Invasive Plant Removal:

Through volunteer efforts, 14 acres of invasive honeysuckle and 2 acres of garlic mustard were removed. An additional 2.5 acres of honeysuckle were removed in Clinton-Como Park along the Olentangy River as part of the stormwater mitigation process.

Action 2. Participate with regional partners in development and implementation of watershed and balanced growth plans

Implementing the Big Darby Accord

Columbus and its partners who adopted the 2006 Big Darby Accord Watershed Master Plan have persisted throughout the year with steps to implement it. The Big Darby Accord Working Group (BDAWG) has coordinated activities on behalf of the local government jurisdictions. The

broadly representative Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) continued to work with MOR-PC staff on mapping tiered land and explored mechanisms for protecting sensitive land and restoring streams. The slow pace of development has limited the number of land use cases coming before the Advisory Panel for review.

A major focus of efforts in 2010 has been development of the Town Center Master Plan (TCMP). Four jurisdictions (Franklin County, Prairie Township, Brown Township and Columbus) selected, funded and supervised a talented interdisciplinary consulting team headed by UDA. Considerable public input has been obtained through meetings and a design charette. The market analysis determined that a mixed use town center would be viable, though at a somewhat reduced scale and with build out extended over a longer period. During the last several months of 2010 attention was given to resolving some questions related to sewer and water service. The TCMP will be completed in early 2011 and will then undergo an extensive public review and adoption process.

Action 3. Incorporate green infrastructure practices into applicable capital projects.

Spring 2010 was the start of a large green infrastructure project to improve source water quality and decrease pollution at the City's three drinking water reservoirs - Hoover, O'Shaughnessy, and Griggs. A \$4.5 million federal stimulus EPA grant was awarded for the project. Fifteen sites were renovated to treat stormwater runoff from a total of 729 acres of surrounding land. Thirty four bioretention basins and wetlands were created, approximately 18,880 square feet of shoreline was stabilized or protected, parking lots were reduced in size and pulled back from the water's edge and some parking areas were resurfaced with pervious pavers or concrete. The project will be completed by April 2011.

The Department of Public Utilities completed three preliminary studies to better understand potential benefits of Green Infrastructure Best Management Practices for stormwater management and Combined Sewer Overflow abatement, potential obstacles to implementation and the maintenance cost. Twenty similar-sized communi-

ties were surveyed on various incentive programs. Focus groups were conducted to gauge the community's perception of the effectiveness of Green Infrastructure.

Rain Gardens & Bioretention - City staff participated in the Central Ohio Rain Garden Initiative. The Griggs Boathouse incorporated rain gardens to hold and treat surface drainage before runoff can enter the reservoir. The Scioto Mile Café and Public Restrooms, removed impervious revetment and installed 2 bioswales. The redevelopment of the 'American Addition' housing development is being designed to incorporate green infrastructure. In addition, the City removed 1500 square yards of impervious surfaces in various parks.

Green Roofs - A 175 square foot green roof was installed at the Dublin Road Water Treatment Plant. It is serving as a pilot project to evaluate its performance, longevity and maintenance. The plants act like a sponge, absorbing rain water while slowing it down and releasing cleaner runoff; reduces heat island effect of urban areas.

Rain Barrels - The City of Columbus partnered with EarthMinded, a subsidiary of Greif, Inc. and Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed (FLOW) to conduct a rain barrel neighborhood pilot program. The project involved 137 homes in an area where rainwater inflow and infiltration during heavy rain has caused sewer capacity problems. Of the 137 homes, 75 participated (55%) and a total of 176 barrels were installed. The project included neighborhood meetings, door-door education, educational workshops, installation assistance, pre and post-installation surveys. Monitoring of the impact the barrels have on flow in the sewer lines will continue into 2011. Each rain barrel included a soaker hose, allowing participants to easily use barrel contents instead of tap water for watering lawns and gardens in dry weather. Based on information and results collected, the City will seek to identify whether this pilot project affects trends in water consumption and/or sewer flows.

In addition, the City continued to provide funding for a rain barrel cost share program which included a backyard conservation workshop. More information about the cost-share program available to Columbus residents can be found at www.olentangywatershed.org.

Action 4. Continue greenway corridor acquisition

The City acquired 1.5 miles of stream corridor along Big Walnut Creek, 0.3 mile along Alum Creek, 1/4 mi. along Clover Groff Run (22 acres).

Action 5. Continue to implement the Wet Weather Management Plan

The City continued to implement Project Clean Rivers to eliminate combined and sanitary sewer overflows into our waterways. Stormwater enters the storm sewer system through catch basins. Keeping the basins cleared of debris and in good repair keeps the stormwater flowing through the system and keeps the debris from entering our waterways. Catch basins were inspected (1917), cleaned (453) and repaired (38) in the four Neighborhood Pride areas. Neighborhood Pride provides an opportunity for the inspections, cleaning and repair to take place in a focused area. All new catch basin slabs are pre-cast with the message "Drains to River" to educate passersby that the stormwater drains flow directly to the nearest river, there were 86 new catch basin slabs installed.

Other City initiatives to improve water quality:

- Changed from a solvent based cleaning product to a water based cleaning product to clean tanks in the fleet garage. Benefits include reduced VOCs and solvents entering the sanitary sewer system.

Objective 3. Ensure Environmental Compliance in City Operations

Action 1. Build on the proactive work of the Department of Public Utilities to audit the City's facilities for environmental compliance and explore expansion of the Environmental Management System to serve all City agencies.

The Department of Public Utilities continues to strengthen its commitment to the environment, carrying out its environmental policy and providing the structure that engages all employees through the Environmental Management System. Three implementation teams are gathering data and

providing recommendations on petroleum handling, chlorine handling and waste generation and disposal.

Action 2. Develop employee training centered around meeting Get Green and environmental compliance goals

Most cleaning products used in City facilities have been converted to green products. The actual number of products has been reduced from 14 to 8. Exact measurement dispensers were purchased and custodial staff received training on the proper mixing of the concentrates and proper uses and to ensure minimal waste of the product.

Objective 4. Encourage Residents to Get Green by providing incentive and standards based strategies to conserve water, reduce energy use, reduce waste sent to the landfill and reduce stormwater runoff to local waterways.

Action 1. Establish a comprehensive Sustainable Yards program

The Mayor's Green Team, Growth & Development Working Group spent the majority of 2010 researching best practices from other cities on incentives and educational materials to encourage the development of sustainable yards. The goal is to launch the program for residents in Spring 2011.

Action 2. Home Energy Efficiency Assistance.

Utility companies, AEP of Ohio and Columbia Gas of Ohio, launched energy efficiency rebate incentive programs for commercial and residential customers. For more information visit: <http://www.columbiagasohio.com/en/your-home/YourEnergySolutions.aspx> <https://www.aepohio.com/save/Default.aspx>

Columbus Power- Columbus entered into a contract with MORPC for the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funded Home Energy Efficiency Baseload Reduction Program. These funds will allow MORPC to retrofit approxi-

mately 60 homes in the Columbus Power service area. This includes an electrical energy audit, installation of energy efficient lighting and installation of Energy Star appliances such as refrigerators and freezers, saving customers an average of 12% on their energy usage and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 30 MTeCO₂. In addition, Columbus became a member of the Efficiency \$mart program through AMP Ohio. A list of energy efficiency projects were compiled and will be prioritized for rebate consideration in 2011.

Action 3. Encourage wide spread deployment of renewable energy generation through financing assistance.

Ohio Senate Bill 232, enacted on June 4, 2010 and effective June 17, 2010 expanded Ohio's Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) legislation beyond solar to include wind, geothermal, biomass, gasification and energy efficiency technologies that "reduce energy consumption or support the production of clean, renewable energy". This legislation allows participating municipalities or townships to pass legislation establishing an Energy Special Improvement District (SID). PACE laws allow property owners to borrow money through governmental loans or bonds to pay for energy improvements to their properties. Columbus is evaluating the Energy SID program as an option for commercial and industrial property owners, but with a down economy there has not been a lot of interest shown to warrant development of the program at this time.

Action 4. Reduce waste sent to the landfill

In February 2010, as part of his State of the City Address, Mayor Coleman announced that by 2012, every single family household in Columbus (250,000) will have a comprehensive yard waste and recycling collection program without a direct fee. Throughout the year, the Mayor's ad-hoc Recycling & Yard Waste Advisory Group researched best practices, convened focus groups, surveyed the community (online and paper) and developed the program framework, results can be found online at www.recyclecolumbus.org. In 2011, the City will bid out the program and educate the community about the 2012 program. The 2010

diversion rate for residential recycling and yard waste was 12.2% compared to 2009 diversion rate of 10.1%, the city's goal is to reach 35% diversion rate by 2015.

Current Options:

- **Recycling Drop-Off Centers** - SWACO and the City of Columbus partner to offer recycling dumpsters for general drop off use by residents, there are currently over 200 locations, 14 of which are Columbus Fire Stations, 11 are located at Columbus Parks. There was 14,390.14 tons of recyclables collected from Centers within the City of Columbus.
- **Recycling Curbside Subscription** - Columbus contracts with Rumpke of Ohio allowing the residents to subscribe for weekly curbside collection of recyclables. The curbside collection program is available to 227,175 residences, 11,666 signed up for the service. A total of 4,284.18 tons of curbside recycling was collected.
- **Yard Waste** - Columbus contracts with Rumpke of Ohio for the weekly curbside collection of yard waste. This is a weekly service is provided to 227,175 households. A total of 21,775.71 tons of curbside yard waste was collected.
- **Household Hazardous Waste-SWACO** provides HHW disposal services for all Franklin County residents. In 2010, 99.43 tons were dropped off by Columbus residents.

Action 5. Recognition- Green Spot

There are 1,593 registered GreenSpot households to date. Our goal is to reach 10,000 by the year 2015. The GreenSpot Facebook page was launched in 2010; there are 612 fans to date. Incentives to increase participation on the Facebook page include various contests (most frequent commenter rain barrel give-a-way; photo with our logo contest in which Green Spot members submitted photos of selves with any one of 2,000 Green Spots in town) as well as posting daily green tips, event announcements funding opportunities and news of significance.

Action 6. Evaluate incentives and programs to conserve water.

Progress has been made on the Comprehensive Water Master Plan which is evaluating conservation measures to reduce demand. Columbus provides drinking water to over 1,000,000 people in the metro-area, treating over 148 million gallons of potable water per day. City Staff met with the Green Team's Growth and Development Working Group members to solicit their advice. A draft list of recommendations is being considered and a cost-benefit analysis is being performed to assist in prioritizing recommendations prior to implementation.

Objective 5. Go Green- Develop an integrated and sustainable transportation system to move people and goods, reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality and economic competitiveness as well as provide expanded options for modes of travel.

Action 1. Implement the Bicentennial Bikeways Plan.

On-Road Bike Infrastructure:

The City of Columbus installed 20 miles of on-street bikeways in 2010. New bike routes along West Broad Street in the Hilltop, a Downtown Bikeway Connector, a link between Olentangy Trail and Alum Creek Trails, and along Lockbourne Road were completed in early November. Eleven miles of bikeways are planned for installation in 2011.

Bike Parking:

In 2010, 29 bike racks were installed by city crews. With the use of the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant, the City of Columbus through a contract with Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District is in the planning and design stage to construct new bike parking facilities in downtown garages, bike shelters along downtown intersections, secure shelters and bike lockers along downtown city core.

Off Road Bike Infrastructure:

The off-road greenway trail system continued to grow.

- The Alum Creek Trail- two segments underway: the Mock Road to Sunbury Ridge segment is in the engineering stage and the Stonecliff to Bridgeview 2.0 mile segment is in development, this segment includes reuse of a 100 year old steel bridge for the trail over Alum Creek.
- The Scioto Trail- two segments underway: easements are being acquired to complete the I-670 ramp to 5th Ave section and the City is assisting ODOT with the Scioto to Grandview Ave. section.
- The Blacklick Trail – provided land to Franklin County Metro Parks for 4 miles of trail
- The Big Walnut Trail- completed 2 miles of the trail from Route 161 to Plumb Road through the Hoover Nature Preserve, this section is part of the Ohio to Erie Trail.

Action 2. Implement Operation Safe Walks

Columbus installed 5 miles of sidewalk. Six miles of sidewalk are planned for installation in 2011.

Action 3. Support carpooling and vanpooling services such as those provided by the Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission's RideSolutions Program, which provides matching services for those who seek pooling arrangements for trips to work/school as well as support for employers wishing to encourage ridesharing among employees.

Information is given to all city employees through New City Employee Orientation classes and information is shared on the GreenSpot Facebook page.

Action 4. Bus Transit- Support the ongoing efforts of COTA to improve bus service and increase ridership.

The City participated in Park(ing) day and Car Free Day – dedicating parking spots in front of City Hall and other city buildings as park spaces encouraging people to take the bus, walk or ride their bike instead of driving to their destinations.

Action 5. Passenger Rail Transit Support development of the Ohio 3C Rail connecting Cleveland, Dayton, Columbus and Cincinnati with passenger rail service as well as pursuing partners and support for establishing a regional light rail system and future high speed rail connections to other major metropolitan areas. Work with local, state and federal partners to secure funding.

The City of Columbus worked with the State of Ohio to investigate a downtown rail station.

Action 6. Support the greening up of freight (movement of goods) and encourage participation in the USEPA SmartWay Transportation Partnership program.

The Mayor's Green Team partnered with the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce's Logistics Council and brainstormed ways in which the logistics industry and specifically the Rickenbacker area can get green.

Objective 6. Encourage New Developments and Existing Neighborhoods to Get Green by providing policies, incentives and regulatory measures.

Action 1. Continue to review and update City development codes and policies to encourage sustainable development practices.

The Healthy Places Program works with a neighborhood's built environment to provide opportunity for increased physical activity as a part of everyday life. One program focus area is improving health by promoting walking as an alternative means of transportation. The program does this through review of zoning requests for possible inclusion of features or infrastructure that make it easier and safer for pedestrians. The program also works with interested residents to complete walk audits to assess conditions of neighborhood walk routes. Finally, the program produces walking maps, which identify safe and enjoyable walking routes of various distances in selected neighborhoods.

In 2010, the idea expanded to include Columbus Art Walks, an initiative that combines a defined walking route with recorded messages on various artistic, architectural, and historical points of interest. These messages can be accessed by walkers via cell phone. Three Art Walks areas are being mapped – the Discovery District, the Arena District and the Statehouse. Partners in the program include the Greater Columbus Arts Council, Columbus Historical Association, Columbus Landmark Association. To date: 4 Neighborhood Pride maps, 1 Art Walk map, and 3 neighborhood maps were created.

Right-sizing the City's Parking Requirements.

As Columbus seeks to grow in an efficient and sustainable manner, it is important to consider the role parking plays in the built environment. Excess parking provision results in underutilization of land, higher development and maintenance costs, and an increase in impervious surface and stormwater runoff. Significant amounts of land within the city are allocated to unused or under-used parking.

Columbus took a big step toward addressing this issue with the 2010 adoption of a parking code update (Ordinance 1537-2009). The former 1980s era code required minimum levels of parking based on type and size of land uses. While appropriate for some uses, in many cases the requirements substantially exceeded demand. The old code did not consider such things as bicycle parking, bio-retention or limitations on excessive parking.

The new code was developed through an interdepartmental working group and extensive stakeholder review. Highlights of the update include lower parking minimums for many uses, maximum parking rates to limit unnecessary parking, requirements for bike parking and pedestrian circulation, substantially enhanced landscaping standards, and encouragement of green design elements. Prior to Council adoption, the update received endorsements from the Columbus Development Commission, Board

of Health, Transportation and Pedestrian Commission, Mayor Coleman's Green Team, the Casto Company, the Sierra Club and Consider Biking.

In partnership with Franklin County, Columbus adopted the AWARE Green/Universal Design Manual as the performance standard for the construction and renovation of federally-funded residential projects (ie. Neighborhood Stabilization Program housing funds) and conducted green contractor training. In 2010, 13 homes were completed in accordance with AWARE Green Building Standards- Home Energy Rating System (HERS) ratings ranging from 59 to 71. (The HERS Index is a scoring system established by the Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET) in which a home built to the specifications of the HERS Reference Home (based on the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code) scores a HERS Index of 100, while a net zero energy home scores a HERS Index of 0. The lower a home's HERS Index, the more energy efficient it is in comparison to the HERS Reference Home.) Fifty homes are currently under construction.

New Commercial Overlays

Columbus City Council adopted new commercial overlays in three areas of the City (Ordinance 0216-2010). Each of the areas – Clintonville, Fifth by Northwest, and South High Street - were the subject of recent land use plans recommending the overlays as a tool for improving key corridors. Overlays work in conjunction with existing zoning to improve the character of commercial corridors, facilitate streetscape continuity, and encourage pedestrian-friendly development. The overlays also include parking requirement reductions which encourage redevelopment of older commercial property.

Action 2. Explore and provide financial incentives to targeted areas for development of green buildings, infill development and local food system development.

Green Columbus Fund

In September 2010 Mayor Coleman announced the Green Columbus Fund, a reimbursement grant program. Its purpose is to encourage private and non-profit developers to build LEED certified green buildings and to engage in sustainable redevelopment of Brownfields through use of financial incentives.

Buildings that are able to obtain certification from the US Green Building Council in selected categories of their 2009 revised LEED programs will be eligible to receive city reimbursement for their certification fee. Location in a developed area, achieving Silver or above certification and receiving more than the eight LEED credits required by the City can make the applicant eligible to receive additional incentives up to triple the certification fee. The central Ohio building community is showing considerable interest in this program.

The Brownfield redevelopment component of this program is based on the State's Clean Ohio Redevelopment Program. Applicants can receive funding for Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments, and abandoned gas stations can receive funding for Physical Phase II Assessments which includes, tank pull, station demolition and soil remediation. A portion of the cost of acquiring redevelopment sites may under appropriate circumstances also be reimbursed.

Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund

The City of Columbus received two Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund grants from the Ohio Department of Development for a total of \$6 million.

1. 3M: \$3 million was awarded to clean and redevelop the former 3M site at 1206 N. Fourth St. and entered into an agreement with the Wagenbrenner Development Company to apply the grant funding toward environmental cleanup work at the project site to prepare for redevelopment. The former 3M site was used for metal finishing operations from 1920 to 2000 when operations closed. It has remained vacant since 2000 and from that time, has been a blighting influence in the Weinland Park Neighborhood of Columbus. The site consists of

vacant industrial buildings on 3.4 acres. It was recently acquired by Wagenbrenner Development, Inc. who plans to invest approximately \$24 million to clean the site and construct a mixed use development of approximately 110 residential units with street level commercial space, which is consistent with the Weinland Park Development Plan. Remediation activities will involve demolition and asbestos removal on site along with removal of various chemical contaminants.

2. Kimball Midwest: \$3 million was awarded to clean and redevelop the former Kimball Midwest site at 580-582 West Goodale Blvd. and entered into an agreement with the Wagenbrenner Development Company, to apply the grant funding toward the environmental cleanup work at the project site to prepare for redevelopment. The Wagenbrenner Development Company is committed to invest approximately \$9 million to construct 90-120 market rate apartment units utilizing LEED standards for the renovation of various existing structures and for new construction. Wagenbrenner also proposes to grant an easement to the City, along Goodale Blvd., for the extension of the Olentangy bike path and proposed pedestrian bridge over the Olentangy River.

Urban Farming

The Institute for Active Living was created in 2008 to help reduce the rates of overweight and obesity by increasing access to physical activity and nutritious foods. Institute focus areas include development of community gardens as a means to improve community nutrition. In 2010, the Institute garnered grant funds and support to develop a new community garden in Linden.

The City of Columbus hosts a 3-day Farmers Market each year to improve community nutrition by increasing access to fresh fruits and vegetables. Market partners include USDA, which provides free produce coupons to clients enrolled in the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) nutrition program, and the Ohio State University College of Public Health, and Franklin County Medical Reserve Corps, which provide market

funding and staff for the event. Over 7,200 participants attended with 4,523 WIC produce coupons issued. A total of 340 ODC customers were served, with \$4,487 ODC dollars being issued. An average of 20 local farmers participated during the 3 days.

An interdepartmental working group was formed to ensure the City, as well as the County are supporting the work of community gardeners through programs and policies. Countywide there are over 200 existing community gardens, representing tremendous amounts of volunteer hours and effort.

The first place Keep America Beautiful award winning program, Plant Pride on Parsons, demonstrated how much a neighborhood can benefit when community gardening, art, and inspiration come together. Led by Keep Columbus Beautiful, hand painted flower pots now line Parsons Avenue welcoming visitors and serving as an example to cities across the country.

Community gardens are just a portion of the solution to address issues involving local foods and their impact on the economy and health of our neighborhoods. For this reason, in partnership with the County, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and Local Matters, a countywide food council will be developed in 2011.

Goal 3: Educate & Engage the Community

Continue to partner with the Mayor's Green Team

Mayor Coleman's Green Team met six times in 2010 and convened six working groups: Energy, Green Business, Green Building, Transportation, Education & Engagement, Growth & Development and one ad-hoc group: Recycling & Yard Waste. The mission of the Green Team is to advise Mayor Michael B. Coleman and the Environmental Steward Office on environmental policy, identify resources to carry out the Get Green Columbus initiative and educate the community. Accomplishments of the Team's efforts in 2010 include:

Providing advice and input for:

- a. Parking Code Revisions
- b. Downtown Development Plan
- c. 3C Rail and Union Station
- d. AWARE Design Manual
- e. Water Conservation elements for the Comprehensive Water Master Plan
- f. Green Switch Loan
- g. Rickenbacker Green Logistics Pilot

Researching best practices and helping the City design and develop the:

- a. Green Spot for Neighborhoods category
- b. Sustainable Yards program
- c. Green Columbus Fund
- d. Comprehensive Recycling & Yard Waste Program

Educate the Community about Get Green Columbus and resources available to assist:

- a. Marketed the Green Columbus Fund
- b. Marketed the Green Spot program
- c. Organized the 6th annual Get Green Columbus Business Conference
- d. Reviewed and selected winners for the 2nd Annual GreenSpotLight Awards
- e. Organized the 5th annual Green Business Case Competition with Donatos, Green Columbus and MBA programs throughout central Ohio.

The Mayor's Green Team adopted bylaws to provide structure and governance to the team and developed and adopted a Communications & Outreach Plan for the Get Green Columbus initiative as well as the Green Spot program.

Action 4. Expand the Green Spot program

The City was awarded an Ohio Environmental Education grant from the Ohio EPA to expand the program to reach children with the creation of a website, children's book and in-class programming targeted towards 1st grade students.

The Green Spot program provides an educational message and a framework for those in our community who want to live a sustainable lifestyle. Total registered Green Spots as of December 31, 2010 are 2,010 representing 52 community groups, 365 businesses and 1,593 homes.

The Green Spot program was recognized with two awards in 2010; the Walk the Talk award from Leadership Columbus and the SWACO Emerald Award for Environmental Education.

The Green Spot program was closely coordinated with the City's Neighborhood Pride Program and trained and employed seventeen 18-24 year olds as part of COWIC's Summer Youth program. The Ecoterns traveled door-door educating residents in two Pride neighborhoods about the Green Spot program, the importance of energy and water conservation and provided them with resources to help them get green. As a result, nearly 300 households became GreenSpots and received indoor water saving kits and compact fluorescent bulbs.

Other Education & Engagement activities include:

1. **Central Ohio Children's Water Festival** - in recognition of National Drinking Water Week, the Columbus Department of Public Utilities hosted nearly 400 fifth-graders and teachers for the third annual Festival. Demonstrations and presentations included an overview of the drinking water treatment process at the Dublin Road Water Plant, water tapping teams and hands-on activities.
2. **Utility Bill inserts** - inserts are mailed with each quarterly water and sewer bill and three times per year with electricity bills. Educational messages included information on Com-Til, Central Ohio River Pride, Storm Drain Marking Program, water conservation and reuse, the GreenSpot Program and energy conservation tips. These messages were sent to 314,000 households and businesses and 14,000 Columbus Power customers.
3. **River clean-ups and reservoir protection activities** - Two litter clean-ups, one at Hoover, one at O'Shaughnessy (shoreline)
4. **Community clean-ups** - 241 neighborhood & roadway clean ups, with 49 groups (student and adults). The individuals used to conduct these Community Service Cleanups are individuals who were convicted of illegal dumping, and were ordered to serve community service hours. A total of 6,260 hours were served.
5. **Educational Displays at events** - Columbus Sports Vacation and Travel Show and Hoover Fishing Seminar – Rangers staffed a booth explaining connections between water quality and recreation. Display also presented information about the installation of green infrastructure. Columbus Zoo Earth Day Event – “Shrink Your Environmental Footprint” activity for children.
6. **Educational Tours** - led members of the Mayor's Green Team on a tour of Green Infrastructure including the prairie at the Dublin Road Water Plant, COSI's rain garden and the Front Street Bioretention Basins.
7. **Demonstration Projects** - two demonstration rain gardens were installed at the Watershed Office at Hoover Reservoir. Interpretive signage is being developed. In addition, a newly landscaped area consisting of native plants and grasses, LED lighting, a demonstration green roof, reduced impervious surface and benches made of 84% recycled material was installed at the administration building of the Utilities Complex. Educational signage will interpret the significance of the area for visitors.
8. **Engage Volunteers** - the City worked with 13,125 volunteers on green projects.
9. **Earth Day** – The City supported Green Columbus who coordinated the largest turnout of volunteers for Earth Day service projects in the country and the largest Earth Day celebration in central Ohio. There were 3,678 volunteers, who planted over 8,000 trees and 5,000 native plants, collected over 2,000 bags of litter, cleaned 23 miles of waterways, prepared almost 50 community gardens, created over 100 raised beds and more. The Columbus Earth Day celebration, held at Franklin Park Conservatory, offered something for everyone: great music, kids' activities, food, spirits, comedy, live theatre, and lots of info about green businesses, organizations, and products.