

ENERGY ACTIONS

Renewable Energy

Do You Know?

- Energy production from coal and gas creates most of the greenhouse gas emissions in Duluth.
- Individual and community-owned, locally produced clean energy makes good business sense as the demand for energy grows, and prices of nonrenewable energy sources increase.

What Can You Do?

- Check out your business on the Duluth Shines! map at maps.umn.edu/DuluthShines to see how much solar electricity your rooftop can potentially produce!
- Solar may cost less than you think—explore the Federal Investment Tax Credit, and ask your utility provider about rebates and other state and local incentives.

Conduct a Plug Load Inventory

Do You Know?

- Unplugging or powering down computers, monitors, and copiers can cut their energy consumption by up to 50%.
- Turning electronics off when not in use can increase the longevity of your equipment.

What Can You Do?

- Conduct a power audit:
 - Review your equipment and identify your most often used devices.
 - Remove any unnecessary equipment.
 - Replace equipment with energy efficient ones.
 - Reduce the number of devices turned on when not in use.
 - Retrain staff to know when and why it's important to shutoff devices while not in use.



TRANSPORTATION ACTIONS

Become Bike Friendly

Do You Know?

- Transportation creates around one-quarter of Duluth's greenhouse gas emissions and more than half of most people's individual emissions.
- Adding bike racks can increase foot traffic to your business, reduce congestion and parking issues to boost access to your business overall, and encourage employees to commute by bicycle!

What Can You Do?

- Provide bike racks or other safe bicycle storage at your business for employees and customers, or team up with neighboring businesses to do so.
- Ensure bike storage areas are well-lit, easy to access, protected from the elements, and have suitable signage.

Provide Employee Incentives

Do You Know?

- Businesses can keep employees engaged, foster teamwork and healthy competition, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save money by incentivizing climate-friendly behaviors in the workplace.

What Can You Do?

- Create incentives for switching up employees' daily commute like biking, taking mass transit, and carpooling to work! Also consider offering employees discounted bus passes and gift cards to local biking or gear shops.

IS YOUR BUSINESS READY TO REDUCE EMISSIONS?

Information and recommended actions for businesses in our community

BUILDING ACTIONS

Increase Energy Efficiency

Do You Know?

- Buildings account for approximately 19% of Duluth's greenhouse gas emissions.
- Helping your business use electricity and natural gas more efficiently conserves energy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, saving money, and lessening the need for new utility infrastructure.

What Can You Do?

- Conduct an energy audit.
- Seal air leaks and weatherize doors and windows.
- Reduce electricity usage.
 - Switch to LED bulbs.
 - Turn appliances off. Standby modes on devices continue to draw power if not fully turned off.
 - Look for the ENERGYSTAR label when replacing appliances and electronics.

Show Off Your Energy Efficiency

Do You Know?

- As a building owner or landlord you have the opportunity to be a leader in the community. Showing off your building's energy efficiency and its benefits encourages other people in the community to follow suit.

What Can You Do?

- Display or communicate ENERGY STAR scores, as well as any green certifications (such as LEED), whenever available.
- Offer green leases—rental agreements in which tenants commit to or gain incentives by participating in water / energy conservation, waste reduction and recycling, use of nonhazardous cleaning products, or other sustainable actions.

FOOD ACTIONS

Provide Compost Options

Do You Know?

- Composting allows businesses to divert waste from heavy trash containers, oftentimes reducing waste pickup frequency and saving a significant amount of money on waste costs.
- Area restaurants are mandated to recycle pre-consumer food waste.

What Can You Do?

- Call WLSSD at 218-722-3336 for a free assessment. They will help you develop an organics recycling program that works.
- Contact your garbage hauler to arrange for food waste collection at your business.

Buy Food Grown or Processed Locally

Do You Know?

- Supporting local food and farmers also supports our local economy.

What Can You Do?

- Buy foods at grocery stores that have been grown locally.
- Use catering companies and restaurants that purchase local ingredients.
- Look for the "Superior Grown" label.



WANT TO LEARN MORE AND TAKE ACTION?

Visit:

ecolibrium3.org/duluthclimateaction

This brochure was compiled from content in the Duluth Citizens' Climate Action Plan by participants in Leadership Duluth, a program of the Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Duluth Citizens' Climate Action Plan is a citizen-led effort, coordinated by Ecolibrium3, to inspire community-wide action to reduce Duluth's greenhouse gas emissions and envision a future for Duluth that is sustainable and equitable.

Ecolibrium3 is a Minnesota 501(c)3 nonprofit whose mission is to lead and inspire change towards an equitable and sustainable future. [Learn more at www.ecolibrium3.org](http://www.ecolibrium3.org)



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