



Sustainability in Bellemont

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What is Sustainability

Sustainability: a systems approach for balancing **social**, **environmental** and **economic** considerations so that present society can be prosperous and resilient, without compromising future generation's ability to meet their own needs.



Why Sustainable Communities

Sustainability foster innovative solutions for creating strong, diverse, healthy, resilient, and prosperous communities, for current and future generations-for all communities-locally to globally.

- Changing environmental, social and economic systems
- Increased population and decreasing natural resources
- Increased waste, emissions, and impacts
- Decreased diversity in food, plants, animals-ecosystems

Aspects of a Sustainable Community

- **Energy** Strategies that reduce fossil fuel use and greenhouse gasses, diversity
- **Water** Reduction, harvesting and recycling
- **Food** Fresh, local, diversity
- **Waste** Reducing and recycling
- **Environment** Sensitive land, open space, conservation, wildlife, noise, dark skies, ecosystems...
- **Built Environment** Sustainable building principles
- **Social** Engaging people in their community-promoting health, vitality, resilience, connectivity, and **economic** prosperity.

What are Bellemont's...

Sustainability assets, opportunities, and challenges.

- 30 second individual brainstorm for next several slides.
 - Write down as many ideas as you can
 - Ideas can be tools to help shape your area plan and policies

Sustainable Communities: Energy

- Promote development within and near existing infrastructure; encourage opportunities for sustainable transportation
- Reduce auto dependence by providing areas for walking and biking
- Promote energy efficient strategies in all buildings
- Promote renewable energy, including distributed, utility, and community systems

Sustainable Communities: Water

- Promote water efficient practices such as low-flow fixtures and wise watering practices
- Protect natural watersheds and wetlands
- Promote rainwater harvesting
- Promote native and low-water landscaping
- Promote the use of greywater or reclaimed water for landscaping

Sustainable Communities: Food

- Promote community-based and local food production to minimize environmental impacts from transporting food long distance and increasing direct access to foods.
 - Neighborhood gardens
 - Edible landscaping such as fruit trees
 - Neighborhood markets and cooperatives

Sustainable Communities: Environment

- Protect wildlife and corridors
- Provide habitat reserves
- Provide open/green spaces
- Protect watersheds, wetlands and soil erosion
- Forest health & fire protection
- Protect and enhance ecosystems
- Protect and enhance air quality
- Decrease the spread of invasive weeds

Sustainable Communities: Social

- Provide communal spaces, such as parks and meeting rooms and areas
- Hiking trails
- Walker, wheelchair friendly paths, trails, and parks
- Biking trails
- Connect development to trails when possible
- Dark skies
- Safety, including lighting, traffic and signs
- Historic and cultural resources

Sustainable Communities: Economic and Social

- Connectivity including transportation and communication
- Mixed use development
- Commercial and business development
- Cottage industry and telecommuting
- Industrial and manufacturing
- Tourism and Eco-tourism
- Resiliency from changing systems and natural disasters