

**AGENDA**  
**GREENHOUSE GAS WORKING GROUP**  
**March 5, 2026**  
**3:00 P.M.**  
**Village Hall, 850 Waukegan Road**  
**Deerfield, IL 60015**  
**Community Conference Room 206**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of January 29, 2026 Meeting Minutes
4. Public Comment
5. Review of Climate Action Report: Energy Goals
6. Review of Climate Action Report: Transportation Goals
7. Other Items for Discussion:
  - No Idling Signage
  - WRF Solar Array
  - D-tales: Green Line
  - Save the Date Textile & Electronics Recycling: June 6
8. Next Meeting: TBD
9. Adjournment

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Ad Hoc Working Group  
Meeting Minutes  
January 29, 2026

A meeting of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Ad Hoc Working Group was held on January 29, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. in the Community Conference Room at Village Hall. Chairperson Mary Oppenheim called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.

**Present:**

Trustee Mary Oppenheim, Chairperson  
Camilla Dadey  
George McClintick  
Art Wilde  
Andrew Worley

**Absent:**

Elaine Jacoby  
Victoria Street  
Don Anderson

**Also Present:**

Jessica Sciarretta, Management Analyst  
Dan Nakahara, Planner II  
Justin Keenan, Assistant Village Manager  
Robert Phillips, Director of Public Works and Engineering

**Public Comment**

No Public Comment

**Consideration of Minutes**

Commissioner Wilde moved, seconded by Commissioner Dadey to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2025, meeting. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Discussion of Transportation Initiatives**

*Bike Route Signage*

Ms. Sciarretta reported that a bike route sign has been installed inside the Downtown Deerfield Metra Train Station. Mr. Phillips added that additional signage will be placed outside near the bike racks once the ground has thawed.

### *No Idling Signage*

Staff shared that “No Idling” signs will be installed on Village-owned property near school pick-up lines to encourage drivers to turn off their vehicles while waiting. Staff noted that the signage will be educational in nature, as there is currently no Village ordinance prohibiting idling. It was further explained that adopting such an ordinance could present safety concerns due to Illinois’ fluctuating temperatures, as well as potential enforcement challenges.

### *Wayfinding Signage*

The Group discussed whether additional wayfinding signage is needed throughout the Village. Members noted that key destinations—including the library, Jewett Park, the Square, Village Hall, and the Police Department—are located in close proximity to one another. It was also observed that most residents and visitors rely on smartphone navigation, such as Apple Maps or Google Maps, for biking and driving directions. Concerns regarding potential sign clutter, including safety and aesthetic impacts, were also raised. After discussion, the Group agreed not to pursue additional wayfinding signage at this time.

## **Discussion of Waste Initiatives**

### *Compost Utilization Rate*

Ms. Sciarretta informed the Group that staff is coordinating with Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS) to obtain seasonal compost utilization data. This information will help determine whether residents are composting food scraps or mainly yard waste.

### *Lakeshore Recycling Systems Tour*

Staff presented two potential dates in March for a tour of Lakeshore Recycling Systems. Ms. Sciarretta stated that she will poll members who were not in attendance and follow up with the Group via email to confirm the selected date.

### *2026 Electronics & Textile Collection*

The Group discussed hosting a combined electronics recycling and textile collection event on June 6. Staff noted that Public Works employees would manage the electronics recycling component, while members of the Working Group would be asked to volunteer to assist with sorting collected textile items.

## **Discussion of Energy Initiatives**

### *WRF Solar Array*

Staff provided an update on the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) solar array, noting that installation is nearly complete. Final electrical connections are still being finalized.

### *Green Energy Partnership Program (GEPP)*

Staff reported that a meeting was held with Mark Pruitt, the Village’s contracted energy broker, to request quarterly performance metrics. Mr. Pruitt has also been invited to attend a future Greenhouse Gas Reduction Working Group meeting. Staff is currently awaiting the requested metrics and confirmation of his availability.

### **Other Items for Discussion**

#### *D-Tales: Green Line*

Staff provided updates on sustainability-related communications, including content featured in the Village's D-Tales newsletter "Green Line," weekly sustainability social media posts, and ongoing public outreach efforts focused on composting, recycling, and other environmental initiatives.

#### *Climate Action Report – 2030 Goals*

Ms. Sciarretta shared that a comprehensive document has been compiled outlining all goals and initiatives identified in the Climate Action Report. Chairperson Oppenheim asked members to review the document and come prepared to the next meeting with discussion points, comments, and potential revisions related to the energy and transportation goals. The Group agreed that revisiting the Report is timely and beneficial, particularly as many of the identified initiatives are tied to 2030 targets.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The next Greenhouse Gas Reduction Working Group will be held on March 5, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business or discussion, Commissioner Dadey moved, seconded by Commissioner Wilde, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jessica Sciarretta  
Management Analyst

**Climate Action Report 2030 Goals**  
*According to the Climate Action Report*

**Overarching Goal:** *The GHG reduction target is to reduce emissions by 45% by 2030 compared to the 2017 baseline year.*


**To achieve the target 2030 goal the following objectives are proposed:**


- Electricity: 36% of total MTCO<sub>2</sub> (including municipal)
  - Convert 100% of electricity to renewable sources by 2030
- Transportation: 11% of total MTCO<sub>2</sub>
  - Reduce transportation emissions by 55% by 2030
- Waste: 3% of total MTCO<sub>2</sub>
  - Reduce waste emissions by 66% by 2030


## Greenhouse Gas Working Group Goals

*According to the Climate Action Report*









### Key:

In the works: 

Completed: 

Ongoing: 

### Energy:

- Use building energy more efficiently:
  - Conduct energy audits and retrofit municipal buildings, facilities, and street lights for maximum efficiency. (2030) 
  - Explore opportunities for high performance and net zero new construction. (2030)
  - Establish a policy requiring ENERGY STAR appliances for all new Village equipment purchases. (2030)
- Advance renewable energy
  - Install and operate renewable energy systems in municipal buildings and facilities. (2030) 
  - Explore use of power purchase agreements, leasing and other strategies to finance renewable energy systems. (2030) 
  - Procure renewable energy for public facilities. (2030)
  - Provide access to Community Solar. (2030) 
  - Any of the following:
    - Rooftop Solar (Ground Solar) 
    - Wind Turbine
    - Geothermal
    - Renewable Energy Credit (Group Voted Against Continuing) 
- Reduce energy consumption
  - Power down equipment when possible. (2030) 
- Enact policies and programs that supply clean energy
  - Enact Community-wide REC purchase program to offset all carbon sources of electricity (when feasible, purchase RECs that supply Northern Illinois power grid). (2030)
  - Adopt current Illinois Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and report compliance. (2030) 
  - Encourage clean energy systems in residential and commercial building construction and design. (2030)

- Use best practices in each category of green building standards, including aspects of LEED Platinum, Passive House (PHIUS), Green Globes, Living Building Challenge, American Institute of Architects (AIA) 2030, and Enterprise Green Communities. (2030)
- Facilitate installation of renewable energy technologies (e.g. solar, geothermal) through adopting building and zoning codes such as achieving Sol Smart Gold Status. (2030) ■
- Establish a Solar Ready Ordinance to require residential and encourage all new multifamily residential and commercial buildings to be solar ready based on Village's Solar Ready Guide, with flexibility for site suitability. (2030)
- Consider policy options to transition newly constructed commercial buildings away from natural gas and towards electrification. (2030)
- Engage the community in clean energy practices and efficiencies
  - Engage residential and commercial property owners to optimize building efficiency. (2030)
  - Leverage programs such as demand response, energy efficiency incentives, and PACE financing. (Property Assessed Clean Energy). (2030)
  - Partner with electric and gas utilities to promote energy efficiency programs to the community. (2030) ■
  - Publicly recognize institutional and private buildings that achieve specific energy efficiency targets. (2030)
  - Show public support for installation by hosting solar home tours and incentivizing solar companies to attend public events. (2030) ■
- Establish Programs:
  - Municipal Aggregation (2030) ■
  - Community Solar (2030) ■

### **Transportation:**

- Reduce dependence on gasoline powered vehicles by supporting conversion of municipal fleet, residential vehicles and lawncare equipment to electric power
  - Advocate for broad adoption of clean fuel fleets for utilities, businesses, other agencies, etc. (2030)
  - Replace retiring village fleet vehicles with appropriate zero or low emission alternatives (purchase 16 EV fleet vehicles by 2030). (2030) ■
- Convert 30% of the municipal fleet (or all 16 administrative vehicles) to electric vehicles by 2030 (2030) ■
- Convert 50% of residential vehicles to electric vehicles by 2030 (2030)
- Support safe and effective bike and pedestrian transportation that promotes sustainable transportation choices
  - Provide bicycle parking at municipal facilities, commercial districts, transit stations and in other public gathering locations. (2030) ■
  - Encourage residents and visitors to walk and bike. (2030) ■

- Installation of municipal Level 2 charging stations in three locations: (2030)
  - Village Hall ■
  - Public Works ■
  - Public Parking Lot (exact location TBD)
- Encourage the installation of charging stations in commercial, privately owned parking lots (2030)
- Adopt building codes that encourage electric vehicle charging stations by making them a permitted use in PUDs and/or certain zoning districts (2030)
- Require all new multi-residence developments to be electric vehicle charging station ready by installing prerequisite infrastructure at the time of construction (2030)
- Maintain a diverse and efficient transportation infrastructure
  - Collaborate to provide alternative fuel infrastructure at public sites (install 3 EV stations by 2030). (2030)
  - Incorporate trees and other green infrastructure elements into roadway design and maintenance for functionality and aesthetics. (2030) ■
- Integrate sustainability into transportation policies, programs and regulations
  - Enact and enforce anti-idling policies for public fleet vehicles. (2030) ■
  - Designate "No Idling" zones at schools, transit stations etc. (2030) ■
  - Educate the community on the negative impacts of car idling. (2030) ■
  - Adapt building codes to accommodate and encourage alternate fuel infrastructure (e.g. require all new multi-residence buildings to be capable of level 2 EV charging). (2030)

## Waste:

- Establish baseline landfill diversion goals based on waste stream audits of various user types (e.g., residential, commercial, municipal)
  - Conduct waste stream audits for municipal operations to identify waste reduction opportunities. ■
  - Conduct waste stream audits for Residential and Commercial to establish baseline by waste source (mirror Lake County categories). ■
- Enact policies that support waste diversion goals including consideration for hazardous and non-curbside picked up waste
  - Collaborate with waste haulers for proper disposal of all types of waste (e.g. hazardous, pharma, electronics, textiles). ■
  - Create recycling/reuse outlets to recycle targeted items not accepted by the curbside program (e.g., plastic bags, sheet plastic, shredded paper). ■
- Establish year-round residential curbside composting ■
- Reduce waste by supporting the systems of a circular economy that regenerate natural systems, design out waste and pollution, and keep products and materials in use ■
  - Ban or discourage the use of products resulting in unmanageable waste (e.g., plastic bags, plastic bottles, other single use plastics). (2030)

- Include composting at Village sponsored public events (e.g., Harvest Fest, Family Days, Winter Market). (2030) ■
- Eliminate policy barriers to on-site composting. (2030)
- Maintain construction and demolition recycling ordinance and establish incentives for reuse of homebuilding materials rather than disposal. (2030) ■
- Require food service retailers to use biodegradable, compostable or recyclable packaging. (2050)
- Require reusables for dine-in restaurants and sustainable takeout food wares. (2050)
- Eliminate single use plastics in everyday use at Village facilities. (2050)
- Provide infrastructure, programs and policies that support composting and recycling materials across all sectors
  - Provide year-round curbside recycling/ composting infrastructure community wide. (2030) ■
  - Support Composting and Recycling Materials Across All Sectors (2030) ■
  - Ensure infrastructure (bin size and accessibility) is consistent with supporting composting, recycling, and landfill goals. (2030) ■
  - Structure waste pricing to be economically advantageous to compost/ recycle, and, economically disadvantageous to landfill waste. (2030)
  - Direct Waste Hauler contract savings to fund Waste diversion policies & programs.
  - Add public receptacles (Compost, Recycle, Landfill) in all Village buildings, including impactful visual locations that communicate the benefits/consequences of each. (2030)
  - Add plastic film to curbside pick-up program. (2050) ■
  - Encourage commercial & multifamily recycling and composting, including making receptacles easily accessible and clearly visible to tenants. (2030)
- Educate and engage the community in waste reduction, diversion and recycling
  - Conduct at least 2 community wide events per year to interact and educate residents on 3rd bin composting, plastics, and recycling (use large scale forums, such as shredding events, to interact with large groups of residents). (2030) ■
  - Partner with Park District, Library and other local government agencies to leverage waste education events. (2030)
  - Partner with School Districts 113 and 109 to develop a school wide annual "Zero Waste at Home" program. (2030)
  - Plan comprehensive waste diversion events annually including 2X/year electronic collection events, 1X/year paper shredding event, and household chemical waste collection etc. (2030) ■
  - At a minimum, achieve a waste diversion goal of 1.35 pcd by 2030 which is consistent with the 2019 SWALCO Waste Plan. (2030)
  - Partner with Chamber of Commerce and other business groups to host peer-to-peer food scrap/composting education events for commercial business operators and restaurateurs. (2030)

# Our Community

## THE GREEN LINE

It is important to remember that the Village storm sewer drains and roadside ditches lead to our nearby lakes and creeks. So, any oil, pet waste, leaves, landscaping debris or dirty water from outside activities that enters a storm drain gets into our lakes and streams. Never dump oil, chemicals, soapy water, grass clippings or anything besides clean water down the storm sewer drain. By keeping waste and hazardous materials out of storm sewer drains, you're doing your part to reduce flooding and pollution in our local waterways. Below is a small list of some of the permitted discharges as well as ways to help reduce water pollution.

The following discharges are permitted:

- Discharges from potable water sources (fire hydrant flushing).
- Irrigation water.
- Foundation drains, pumped ground water and water from crawl spaces.
- De-chlorinated and pH neutral swimming pool discharges.

Common ways to help reduce water pollution:

- Clean up after pets.
- Sweep up grass clippings, soil and fertilizer from driveways, sidewalks and streets.
- Use lawn chemicals sparingly.
- Properly store and dispose of household cleaners, chemicals and oil.



### Open House May 16, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Spend a fun morning with the Village of Deerfield and the Deerfield Park District at a kid- and adult-friendly Public Works Open House from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 16, at the Village's Public Works Facility, 465 Elm Street.

This is a behind-the-scenes chance to meet the team that keeps Deerfield running and get an up-close look at the equipment our crews use every day. Explore the fleet, climb aboard select vehicles and see how public works responds when there's a problem — everything from routine maintenance to emergency repairs.

Highlights include live demonstrations on water



safety, how crews repair a water main break and hands-on opportunities to check out vehicles and tools used in the field, including vacuum trucks, snow plows and front-end loaders.

The event is free and open to all ages and will feature:

- Tours and exhibits
- Hands-on activities

- Demonstrations
- Fun giveaways and prizes
- Vendors and educational information
- Public Works swag

Parking is available at the Patty Turner Center, 375 Elm Street.

*For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 847.317.7245.*