



NEWS

from the Office of Mayor Timothy J. Davlin, Springfield, Illinois

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August 5, 2010

SPRINGFIELD RANKS HIGH AS SMART CITY

As part of the Natural Resources Defense Council's (NRDC) Smarter Cities Project, smartercities.org, Springfield, Illinois has been named among a list of 22 municipalities that are leading the way as "top energy performers" in green power, energy efficiency and conservation. The 2010 survey, which focused on energy, reached out to all U.S. municipalities with populations over 50,000, looking to assess those cities for aggregate kilowatt hour consumption, fuel sources, whether a greenhouse gas inventory was completed, energy conservation programs and processes to measure energy conservation. Data from past Smarter City reports, the United States Environmental Protection Agency and various other studies and reports were also reviewed to find top-performing cities.

"Although we already know that Springfield is a smart city in terms of energy and environmental initiatives, it means a lot more to have an agency like the Natural Resources Defense Council come in and say we're doing a great job and rank very well against our peers," Mayor Tim Davlin said. "News like this can only help our city further prosper and grow."

"We're very proud that the Natural Resources Defense Council has recognized so many CWLP initiatives as part of the City's high ranking in Smarter Cities," said CWLP General Manager Todd Renfrow. "Our Energy Services Office, which has almost three decades of performance to its credit, is charged with carrying out the energy efficiency aspect of CWLP's mission, which reduces our City's carbon footprint and helps our customers save money."

In Springfield's Smarter Cities profile, <http://smartercities.nrdc.org/topic/energy/springfield-il-2010-smarter-city-energy>, it noted several City Water, Light and Power initiatives as part of its "steady progress" to tackle global warming. Those initiatives mentioned include:

Investment and promotion of renewable power

1. Energy efficiency programs
2. Emissions reductions
3. A completed and tracked greenhouse gas inventory
4. Energy usage studies underway
5. Commercial building retro-commissioning program

(more)

--- Smarter Cities, Add 2

Other cities listed amongst Smarter Cities' 2010 ranking include:

Austin, TX
Beaverton, OR
Berkeley, CA
Boston, MA
Chicago, IL
Columbus, OH
Dallas, TX
Denton, TX
Dubuque, IA
El Paso, TX
Fort Collins, CO

Huntington Beach, CA
Long Beach, CA
New York, NY
Oakland, CA
Portland, OR
Reno, NV
San Francisco, CA
Santa Clarita, CA
Santa Cruz, CA
Seattle, WA

In 2009 Springfield ranked fourth overall in Smarter Cities' evaluation that included environmental initiatives, transportation infrastructure, zoning, building codes and waste management programs as well as improving access to open space, green jobs, affordable efficient housing and more. Previously known as the Green Guide, this project was undertaken to create a portrait of the progress that U.S. cities are making to move toward environmental stewardship and sustainability.

Smarter Cities is a project of the Natural Resources Defense Council, a non-profit, multimedia web initiative whose mission is to foster friendly competition as well as provide a forum for exploring the progress American cities are making in environmental stewardship and sustainable growth. Smarter Cities is a destination site for all who have a stake in their cities to learn about best practices and initiatives, share ideas and innovative solutions.

<http://www.springfield.il.us>

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