Lake County
Forest Preserves

General Offices
1899 West Winchester Road
Libertyville, Illinois 60048
847-367-6640 • Fax 847-367-6649
www.LCFPD.org

– SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS & PRACTICES

GOLF OPERATIONS

- The new robotic driving range equipment at both Countryside and Thunderhawk.
- We will always look at an electric option for all equipment, if available, in our industry.
- We limit the amount of single-use plastic for supplies purchased at the golf courses, buying paper when possible.
- If it's available wholesale, we will always buy aluminum packaged water for resale instead of single-use plastic bottles.

PLANNING & LAND PRESERVATION

- Ryerson Education Center's use of Sustainable Materials and Methods:
  1. PV Panels (Solar) to provide power to the building
  2. Rain harvesting for flushing the toilets
  3. Triple pane glass to reduce the thermal transfer
  4. Bird-friendly glass to reduce the number of bird strikes
  5. Use of multiple low-carbon construction materials
- Lakewood Public Access Improvements
  1. Net-Zero Grounds Maintenance Facility
  2. Recycling/Reuse of Existing Materials – Pulverizing and reusing asphalt on-site, reusing gravel
  3. Grading design simplified to reduce emissions from construction vehicles
  4. Use of durable long-lasting construction materials
  5. Use of on-site natural materials within the Nature Based Play Area (granite boulders, logs)
  6. The Master Plan incorporates a compact more efficient design with facilities and features consolidated to reduce maintenance costs and fuel consumption
- Countryside Net Zero Cart Storage Facility
  1. Used for storage and charging of electric golf cars
  2. Replacement of gas-powered golf cars with electric
  3. Reduces long-term operating costs
- District commitment that all new buildings shall be Net-Zero or Net-Positive
- District commitment to review and convert existing facilities to Net-Zero whenever possible
- Design and promotion of native plants (biodiversity, eliminate fertilizers, etc.)
- Design focused on minimal need for storm sewer infrastructure to maximize surface drainage through bioswales and other native plantings for filtering pollutants, promoting infiltration, and reducing velocity (Green Infrastructure)

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EDUCATION

- We do recycling with lunch groups with school groups at the Museum, Ryerson, and other locations where we teach.
- We do tons of sustainability education – school groups, adult presentations, and general public programs, mostly on the environmental educator side of things.
- In general, we always try to be good stewards of the earth.

FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

- Mechanical Services
  1. Continued efforts to replace retired vehicles/equipment with electric whenever available.
  2. Certify staff as EV technicians
- Construction and Trades
  1. Use of sustainable (recycled) construction materials whenever possible
  2. Conversion to higher efficiency HVAC equipment
  3. Parking lot lighting converted to LED at Fox River Preserve and Independence Grove
- Business Development
  1. Catering license agreement has included provisions stating limitations on the use of single-use plastics and requirements for recycling and composting
  2. The Beer Garden at Independence Grove uses only Compostable cups for draft service and has weekly compost pick-up service
  3. Soda and water sales have transitioned from plastic to aluminum bottles and cans

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP

- Use canned water or water stations to eliminate single-use plastics
- Use cloth tablecloths and runners for events
- Use either glass and china or if needed use recyclable or compostable service
- Try to have more green-based foods to use less energy, land, and water, and have lower greenhouse gas intensities than animal-based foods

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NATURAL RESOURCES

- Seed Nursery - The district's investment in the Seed Nursery has proven an effective means to reduce expenditures for seed acquisition. In addition, it has increased the diversity of native species that we can install in our restoration project areas. In addition to producing seed and native plant plugs, volunteers collect seed at our preserves across the county. These seeds are cleaned and stored at the nursery, further extending the value of the investment into the facility. The estimated value of seed produced, processed, and cleaned at the nursery ranges from $180,000 to $230,000 annually.
- Forestry Mower - The District recently purchased a large-deck forestry mower to increase our capacity to control woody invasive species such as buckthorn and callery pear. This machine has the capacity to clear more than 6 acres a day, in comparison to a standard size fecon mower which can clear approximately an acre a day.

ADMINISTRATION

- The supplying of compostable cups/plates/napkins/service ware at District events
- Mini-bins for staff workspaces
- Recycling buckets for batteries from Cirba Battery Solutions
- Various collection boxes (for toner cartridges, pens and markers, mixed media supplies, etc.)
- We offer all District staff the opportunity to participate (although there is no “expense”, so to speak), with us internally collecting shoes for SWALCO, or Styrofoam for ABT, or electronics for Avenues to Independence

OPERATIONS

- Waste & Recycling
  1. Installed informational signs on recycling stations about acceptable/unacceptable materials
  2. Demolition of buildings – meet or exceed the goals for diverting materials for recycling (concrete, asphalt, and metals) or beneficial reuse (bricks)
- Energy Use
  1. Reducing the number of buildings
  2. Investing in energy efficiency enhancements
- Efficiency Partners
  1. LCDOT – Wetland bank at Buffalo Creek
  2. Lots of Planning & Nat Res partnerships on projects