



## PRESS RELEASE



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### Akron Reaches 2013 Greenprint Goals

**Akron, OH** - The City of Akron reached their **2013** greenhouse gas emission reduction goal for government operations of **5%**, down from the 2005 baseline greenhouse gas survey, as of 2009. The ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability USA, Clean Air and Climate Protection (CACP) 2009 software package calculated that total emissions for *governmental operations* decreased **13%** from 2005 to 2009.

The Greenprint Executive Summary, March 2012, is now available to the public in PDF form on the City of Akron's website home page and at [www.keepakronbeautiful.org](http://www.keepakronbeautiful.org). In the report are estimates of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from activities in the City of Akron as a whole and from the City's government operations. You can see the emissions listed by government sectors in the comparative surveys. The City of Akron is working to achieve multiple benefits beyond reducing harmful emissions, *including saving energy and money*. The City is working on preserving a quality of life in this community by reducing municipal solid waste, making facilities more energy efficient and their fleet less reliant on fossil fuels, while concentrating on smart land use and transit planning, illustrated in the new summary's highlighted success stories.

The greenhouse gas emissions inventory for the *community* went down **6%** from the 2005 survey to the 2009 survey, which is a 1% improvement over the 5% reduction goal that was set for 2013. Yes, there were more unoccupied homes in the residential sector in 2009 but there were also more fuel efficient vehicles being driven and there were large scale reductions in community solid waste due to the implementation of efficient recycling programs.

The City of Akron's Climate Action Plan was completed using ICLEI's Climate and Air Pollution Planning Assistance (CAPPA) software tool to identify and evaluate specific climate reduction measures by providing details about their potential greenhouse gas reductions. Akron was one of the first communities to use this software to assist in a seven phase process that took more than a year to implement by working with Affinity Consultants, Inc. and members of the City's Green Ribbon Panel.

The short and long term greenhouse gas emission reduction measures that have been mapped out for the City administration by Tim Schwendeman of Affinity Consultants demonstrate a total potential estimated reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of **35,319 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e reduction** for government operations. If these strategies are implemented, the City of Akron will have the ability to surpass the absolute targets set through 2018 and make significant progress towards meeting the 2025 targeted goal.

*The Greenprint for Akron creates an environmental partnership to foster a sustainable, eco-friendly community through education and leadership. Mayor Don Plusquellic wants government operations, as well as the community at large, to reduce Co<sub>2</sub> emissions by 5% from the 2005 baseline survey by 2013, 10% by 2018 and 20% by 2025.*