



State of the Region 2009

Issue: Place

Metric: Sustainable Development

Many communities in central Ohio have adopted policies oriented toward sustainable development. Concern for the environment has become evident through the formation of advocacy groups and through the encouragement of activities that reduce the impact of humans on nature. “Green” buildings exist throughout the region, and many more are being designed.

Governmental entities are now beginning to consider sustainable development efforts by incorporating related goals into their plans and discussing changes to regulations. Such changes are integral in achieving sustainable development patterns and practices to ensure the availability of resources in the future while maintaining a comparable quality of life.

The following is a listing of sustainable policy efforts in central Ohio. MORPC obtained this listing by surveying individual communities. If you know of a community you would like to see added to this list, e-mail Leslie Strader (lstrader@morpc.org).

Locality	Description of Policy Efforts
Bexley (City)	Constructing a LEED-certified police station; Main Street redevelopment is based on smart growth and sustainable practices
Columbus (City)	Many sustainability efforts, including the Columbus Green Spot program
Dublin (City)	Initiated Sustainable Codes and Green Zoning projects
Fairfield County	Working on an Active Transportation and Open Space Plan to facilitate means of transportation beyond passenger vehicles
Fayette County	Encourages storm drainage management techniques, including rain gardens
Gahanna (City)	Working to incorporate LEED items into city code
Granville (Village)	Village has a "Strategic Land Acquisition and Smart Development Committee"; goals include sustainable development
Liberty Township (Delaware County)	Collaborated with NiSource to plant over 30 trees along the Olentangy River as part of the township's Green Pact efforts
Licking Township (Licking County)	Township has a Green Infrastructure Plan
Marion County	Initiated a Landbank Program to preserve land resources
New Albany (Village)	Strategic Plan is focused on sustainability; village center plan provides alternative storm water management; encouraging green building
South Bloomfield (Local School District)	Constructing a green elementary school
South Bloomfield (Village)	Considering incorporating storm water run-off mitigation techniques into code
Upper Arlington (City)	Some Planned Mixed Use Districts require a dense development pattern
Westerville (City)	Initiated Sustainable Codes and Green Zoning projects
Worthington (City)	Focusing on incorporating a permanent farmers market as part of a current planning project

