

Minnesota **GreenStep Cities**

A challenge, assistance & recognition program for taking more sustainable actions

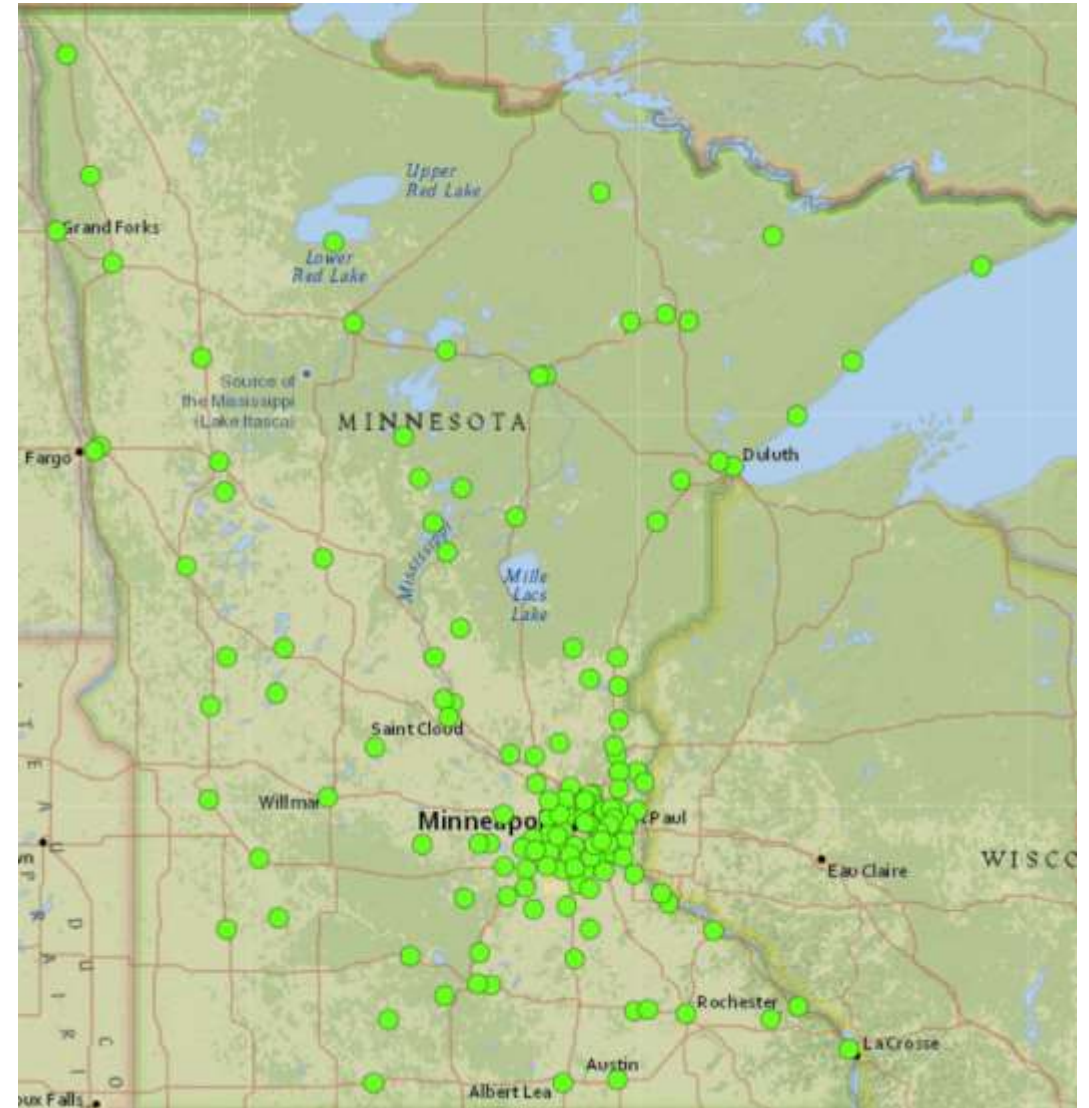
Nadya Bucklin, Development Planner-SWRDC, CERTs & GreenStep SW Regional Coordinator

MN GreenStep Program

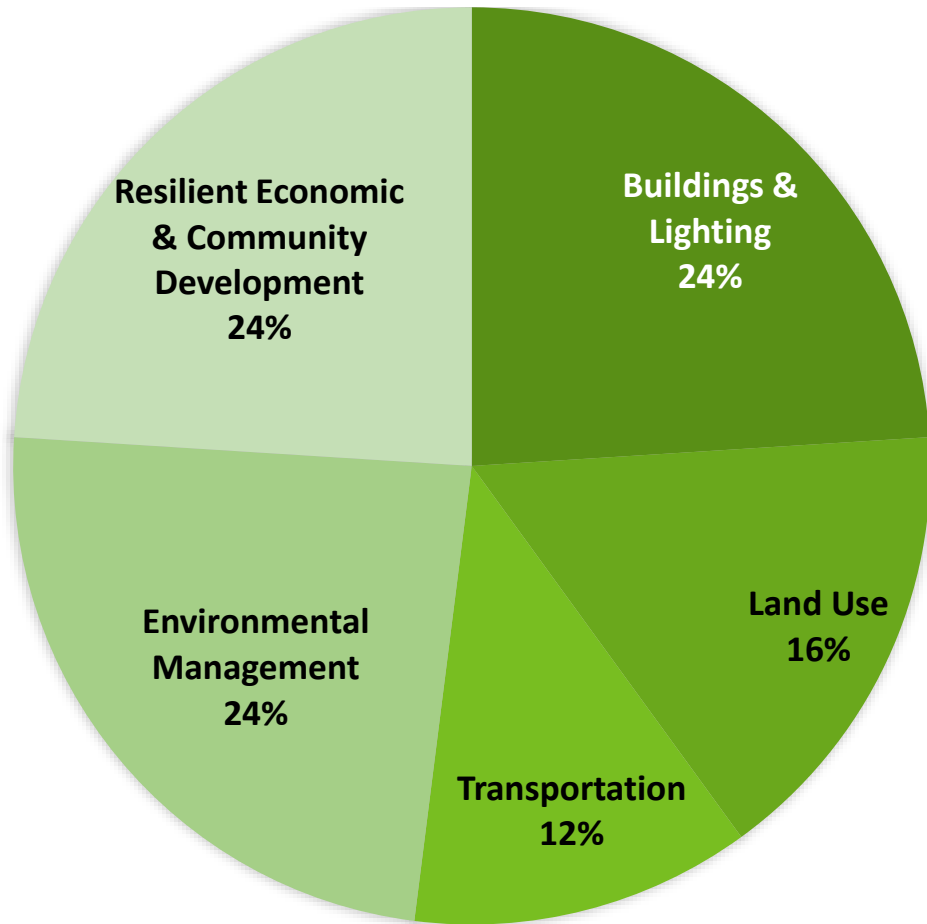
154 Communities



www.MNGreenStep.org



Saint James GreenStep Status



Current Distribution of Green Step Best Practice Categories

Joined: February 2017

Status: Step 5

Total Best Practices (BPs) Completed:
14

Total BP Actions Completed:

[Saint James' GreenStep Cities page](#)

[Saint James' Assessment File](#)

The Steps



Taking the Next Steps

Steps 4 and 5 focus on metrics – what are the outcomes of all of the actions that the city has implemented over time?

- **Step 4:** Measure and report a minimum number of core and optional metrics for the previous calendar year or the most recent available data.
 - Category A communities: In addition to the CORE metrics, include 5 additional metrics of choice.
- **Step 5:** Demonstrate improvement three eligible metrics measured in Step 4, from one data year to the next.
 - Category A, B, and C communities: Improve upon 3 eligible metric elements.



GreenStep Step 4 & 5 Metrics

<https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/page/steps-4-and-5>

AutoSave Off Step 4_5 Worksheet 2023 Search (Alt+Q)

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B1 Land Use

#7 Land Use	OPTIONAL	Units	Previous Year Values (edit)	Current Year Values (edit)	Annual Change
7.1	Percent of land within commercial/mixed zoning districts built with a FAR at/above 1.0	%			
7.2	Percent of land within residential or mixed zoning districts with dwelling units per acre at/above 7.0	%			
7.3	Net Tax Capacity	Dollars per acre			
7.4a	Location affordability index number: housing + transportation (H&T)	%			
7.4b	Location affordability index number: housing	%			
7.5	Acres of new development on previously developed land	Acres			
7.6	New affordable housing units added as a percent of all new housing units	%			

Enter any justification or explanation for variation of metrics:

Introduction Buildings and Lighting Transportation Land Use Environmental Management Econ and Cor

Step 4 & 5 Reporting

The Process:

- A **worksheet** for cities to keep notes, see trends, and keep track of data ready to submit
- Individual **guidance documents** for all 18 Metrics
- An online **Reporting Tool** (survey) with individual accounts for submitting final data.
- Follow up** from GreenStep staff for clarification, as needed
- Annual Metric Report** sent back with Step confirmation

LOTS more
that way

Completed in most recent year:		
CORE Metrics	Additional Metrics	Step 5-eligible Metrics Improved
1	5	1.1
3	15	1.4
6	16	5.1
8		8.6
9		9.1
11		9.2
14		11.5a
17		14.2

- All CORE Metrics

Improve upon at least 3 Step 5-eligible Metrics

Saint James Metrics – Improved and Notable

Metric (Step 5-eligible)	Reported 2024	Reported 2025
1.1 – Energy used per sq. ft. of city buildings	102.84 kBTU/sq. ft.	96.36 kBTU/sq. ft.
1.4 - % of street lights converted to LED	68%	84%
5.1 - # of public electric vehicle charging stations	0	1
8.6 – Net # of new trees planted	45	50
9.1 – Stormwater Assessment Score	17	19
9.2 – Climate Adaptation Stormwater Assessment Score	20	22
11.5a - Inflow and Infiltration volume to total volume entering the wastewater collection system	238	58
14.2 - Generation capacity of city-owned and private renewable energy sites	89.8 kW	94.8 kW

Additional Notable Metrics:

- 100% of traffic lights are LED, up from 83% in 2023. (1.4)
- St. James' population travel an average of 7.9 miles per person per day, the second lowest of all Step 4/5 reporting communities. (6.1)
- Saw an increase in the number of city-owned and private renewable energy generation sites from 2 (89.8 kW) in 2023 to 5 (94.8 kW) in 2024. (14.1, 14.2)



Minnesota
GreenStep Cities



Congratulations on achieving Steps 4 and 5, St. James!

Nadya Bucklin
nadyab@swrdc.org

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