



TOWN OF MOUNTAIN VILLAGE
455 Mountain Village Blvd. Mountain Village, CO 81435
(970) 369-8236

TO: Green Team
DATE: September 13, 2022
FROM: Lauren Kirn, Environmental Efficiencies and Grant Coordinator
RE: Q3 Environmental Efficiencies Quarterly Report

SUMMARY

The report for the Environmental Department summarizes how key performance measures were accomplished in Quarter 3 as of September 13, 2022 and provides a summary of department highlights for the year to date and department focuses 2022.

SECTION I: ENVIRONMENTAL EFFICIENCIES

OVERVIEW

1. Environmental Policy and Regional Collaboration
 - a. The Town of Mountain Village joined **Recycle Colorado** as a Municipal Bronze Member and the **Colorado Composting Council** as a member.
 - b. Town staff attended the following local, regional, and statewide meetings and events:
 - i. **Recycle Colorado 2022 Summit & Symposium**
 - ii. **Colorado Association of Ski Towns (CAST) Conference**
 - iii. **CC4CA Briefing "The Greenhouse Gas Rule"**
 - iv. **EcoAction Partners Fundraiser Harvest Dinner**
 - v. **Telluride Ecology Commission** meetings
2. Zero Waste by 2030
 - a. The 2022 **Farm to Community** Program ends on Wednesday, September 14. It has served **85 households** local and organic food over 14-weeks.
 - b. **Community Clean-Up Day** occurred on Saturday, August 6. Over **25 participants** and **12 volunteers** diverted **120 pounds** of trash, recycling, and compost from Mountain Village trails.
 - c. Recycling
 - i. Mountain Village **recycling** is tracking at about **27%** for **residential** and about **22%** for **commercial** in 2022. Commercial recycling increased by **3.5%** from 2021. Plastics made up **18%** and about **15%** of all recycled materials, respectively. This exceeds Colorado's 2021 combined recycling and composting rate of **15%**. The Town's residents avoided approximately **360 metric tons CO2e** and commercial properties avoided approximately **605 metric tons CO2e** in 2022 to date.
 - ii. The Town recycles plastic film collected in bins outside of Town Hall and at the VCA Main Office. The Town started tracking the recycling metric mid-March 2022. The community has recycled **77.1 pounds** of plastic film and packaging in 2022 to date.
 - d. Composting



TOWN OF MOUNTAIN VILLAGE

455 Mountain Village Blvd. Mountain Village, CO 81435
(970) 369-8236

- i. The **Village Court Apartments Composting Pilot Program** has diverted **410 pounds** of food and yard waste to date.
 - ii. The Town collaborated with **San Miguel County** on a grant application to **enhance and expand** business and community **composting capacity** within Mountain Village. The grant application also includes **local and regional collaboration** to develop comprehensive **2- and 10-year plans** around food waste diversion and composting, **educate** residents and visitors, **develop new pathways** for diversion and composting, **generate collective funding** for compost production and application, and **scale compost application** and **reduce fertilizer use** on SMC and regional working lands.
 - iii. Town staff continues to explore and pursue opportunities for expanding composting options and availability for the region.
 - e. Single-Use Plastic Reduction
 - i. The **Single-Use Plastics Reduction Ordinance** will go into effect on **January 1, 2023**. Town staff have updated the **Planet Over Plastics** webpage with information on the ordinance, **frequently asked questions**, and additional resources for businesses to comply with the ordinance. The Town will be hosting **workshops** to discuss the ordinance and its impacts with businesses directly.
 - ii. Town staff are in communication with Telluride and other mountain towns to evaluate further, future single-use plastics restrictions in alignment with **HB21-1162**.
3. Carbon Neutral by 2050, using 2010 as a benchmark.
- a. Greenhouse Gas Reporting
 - i. Staff are gathering the required data for the **2021** municipal and community greenhouse gas inventory reports.
 - b. Alternative Energy
 - i. The Town was awarded a **DOLA EIAF grant** to install one **25kW solar array** on the maintenance shop.
 - ii. In 2022, the Town partnered with **San Miguel County** to make affordable solar energy accessible to all San Miguel County residents. The 2022 Solar Co-Op has **4 signed contracts** with Mountain Village residents. With **14 residents** in the co-op, the Mountain Village-specific close rate is **28.5%**.
 - c. Open Space
 - i. The Town of Mountain Village is **60% open space**, which is a significant source of carbon sequestration. Out of the total 2,095.551 acres, Mountain Village has approximately **1,103.8 acres** in open space.
 - d. Building Incentives
 - i. Staff is developing a 2023 **Building Energy Incentive Program** to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from buildings through **energy-efficiency** upgrades. The Town will be providing **rebates** to **existing residential and commercial properties** for **building energy assessments** and associated **upgrades**. The incentive program will complement **San Miguel Power Association's** rebate program, **EcoAction's** weatherization program, and available federal and state tax credits.
 - e. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations



TOWN OF MOUNTAIN VILLAGE

455 Mountain Village Blvd. Mountain Village, CO 81435
(970) 369-8236

- i. The Town offers three public ChargePoint **Level II, dual port charging station** and eight **Tesla Supercharger** stations. The ChargePoint stations that opened in May 2019, May 2022, and June 2022 have avoided **19,229kg** of greenhouse gas emissions to date.
4. Water Conservation and Water Loss Prevention
 - a. The Town's new incentive program for **Irrigation Assessments** has **4 participants** to date and is funded in part through a **Colorado Water Conservation Board** grant.
 - b. The Town is evaluating opportunities for **beaver awareness and education** for the Meadows community.
5. Natural Resources Management and Education
 - a. Staff have conducted **noxious weed control** activities for both Town-owned and private properties throughout the summer months.
6. Wildfire Mitigation and Education
 - a. Cedar Shake initiative has awarded approximately **\$99,150** in fee waivers to date.

LOOKING FORWARD 2022

As the Town of Mountain Village enters Quarter 4, Town staff are evaluating the 2022 programs and their associated data to inform strategies and actions for 2023. Town staff will be attending the **MT2030 Climate Solutions Summit**, CASTA Conference, and the Mountain and Resort Town Planners Summit. Staff are working to prepare local businesses for implementation of the Single-Use Plastics Reduction Ordinance through signage, training, and marketing materials. Additionally, staff will be finalizing the Building Energy Incentive Program with input from the Green Team, local utilities, nonprofits, and Town departments. Town staff have also engaged with Lotus Engineering & Sustainability about developing a more defined and calculated greenhouse gas emissions reduction roadmap with Mountain Village-specific incentives, policies, and actions to meet our climate goals.