

City of Edmonton, AB 2012 CAMA Environment Award (Population over 100,000) The Way We Green Environmental Strategic Plan

The Way We Green is the City of Edmonton, AB's environmental strategic plan, which was approved by Edmonton City Council in July 2011. It sets out principles, goals, objectives and strategic actions for Edmonton to live in balance with nature. While this approach is crucial for the wellbeing of the environment, it is equally crucial for the wellbeing of our society, economy, and quality of life.

The Way We Green's two main focuses are: (a) sustainability: our society's ability to endure over a prolonged period as an integral part of Earth's natural systems, and (b) resilience: the capacity of our city to withstand and bounce back intact from environmental disturbances.

The plan's 12 goals describe what ultimately must be accomplished for Edmonton to be a sustainable and resilient city. They have not been understated or minimized to reflect what we think we can accomplish based on today's limited solutions and resources.

Rather, they indicate what many citizens, stakeholders, and experts think must be accomplished for Edmonton to exist in balance with nature and preserve today's outstanding quality of life.

The Way We Green proposes a systematic management approach that will be applied over the timeframe of this plan, providing a foundation for success. Fundamentally important is the understanding that The Way We Green is a long-term community plan.

Becoming a sustainable, resilient city will require inspired community effort over the long-term. Success will mean that Edmontonians understand, value, and practice principles of sustainable living.

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