

Sustainable Belmont Key Accomplishments in 2008

Sustainable Belmont, a task force of the Vision 21 Implementation Committee, has as its mandate “to develop and implement a variety of activities and initiatives to assist Belmont’s government, residents, and businesses in becoming a more environmentally responsible community.”

As part of its continuing effort to spearhead the development of the town’s climate action plan (CAP), Sustainable Belmont completed writing the draft of the CAP with input from the Belmont community.

Other major collaborative efforts included working with the Belmont Municipal Light Department (BMLD) and its Advisory Board to create a voluntary clean energy program for customers, which was implemented as the “Green Choice” program in May 2008; and to develop an electricity conservation and efficiency policy, which was unanimously adopted by the Belmont Light Board in December 2008. Sustainable Belmont continued its partnership with the Belmont Police Department and Public Schools as part of the “Cleaning the Air” campaign. As part of this ongoing educational effort, the group received a grant to create postcards for public distribution that explain the benefits of not idling one’s vehicle.

Sustainable Belmont cosponsored a public forum on ways to encourage walking in Belmont and also increased public awareness on a variety of environmental issues by writing article/opinion pieces for the *Belmont Citizen-Herald* and energy conservation tips for the BMLD newsletter.