

fostering sustainable living (Land)

general intent / The detailed design decisions that enable sustainable development at Emerald Hills Urban Village must also foster sustainable living. The Strategies and Initiatives/Activities identified below represent an initial framework and point of departure for generating a Fostering Sustainable Living Program at the Urban Village. They are intended to provide the integrated design team with the sustainable living lens that is to be applied to all detailed design decisions. It is recognized that these lists will evolve and be refined as the detailed design for the Urban Village emerges.

strategies

- Ensure detailed design of built environment facilitates adoption of sustainable lifestyles.
- Design flexibility into buildings and spaces, allowing for changing lifestyles and fostering long-term residency.
- Incorporate monitoring and feedback into all buildings.
- Engage Village citizens and key stakeholders in the integrated design process.
- Create a forum for businesses and community groups to devise space-sharing schemes to optimize buildings and facilities use.
- Create partnerships with local NGOs working on sustainable land use issues.
- Promote awareness-building and community mapping.

initiatives / activities

- Village / community / sustainability / exhibition centre in the Village heart.
- Village Plaza and Internet Café.
- Children's play area in central open space.
- Earth Embassy/NGO Centre.
- Shared Seniors Centre/Nursery.
- Parking area also serves as basketball court.
- Walking paths to ski trails program.
- 'Smart Living' section in the "Living Smart at the Village" intranet handbook.
- Village / community mapping of amenities, services and opportunities.



Educational Signage.



Internet Cafe.



Children's Play Area.

fostering sustainable living (Natural Habitat)

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strategies

- Assemble a municipal Ecoteam that includes the County, NGOs, the community - see Environment Canada's Tools of Change.
- Develop a program that encourages interaction with the natural environment and promotes stewardship.
- Replant key plants lost due to development in partnership with local NGO or progressive nursery.
- Educate residents creating value-added planted areas and identifying and preventing the spread of invasive plants.
- Permanent easement or other legal means to protect greenspace not designated as Municipal Reserve such as community gardens.
- Review/adopt lighting standards to reduce light pollution.

initiatives / activities

- Select an Emerald Hills Environmental Steward and Ecoteam representative.
- Work with partners to create a Biodiversity Action Plan to consider Village, neighbourhood, and regional initiatives.
- Partner with local NGOs such as Evergreen to create interactive, enhanced natural habitat spaces.
- Adopt of rare or threatened plant species for the Village.
- Create a Village "Broom Bash" event aimed at invasive species removal.
- Initiate a "Country Lanes" program to take advantage of marginal street spaces such as narrow lanes.
- Establish a Village Demonstration Garden with webcam links to Village Intranet.
- Form a Village Bird-watching Club with sightings listed on Village Intranet.
- Develop a bird feeder, and bat and bee box program to enhance the natural environment.
- Host walking tours/expeditions to local and regional ecological habitats.
- Develop a 'Living Naturally at the Village' section in resident's Intranet handbook.



Country Lanes take advantage of marginal street spaces such as narrow lanes.



Partner with local organization to restore or enhance natural spaces.



Compost Demonstration Garden.

fostering sustainable living (Water)

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strategies

- Ensure detailed design of built environment celebrates water and supports adoption of low-water lifestyles.
- Incorporate monitoring and feedback into all buildings.
- Engage all Village citizens in creating a water-wise lifestyles program.
- Create partnerships with local NGOs working on water issues.
- Promote awareness-building and community mapping.
- Leverage green purchasing power to buy water saving products.
- Introduce community-based social marketing (CBSM) programs to foster water-wise lifestyles.
- Promote education and awareness-building celebrating water.

initiatives / activities

- Water art features integrated into built environment.
- Village xeriscape demonstration garden.
- Water timers on exterior hoses.
- High quality showerheads to encourage showers over baths
- Highly visible resident water use meters.
- Soft Path for Water - joint initiative of Polis Project & Friends of the Earth Canada <http://www.polisproject.org/polis2/PDFs/Nutshell.pdf> .
- Celebraton of Water engaging Village residents and businesses.
- Village Water Challenge between buildings, with adjacent neighbourhoods.
- 'Water-Wise' section in the "Living Smart at the Village" intranet handbook.
- Village / community mapping of water smart products, services and opportunities.
- Water-Wise - a CBSM program to foster lifestyles that use water wisely.



Community maintained xeriscape demonstration project.



Use signage to raise awareness.



Highly visible resident water use meters.

fostering sustainable living (Carbon)

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strategies

- Ensure detailed design of built environment supports adoption of carbon neutral lifestyles.
- Develop program to facilitate purchase of green power from centralized renewable source.
- Promote renewable energy upgrade initiatives.
- Incorporate monitoring and feedback into all buildings.
- Engage all Village citizens in creating a carbon neutral lifestyles program.
- Create partnerships with local NGOs working on carbon issues.
- Promote awareness-building and community mapping.
- Leverage green purchasing power to buy carbon smart products.
- Introduce community-based social marketing (CBSM) programs to foster low-carbon lifestyles.

initiatives / activities

- Off-site green power and on-site renewable energy upgrade offered at time of purchase.
- Visual monitoring in Village sustainability centre showing carbon generated on-site.
- Wattson home energy monitoring system.
- Formation of Village Ecoteam with local NGOs.
- Roadmap to a Carbon-Neutral Village created in partnership with NGO.
- Village Green - a community-based energy services company.
- Partner with Carbon Busters - Edmonton-based educational Conservation Action Program
- Sustainable travel through carbon offsets initiative.
- Low-Carbon Solutions' section in the "Living Smart at the Village" intranet handbook.
- Village / community mapping of carbon-smart products, services and opportunities.
- Carbon-Wise - a CBSM program to foster low-carbon lifestyles.



Offsite green power offered at time of purchase.



Landscaping can be used to provide shading and reduce the heat island effect.



Integrate renewable energy with landscape elements.

fostering sustainable living (Transport)

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strategies

- Ensure detailed design of built environment supports alternative transport options.
- Provide support network for non-motorized transport, home-based businesses and telecommuting.
- Engage all Village citizens in creating a green transport plan.
- Create partnerships with local NGOs working on green transport alternatives.
- Encourage alternative fuels.
- Promote awareness-building and community mapping.
- Leverage green purchasing power to support local green transport options.
- Introduce community-based social marketing programs (CBSM) to foster alternative transport options.

initiatives / activities

- Lockers, showers and change rooms in business facilities.
- Bike system linked to transit.
- Informative signage, bus benches and shelters
- Village Café with internet access to allow for 'third-space'.
- Partner with Citizens for Better Transit of Edmonton.
- Partner with Car Share Co-op Edmonton
- Green power vehicle charging point in commercial precinct.
- Partner with Edmonton Bicycle Commuters Society to establish Village cycling program.
- Youth Bike Repairs Program.
- Bike trails in summer become groomed ski trails in winter.
- Walking school bus program.
- Programmed activities from stollercize to seniors walking club.
- 'Travel Green' section in the "Living Smart at the Village" intranet handbook.
- Village / community mapping of travel smart products, services and opportunities.
- 'Smart Travel' - a CBSM program to foster green travel lifestyles.
- Incentive program for public transit users and employers providing transit benefits.
- Commuter Challenge between condominium associations.
- Green transport incentives offered with every unit – free bike, free car club membership, parking discounts for vehicles using alternative fuel.



Green power electric vehicle recharging station.



Provide adequate bicycle lock-ups.



Village Cycling Club

fostering sustainable living (Food)

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strategies

- Ensure detailed design of built environment supports on-site food production.
- Incorporate edible landscaping throughout the Village.
- Establish food production standards that minimize use of pesticides, herbicides and manufactured fertilizers.
- Engage all Village citizens in creating a sustainable food choices program.
- Create partnerships with local NGOs working on sustainable food issues.
- Leverage green purchasing power to support farmers and distributors, and build local capacity.
- Encourage local food vendors in CRU's.
- Introduce community-based social marketing (CBSM) programs to foster sustainable food choices.
- Promote awareness-building and community mapping.

initiatives / activities

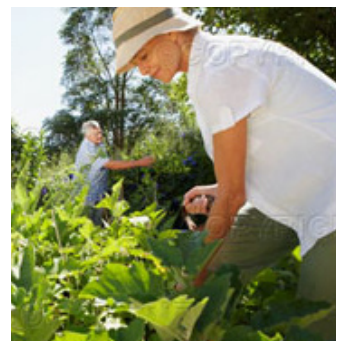
- Window and balcony garden box program for apartment residents.
- Village restaurant or café focused on local and organic produce.
- Community kitchen.
- Kitchen incubator dedicated to early-stage catering businesses.
- Farmers Market.
- Food box delivery program through Village Intranet with provision for drop-off and pick-up.
- Tours of local farms.
- 'Feast of Fields/Tastes of the Village' sustainable food event.
- Slow Food Chapter.
- The Sustainable Potluck.
- Community garden socials.
- Fruit and Nut Tree Project - edible landscaping harvest to support local food bank.
- 'Eating Smart' - CBSM program to foster sustainable food habits.
- 'Fantastic Food' section in the "Living Smart at the Village" intranet handbook.
- Village / community mapping of food smart products, services and opportunities.
- 'Fabulous Food' - a CBSM program to foster sustainable food habits.



Farmers markets draws the community together.



An incubator kitchen provides local business opportunities.



Backyard gardening becomes a family affair.

fostering sustainable living (Materials)

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strategies

- Ensure detailed design of built environment supports alternative material choices.
- Engage all Village citizens in creating an 'alternative material choices' program.
- Create partnerships with local NGOs working on sustainable material issues.
- Leverage green purchasing power to support sustainable material suppliers and build local capacity.
- Introduce community-based social marketing (CBSM) programs to foster sustainable material choices.
- Promote awareness-building and community mapping.

initiatives / activities

- Interpretive signage highlighting best materials practices in demonstration sites throughout Village.
- Host annual 'Green Consumers Fair' at the Village.
- Free 6 month supply of green cleaning products to each new Village resident.
- 'Healthy Material Choices' section in the "Living Smart at the Village" intranet handbook.
- Village / community mapping of green material products, services and opportunities.
- Green Alberta - Online Green Products Database (www.greenalberta.ca).
- 'Smart Material Choices' - a CBSM program to foster sustainable material choices.



Provide signage promoting best material practices.



Make sustainable material choices - Support green suppliers and retailers - Buy locally.

fostering sustainable living (Waste)

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strategies

- Ensure detailed design of built environment supports integrated waste management.
- Integrate innovative dwelling / building / site recycling and composting centres.
- Integrate highly visible use of recycled/reclaimed materials.
- Introduce community-based social marketing (CBSM) programs to foster waste reduction choices.
- Engage all Village citizens in creating an integrated waste management program.
- Partner with local NGOs working on waste related issues.
- Leverage purchasing power to buy waste-friendly products.
- Introduce community-based social marketing (CBSM) programs to foster waste reduction.
- Promote awareness-building and community mapping.

initiatives / activities

- Recycled and reclaimed materials integrated into public spaces.
- Integrated Waste Management Program - monitor Village waste generation.
- Great Strathcona Exchange.
- Electronics recycling by local businesses.
- 'Compost Masters' to educate and deliver compost programs.
- Participation in Canadian-based Compost Awareness Week.
- Tours of local facilities.
- Clear Bags Program (Fredericton NB).
- Children's Waste-to-Art Program.
- Annual Village Yard Sale.
- Freecycle on Village Intranet.
- Village Repair and Service Centre - home-based business.
- Partner with Salvation Army or similar organization for pick-up of reuse goods.
- 'Waste as Food' program with local businesses.
- 'Cradle-to-Cradle' section in the "Living Smart at the Village" intranet handbook.
- 'Waste Not-Want Not' initiative on Village Intranet promoting zero-waste products.
- 'Throw-away - Where is Away?' - a CBSM program to foster sustainable waste habits.
- Compost socials to educate and encourage participation.



Waste to Art Program.



Backyard Composting Program.



Integrated Waste Management Program.

fostering sustainable living (Economy)

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strategies

- Engage all Village citizens in programs to build and support the local economy.
- Create partnerships with local NGOs to create stronger local economies.
- Use green building practices to generate new economic development opportunities.
- Encourage green and socially conscious businesses and suppliers.
- Leverage green purchasing power to support local suppliers and build capacity.
- Promote awareness-building and community mapping.

initiatives / activities

- Job training programs during construction for local unemployed and underemployed workers.
- New jobs and job training related to green practices.
- Emerald Hills Business Association.
- Green Business Incubator.
- Village Job Fair bringing employment closer to home.
- Ben & Jerry Partner Shop (or similar-type venture).
- Fairtrade Fortnight - a 2 week focus on fair trade.
- Bulk purchasing of fair trade coffee, chocolate, sugar and other staples that cannot be grown locally.
- 'Close to Home - Building a Local Economy' section in the "Living Smart at the Village" intranet handbook.
- Target local investment towards local economy, using local skills and materials where possible.
- Village Barter Exchange via Intranet.
- Village / community mapping fair trade retailers, local suppliers, services and employment opportunities.



Provide opportunities for local job training programs.



Encourage businesses that support Fair Trade products.

fostering sustainable living (Well-being)

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strategies

- Ensure detailed design of built environment supports healthy indoor and outdoor environments.
- Incorporate 'secure-by-design' principles into landscape design to foster protection and security.
- Create private and public spaces that foster both active and passive recreation.
- Provide adequate access to private greenspace for the majority of units.
- Engage all Village citizens in creating a genuine wealth program.
- Create partnerships with local NGOs working on social sustainability issues.
- Weave the County's Social Sustainability Framework into the fabric of the Village.
- Introduce community-based social marketing (CBSM) programs to foster social sustainability.
- Promote awareness-building and community mapping.

initiatives / activities

- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).
- Public health officials involved in programming.
- The Happy Village Index - health and happiness indicators and ongoing monitoring.
- Neighbourhood Leadership College.
- Hub/Centre for Social Innovation.
- Volunteer Recognition Night/Volunteer of the Year award.
- Green housekeeping program.
- Babysitting Co-operative.
- Shared Seniors Centre/Nursery.
- Shared toy library.
- 1000 Hands initiative - creating community space.
- Opportunities for Lifelong Learning - community courses ranging from Elderhostel for seniors to Signing with your Baby.
- Community Café.
- Movie night.
- 'Genuine Wealth' section in the "Living Smart at the Village" intranet handbook.
- Community Newsletter.
- Call-in/Email Hotline for Civic Events.
- Village / community mapping of quality of life opportunities.
- 'Genuine Wealth' - a CBSM program to foster healthy and sustainable lifestyles.
- Village / community mapping fair trade retailers, local suppliers, services and employment opportunities.



Create a safe neighbourhood.



Community Cafe.



Shared seniors centre and nursery.

fostering sustainable living (Equity)

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Car Share Program.

strategies

- Ensure detailed design of built environment supports equitable housing opportunities.
- Engage Village citizens in creating “equity-based” community groups and services.
- Create partnerships with local NGOs working on equity issues.
- Ensure affordable, efficient transportation alternatives for everyone.
- Promote awareness-building and community mapping.

initiatives / activities

- Lifetime user standards allowing homes to be easily adapted as people age.
- Universal accessibility.
- Residents’ Association allowing democratic participation in governing/managing.
- Voluntary Code of Conduct ensuring basic working and environmental standards met by suppliers.
- ‘Social Justice’ section in the “Living Smart at the Village” intranet handbook.
- Village Car Club.
- BikeShare - bicycle-lending program.
- Village / community mapping of equity opportunities for all segments of population.



Active seniors need universal accessibility.



Informed and active residents keep neighbourhoods strong.



Bike Share Program.

fostering sustainable living (Culture)

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strategies

- Ensure detailed design of built environment supports culture and heritage opportunities.
- Engage all Village citizens in creating a 'culture and heritage' program.
- Encourage social interaction and understanding between all community members.
- Create partnerships with local NGOs working on culture and heritage issues.
- Celebrate the cultural heritage of the community in meaningful ways.
- Position the Village as a leader in sustainable development.
- Promote awareness-building and community mapping.

initiatives / activities

- Design creating a unique sense of identity and place.
- Historical, cultural interpretive signage and art throughout the Village.
- Street names reflect local history and heritage.
- Story-telling Café.
- Partner with First Nations groups to raise aboriginal awareness.
- Coffee-table book on history of area.
- Year-round events celebrating Village ecology, history and diverse cultures.
- Resurrect historic celebrations.
- Aboriginal Awareness Day.
- Art Festival.
- Performance Art Weekend.
- Traditional Aboriginal food event.
- "Bridging to the Future" section in the "Living Smart at the Village" intranet handbook.
- Village / community mapping of culture and heritage locations.



Celebrate our diversity.



Celebrate art.



Celebrate our heritage.