



Our Vision

Red Wing thrives as a vibrant, creative river town that values its natural environment, welcomes all people, and unlocks opportunity for everyone.

Our Mission

We strive to create a sustainable, healthy, accessible, resilient, and equitable community where every person feels at home.

Meeting Announcement and Agenda Sustainability Commission Regular Meeting City Council Chambers, 315 West 4th Street, Red Wing, MN & Virtually Tuesday, July 28, 2026, at 5:30 PM

This meeting will be held in the City Hall Council Chambers and virtually via Webex at the same time. Members of the public can join this meeting either in person at City Hall or virtually. [Join the meeting via Webex](#). To join via telephone, please dial (415) 655-0001. Enter access code 2553 829 4052 and password 2026 when prompted.

1. Call to Order

2. Red Wing Sustainability Vision & Mission Statement

A sustainable community meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

3. Roll Call

4. Oath of Office - Colton Auge

4.A. Oath

5. Approval of Agenda

6. Approval of Minutes

6.A. Motion to approve minutes:

1. May 21, 2026 regular meeting
2. June 23, 2026, workshop

7. Public Comment

We now invite anyone to share their thoughts on a topic that is not on the agenda. We welcome all opinions and ideas. We appreciate you stating your name at the lectern, and please remember that personal attacks may be ruled out of order. You will have up to three minutes to comment, and we appreciate your time in coming tonight.

7.A. Presentation - Anderson Center

8. Communication Items

8.A. Finance Report

9. Motions & General Business

9.A. Jay McCleary Award Selection

9.B. Commission Outreach Activities

1. River City Days
2. Farmer's Market(s)
3. Trunk or Treat

9.C. Subcommittee Updates:

1. Organics
2. Pollinator

10. Announcements

10.A. Topics for Future Agendas

10.B. Next Meeting Date: August 25, 2026 (Workshop)

11. Adjournment

Accommodations for signing interpreter, Braille, large print, etc. can be made. Call City Hall at 385.3600 seven days prior to the need. Hearing assistance devices are available during meetings.

State of Minnesota)
County of Goodhue) ss.



OATH OF OFFICE

I, Colton Auge, do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, and to discharge faithfully the duties of the office of a member of the Sustainability Commission of the City of Red Wing, Minnesota, to the best of my judgment and ability.

X _____
(Colton Auge)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Signature of Witness

(First term ending May 31, 2027)

State of Minnesota)
 } ss.
County of Goodhue)



OATH OF OFFICE

I, Colton Auge, do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, and to discharge faithfully the duties of the office of a member of the Sustainability Commission of the City of Red Wing, Minnesota, to the best of my judgment and ability.

X _____
(Colton Auge)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Signature of Witness

(First term ending May 31, 2027)

**Red Wing Sustainability Commission
Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers
May 21, 2026**

Members Present: Chair Maddie Brown; Commissioners Brian Waters, Kristen Wert, Mark Berman, Dan Evanson, and Hugh Brown (arrived at 5:37 p.m.)

Members Absent: Commissioner Peter Haug (unexcused absence)

Others Present: Brandy Howe, Staff Liaison

1. Call to Order

Chair Maddie Brown called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Red Wing Sustainability Vision & Mission Statement

Chair Brown read the Sustainability Commission Vision & Mission Statement.

3. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted. Chair Brown and Commissioners Berman, Waters, Evanson, and Wert were present.

Commissioner Haug was absent and unexcused.

4. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Wert, seconded by Commissioner Berman, to approve the agenda as drafted. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6:0.

5. Approval of Minutes

A. Motion to Approve Minutes.

1. Month March 24, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.

2. Month April 28, 2026, Workshop Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Berman, seconded by Commissioner Waters, to approve the minutes as drafted. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7:0.

6. Public Comment

Chair Brown reviewed the public comment procedure.

David Anderson, Red Wing, presented a bicycle initiative idea called Bike Red Wing, and the goal would be to make it safer and more encouraging for bikers to bike instead of driving. He shared the initial steps it would take to start the initiative, such as recruiting individuals, beginning community engagement, and continuing to research until he could provide the Commission with a formal ask. Chair Brown

noted the item could be on a future agenda. Commissioner Wert agreed to follow up with Mr. Anderson.

7. Communication Items

A. Finance Report.

Staff Liaison Brandy Howe provided a finance report and noted that nothing has changed since the last meeting.

8. Motions & General Business

A. Organics Drop-Off Promotional Materials.

Chair Brown and Commissioner Evanson provided an update from the subcommittee and noted that there would be additional information at the next Sustainability Commission meeting.

Commissioners discussed the wrap options and provided feedback, such as ensuring that the graphic provides clarity on what can be put in compost and using a mascot.

Commissioner Waters agreed to join the subcommittee.

B. Urban Landscape Ordinance.

Staff Liaison Howe provided an update regarding the Urban Landscape Ordinance and noted the regulation changes in the sections. The primary change will be in the enforcement sections of the Ordinance.

C. Jay McCleary Award.

Staff Liaison Howe stated there is no update on new applicants and would follow up.

Commissioners discussed outreach ideas to increase applicant submissions. Staff Liaison Howe suggested that the Commissioners reach out to their personal networks to spread the word in the community. Commissioner Waters suggested reaching out to the school, and Commissioner Wert suggested reaching out to local scout groups.

D. 7th Street Pollinator Project.

Commissioner Wert reviewed the pollinator project and explained the process of planting pollinators in the proposed area and noted that it would be a three-year process. She addressed the volunteer opportunities to maintain the pollinator plantings. The Sustainability Commission could hold the funds for any donations that come through for the pollinator project. Staff Liaison Howe clarified that if the Commission had a donation fund, the City Council would need to pass a Resolution accepting the donation funds.

Commissioner Wert and Staff Liaison Howe agreed to have a meeting with the finance department to discuss how funding would be handled.

Commissioner Wert noted that the project may be delayed a year.

Staff Liaison Howe recommended including a memorandum of understanding agreement since the pollinator planting will be installed on City property, but it will be maintained by an outside party.

Chair Brown summarized that there are lingering questions regarding volunteer capacity, maintenance plans, and finances.

9. Announcements

A. Topics for Future Agendas.

Chair Brown noted the topics for future agendas included the Jay McCleary Award, the Bike Red Wing initiative, the Organics Project, and the 7th Street Pollinator Project.

E. Next Meeting Date: June 23, 2026.

The meeting and workshop schedule was reviewed, and scheduling challenges were discussed.

10. Adjournment

Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

**Red Wing Sustainability Commission
Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers
June 23, 2026**

Members Present: Chair Maddie Brown; Commissioners Brian Waters, Kristen Wert, Mark Berman, Dan Evanson, Peter Haug, and Hugh Brown

Members Absent: All members were in attendance

Others Present: Brandy Howe, Staff Liaison; Kim Beise, Council Liaison

1. Call to Order

Chair Maddie Brown called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted. Chair Brown and Commissioners Waters, Wert, Berman, Evanson, Haug, H. Brown, and Council Liaison Kim Beise were present.

3. Red Wing Sustainability Vision & Mission Statement

Chair Brown read the Sustainability Commission Vision & Mission Statement.

4. Workshop Items

A. Jay McCleary Award.

Staff Liaison Howe noted that she has not received any applications and that there may need to be additional outreach.

Chair Brown reviewed what the Jay McCleary Award is and noted that it highlights contributions to the community towards sustainability. She asked the Commissioners for outreach ideas.

The Commissioners discussed getting the word out with their network, posting on the City's Facebook page, having a designated submission page on the City's website, and reviewing previous candidates.

Liaison Howe mentioned the local radio station and that the mayor has a regular spot, and the Commission could possibly promote nominations for the award.

Chair Brown asked Liaison Howe if she could reach out to Communications and Engagement Officer Leise about additional outreach ideas and the potential of the Sustainability Commission being able to promote nominations on the local radio channel with the mayor.

The Commissioners discussed extending the deadline to July and reviewing previous candidates from last year.

Chair Brown requested that each Commissioner bring their top recommendations for candidates to the new Sustainability Commission meeting.

B. Organics Drop-Off.

Commissioner Waters/Evanson reviewed the organics drop-off project. The Red Wing Waste Campus ran a pilot organics waste project with a single drop-off site and was looking for a way to extend the project. Commissioners Waters and Evanson met with the Red Wing Waste Campus and supported adding an organics drop-off box at the end of Bush Street. The Sustainability Commission committed \$1,500 to help purchase the box. An email was sent to the Commissioners regarding examples of wraps for the box.

The Commissioners discussed the potential timeline for when the box would be installed. Chair Brown summarized that the box would likely be installed in late summer or early fall.

Commissioner Waters/Evanson suggested having an information booth at the farmers' market to promote the organics drop-off program.

Commissioner Wert asked if the City sent postcard mailers to promote programs. Chair Brown replied that the back of City utility bills includes City announcements and mentioned that it could be a good opportunity to put a promotion of the organics drop-off program on the utility bill.

The Commissioners discussed compost bags. Chair Brown noted that there would be giveaways for organic bags.

The Commissioners discussed the quality of the compost and a deadline for determining the design of the organics drop-off box.

C. Bike Red Wing Initiative.

Chair Brown introduced the item and noted that a resident spoke during public comment about a bicycle initiative to encourage biking and make it safer for bikers to ride instead of driving in the City. She referenced an email sent by the resident about steps he has taken since the previous Sustainability Commission meeting. She added that the resident and the Commission could write a grant for funding.

Commissioner Wert volunteered to write a grant application. She requested additional information from the resident on what he would like to see in the City to encourage more biking.

The Commissioners discussed the possibility of a bike and pedestrian map within the City and the City's Road Safety Action Plan results.

D. Colvill Prairie Pollinator Project.

Commissioner Wert reviewed the Colvill Prairie Pollinator Project and noted that the Commission decided to wait to do the plantings until 2027. She noted that she would write a grant through the Wings Foundation and mentioned the high school's involvement with the plantings for the project.

5. Announcements

A. Topics for Future Agendas.

Future agenda topics were discussed, including River City Days, Trunk or Treat, and a request to speak at the Shade Tree Advisory.

A. Next Meeting Date: July 28, 2026.

The meeting and workshop schedule was reviewed, and scheduling challenges were discussed.

6. Adjournment

Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [Howe, Brandy](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Jay McCleary Sustainability Award 2025
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 12:26:33 PM

Jay McCleary Sustainability Award 2025

Your Information

Name	William Gehn
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Email	william_gehn@hotmail.com
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Phone Number	651-388-7541
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Business, Organization, or Individual You Are Nominating

Name of the business, organization or individual you are nominating	Evan Brown
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Email	evan.brown@ci.red-wing.mn.us
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Phone Number	651-347-9084
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Why are you recommending this business, organization, or individual?	In the 10 years that I have known Evan, working together on the Sustainability Commission for about 5 years, and afterwards, I have seen his admirable efforts, and the effective results he has achieved, in advancing sustainable practices in Red Wing.
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In what activities has the business, organization or individual been involved with that demonstrates a commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship?	Evan created a legacy of 40+ years of improved air quality & cost savings in the city, by recognizing the potential, and working to bring the Green Fund into reality. Evan was a member of the Red Wing Sustainability Commission in its formative years. Evan then transitioned to the City Council, where he also served as Council Liason to the Sustainability Commission for at least 5 years. He has worked effectively behind the scenes, and visibly in City Council sessions, to enable Red Wing to install the first public EV DC Fast Charger in the entire southeast MN region in 2018. Most notably, his work to create the "Green Fund" paid dividends, when the City Council approved creation of this new "Green Fund" in mid-2022. This "Green Fund" is taking the city's electrical energy savings, generated by the city's solar arrays, and investing those savings into sustainable practices and projects. The importance of this "Green Fund" implementation is significant, yet may be under-appreciated/unknown. Since the life of these solar arrays is at least 40 years, this represents a significant revenue stream. One of the initial impactful projects funded by the "Green Fund" was
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the purchase and deployment of the city's first electric vehicle, a Chevy Bolt EUV, being used by the Building Inspection Department since early March 2023. (Due to the EV's success, a 2nd Bolt EV has since been purchased by the city.). The Green Fund was planned to supply more than \$75,000 annually to sustainability projects, some of which may be enabling reduced-cost rain barrels to residents, demonstrating pollinator-friendly lawn conversions, and transitioning City-owned equipment & vehicles to electric power. Since 2023, public EV charging stations have been installed at City Hall and Old West Main Street, The resulting cost savings and cleaner air benefit all residents for decades into the future.

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [Howe, Brandy](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Jay McCleary Sustainability Award 2025
Date: Monday, June 30, 2025 4:50:26 PM

Jay McCleary Sustainability Award 2025

Your Information

Name	Hugh Brown
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Email	hugh@minnesotaturtle.com
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Phone Number	5079901707
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Business, Organization, or Individual You Are Nominating

Name of the business, organization or individual you are nominating	Joe Coyle / Ella Properties
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Email	jcoyle@startech-comp.com
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Phone Number	6129866572
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Why are you recommending this business, organization, or individual?	Joe has demonstrated a strong commitment to implementing and celebrating sustainability.
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In what activities has the business, organization or individual been involved with that demonstrates a commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship?	Joe has recently made the following sustainably-focused improvements to Ella Property Management's multi-tenant commercial property on Old West Main Street: - Installed a large solar array, offsetting most of the building's power consumption - Converted the boulevard in front of the building to a pollinator garden - Commissioned a local artist to paint a mural of pollinators in the building's front lobby
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Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



Online Form Submittal: Jay McCleary Sustainability Award 2026

From noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>
Date Wed 6/24/2026 11:01 AM
To Howe, Brandy <Brandy.Howe@redwingmn.gov>

Jay McCleary Sustainability Award 2026

Your Information

Name	Mark A Berman
Email	maberman7@gmail.com
Phone Number	6513342581

Business, Organization, or Individual You Are Nominating

Name of the business, organization or individual you are nominating	Jeff Lightfoot
Email	lightfoot.jeff56@gmail.com 218-290-7518.
Phone Number	218-290-7518

Why are you recommending this business, organization, or individual?	Jeff is a leading member of the Minnesota Driftless Chapter of The Prairie Enthusiasts. The Prairie Enthusiasts seek to ensure the perpetuation and recovery of prairie, oak savanna, and other associated ecosystems of the Upper Midwest through protection, management, restoration, and education.
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One of the key activities within the Prairie Enthusiasts is to conduct prescribed burns. Periodically burning native prairie habitat is vital to maintaining its health and functionality. Jeff frequently acts as a "burn boss" for these prescribed burns.

Jeff is also leading efforts towards prairie and savanna restoration on the Billings-Tomfohr Conservation Area in Red Wing. The Minnesota Driftless Chapter of The Prairie Enthusiasts received a Conservation Partners Legacy (CPL) Grant in 2025, and significant restoration work was accomplished with those funds.

Recently, another CPL grant was awarded, and phase 2 of the project will start in June. Phase 2 will consist of expanding on the work begun in 2025 and beginning new work on the

restoration of several previously untouched areas of the property.

In what activities has the business, organization or individual been involved with that demonstrates a commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship?	Jeff has volunteered as the "burn boss" for numerous prescribed burns within the Goodhue County area. This includes developing a burn plan, enlisting prescribed burn crew members, providing necessary equipment, monitoring for safe conditions and leading all activities on the burn date. Jeff is also organizing and conducting work days targeted towards achieving the goals established for the Billings-Tomfohr CPL grants. This includes setting work day dates, enlisting volunteers, developing a work plan and leading the effort on the work day.
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Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)