

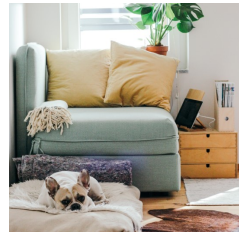


Sustainability Newsletter

Public Works & Engineering Division

ROSEVILLE SUSTAINABILITY

MARCH/APRIL 2023



Sustainability Tip of the Month— Tips for Renters



Less Mow May



Spring Garden Resources



Positive Climate News

Contact Us:

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Sustainability Tip of the Month

Sometimes sustainability conversations focus a lot on big projects homeowners can do, so this month we are promoting actions that are attainable for people renting their homes and apartments!

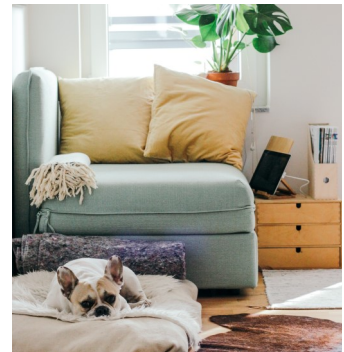


Photo by [Brina Blum](#) on [Unsplash](#)

- Swap out your light bulbs for LEDs (where possible).
- Install smart power strips that cut power to devices that don't need it.
- Compost food scraps—you can collect them in a used ice cream bucket on your counter and later bring them to [Roseville's drop site](#) when it's full.
- Do you have a balcony? Consider putting a few native plants in pots (especially if you get a good amount of daily sun).
 - [What can I plant for pollinators on my balcony?](#)
 - [How to grow a butterfly garden pot](#)
- Do you pay for your unit's utilities? Sign up for [Windsorce®](#) or [Renewable*Connect®](#) through Xcel Energy to source your electricity from renewable sources.
- Furnish your home with secondhand furniture and accessories. Take advantage of the Twin Cities' [rich network of vintage and reuse stores!](#)

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Less Mow May



After an enthusiastic response from the community in May 2022, Roseville City Council passed a resolution in January 2023 supporting the initiative known as “No Mow May” in many areas, rebranding Roseville’s response as “Less Mow May” based on feedback from residents and staff.

Less Mow May is an effort to support pollinators who emerge from hibernation or migrate to Minnesota in early spring and are in deep need of nectar and pollen for food. Common lawn “weeds” such as dandelion, clover, wood sorrel, and even Creeping Charlie can provide much-needed nutrition to these important insects. One in three bites of the food we eat are available thanks to pollinators!

Homeowners and renters of homes with lawns (with property owner consent) can visit cityofroseville.com/lessmowmay to learn more and reserve a free yard sign.

Spring Garden Resources

Even though winter feels like it will never end (and, fun fact, [increased frequency of snowstorms](#) is an effect of climate change), spring is coming. There are lots of resources for gardeners looking ahead to spring projects that we've assembled here:



Photo by [Yoksel Zok](#) on [Unsplash](#)

- **[City of Roseville Tree sale](#)**— the tree sale is now open, and residents can purchase up to 2 trees per Roseville address. Act fast to purchase your favorite trees since they sell out quickly! Trees will be available to pick up on May 13th, 2023 from 9am-noon at the [Roseville Public Works Building](#).
- **[Roseville Community Garden Plots](#)**—Roseville has 120 plots available at Oasis Park. Reservations are currently open for returning gardeners, and will open to new applicants on Marcy 27th. Single plots are \$24, or \$22 for Roseville residents.
- **[Compost bin sale](#)**—The Recycling Association of Minnesota is selling compost bins for \$76 plus tax this year, and **Ramsey County residents can receive a \$20 discount**. Order online at [RecycleMinnesota.org](#) and enter promo code "Ramsey."
- **Looking for help with a pollinator-friendly garden project?** Grants are available for development of rain gardens, bee lawns, and other similar garden projects from the following places:
 - **[Lawns to Legumes](#)**— taking applications for cost-share grants of up to \$350 to create pollinator habitat for the 2023 fall cohort.
 - **Watershed districts** also have similar grant programs for projects that improve water quality and protect native plants and wildlife. **[Check which watershed you are in](#)** and learn more about their grant options:
 - [Capitol Region Watershed District](#)
 - [Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District](#)
 - [Rice Creek Watershed District](#)

Upcoming Events



[Tapping Time at Harriet Alexander Nature Center](#)— **Saturday, March 25th, 10am-4pm and again on Sunday, March 26, noon-4pm.** Volunteers will be tapping maple trees, collecting sap and boiling it to make delicious maple syrup. We'll also have hands-on youth activities, exploration stations, naturalist-led tree ID walks, maple popcorn samples, and product sales and syrup tasting by Faxon Farms. Drop in anytime; stay as long as you like!

[Earth Day at Harriet Alexander Nature Center](#)—**Saturday, April 22nd, 10am-2pm.** Celebrate the Earth, as well the Nature Center's 33rd birthday! There will be lots of fun activities for kids—we will be creating DIY bee and insect hotels!

[Citywide Clean-Up Day](#)—**Saturday, April 22nd, 8am-3pm.** Do you have items sitting around your house that need to be disposed of but can't go in a trash cart? Bring them to Roseville's Clean Up Day at the Dale Street Soccer Field Parking Lot, 2555 Dale Street.

[Environmental Service Center Community Conversations](#)—Ramsey County is planning to build a new Environmental Service Center at 1700 Kent Street, Roseville for hazardous waste and electronic waste disposal, along with reuse and fix-it opportunities. Learn more at an upcoming community meeting, in person or on Zoom!

[Active Living Ramsey Communities Walking and Biking Team Meeting](#)—**Thursday April 6th, 6pm-8pm.** Join Active Living partners and MnDOT staff to discuss the [Highway 36 Multimodal Study](#) and provide your input.

Upcoming Events (continued)

Trees: Guardians of Health, Happiness, and Equity—Tuesday April 18th, 6:30pm. Join this webinar co-sponsored by Ramsey County Library and the Roseville Area League of Women Voters to learn about societal benefits of trees and the “100 Trees Project.” Register on Zoom via the link provided.

Sustainability Open House—Saturday, May 6th, 10am-12pm. Join Resilient Roseville, a local citizen group focused on sustainability, with other local groups to connect and learn what others are working on. In-person at the Autumn Grove Park Building, 1395 Lydia Ave W, Roseville. RSVP to alana.howey@gmail.com to indicate your interest and ask questions, and share with other Roseville groups!

Positive Climate News

New study proves success of insecticide regulations near the Great Lakes:

Concentrations of three banned insecticides are now too low for researchers to quantify, and are expected to disappear completely in 5-10 years.

City of Nottingham using spent EV batteries to store solar-generated power:

Used EV batteries that are too weak for vehicle usage are being put to work storing energy provided by solar panels, helping manage energy usage for city operations during both peak and off-peak times.



Thank you from your Roseville Sustainability Team!

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