



2020-2030

# HAWTHORN WOODS SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

PREPARED BY

**THE VILLAGE OF  
HAWTHORN WOODS**

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# INTRODUCTION

The 2020-2030 Sustainability Plan for the Village of Hawthorn Woods comes from an objective of our community to reflect on, learn from, grow with, and lead our region in programs and initiatives that will deliver a more livable present and future for all. By developing this document, the village seeks to deliver on necessary progress for sustainable principles over the next decade. Through collaboration from local to national organizations and partners, this plan was the culmination of goals and strategies recommended for our community to uphold and maintain our standing as one of the most sustainable communities in Northern Illinois, the Midwest, and in the United States.

Like so many other communities, we have brochures, educational signage, social media pages, flyers and handouts about our efforts and initiatives in the community to enhance, protect, and improve environmental efforts in our village. In 2019, the Village of Hawthorn Woods won the prestigious National Award for the best environmental efforts in any US city by America in Bloom. However, this is our first formal Sustainability Plan that focuses on why we do what we do, and creates priorities for financial, social, and environmental investments. This plan is intended to act as a roadmap for the community to advance our current programs and guide new initiatives that will balance the needs of the future with those of residents today. This plan will be linked to our municipal Budget Document, to integrate our financial expenditures with our environmental commitments to make our natural resource efforts and social achievements a lasting legacy for the Village of Hawthorn Woods.

This process is a self-accreditation exercise that will elevate us from being a leader in environmental initiatives to teaching others how to plan their efforts, as well. One of our objectives, once we have mastered this strategic plan, is to share it with others who may not have the time or resources to develop such a document for their city or village. This plan is intended to be a living document that will be revisited regularly by the Board of Trustees and The Village of Hawthorn Woods staff to measure progress and re-evaluate goals and strategies.

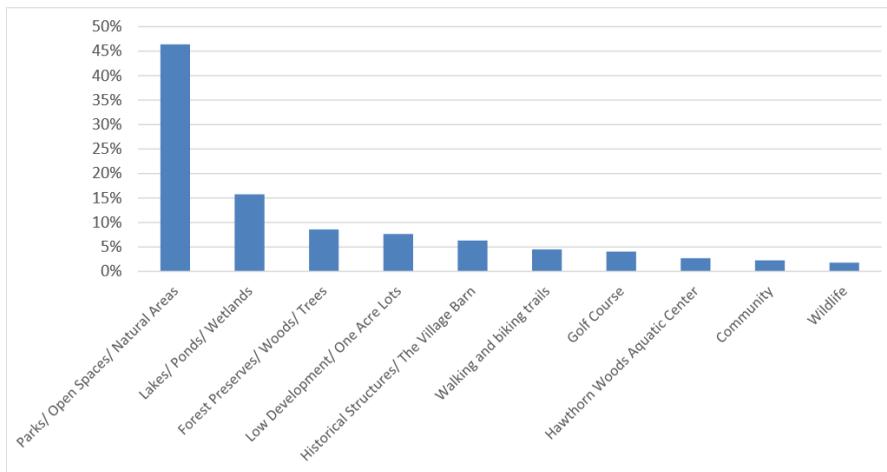


Hawthorn Woods is a community that is dedicated to the service of its residents. Only by meeting the priorities of village residents and preparing for needs for our future will the village be able to maintain and progress the excellent service that belongs in our region. The development and review process for this plan involved a consistent oversight and input from the Hawthorn Woods community through volunteer committees and survey responses. Residents of Hawthorn Woods that treasure and understand their hometown have invaluable knowledge about how they maintain their homes and what initiatives and goals make sense to them and their neighbors. Through this process of community involvement, the village hoped to design a plan that is effective, timely, and healthful for its environment, economy, and social community.





Residents who contributed to the online Audubon International Treasuring Home Survey in the spring of 2020 reflected on the actions they take and would like to see in their community. From this survey, this action plan can reflect what is already being done in our community, what its greatest assets are, and what needs to be improved.



### Survey Results: Personal Actions

Top sustainable practices being done by Hawthorn Woods respondents:

- Recycling and Purchasing Recycled Products (95%)
- Switching Lighting (87%)
- Mowing the Lawn at Proper Height (87%)

The actions with the lowest number of responses

- Helping to Participate in Community Projects (10%)
- Helping Schools with Environmental Stewardship Projects (5%)

### Survey Results: Actions Needed

Top answers to “What actions would you like to see your community take to address environmental concerns?”

- Preserve Open Space/Natural Areas (87%)
- Promote Renewable Energy (85%)
- Protect Drinking Water Quality (80%)
- Protect and Enhance Wildlife & Habitats (79%)
- Enhance Nature Trails (75%)
- Expand Walking and Biking Trails (73%)



# HOW TO USE THIS PLAN

## Example Goal and Strategies

**Goal: Conserve, restore, and enhance natural features and ecosystems.**

**NS 1 LT** - Use data such as the Green Infrastructure Vision and the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory, watershed plans, key natural assets, landscape features, parcels with high value for connectivity and ecosystem function ([Sustainability Committee, Planning, Building, and Zoning Commission](#))

- Goal is color coordinated to one of three categories: **Environment**, **Economy**, and **Society**
- Acronym for subcategory (Natural Systems, Planning and Design, Energy and Climate...)
- Numbered strategy for the category (1, 2, 3...)
- Timeline for strategy (Short Term 1-3 Years (ST), Long Term 3+ Years (LT), Ongoing (OG))
- Department or committee responsible for pursuing goal or strategy



**Goal: Conserve, restore, and enhance natural features and ecosystems.**

NS 1 LT - Using data such as the Green Infrastructure Vision and the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory, watershed plans, key natural assets, landscape features, parcels with high value for connectivity and ecosystem function (Sustainability Committee, Planning, Building, and Zoning Commission)

NS 2 OG - Prioritize the acquisition, dedication, and management of lands to create connected greenways (Community Development, Planning, Building, and Zoning Commission)

NS 3 OG - Collaborate to restore prairie, wetland, forest, and other important ecosystems in the community while monitoring and controlling invasive species in natural areas and throughout the community (Public Works, Parks and Recreation)

NS 4 OG – Maintain stewardship responsibilities through Tree City USA Designation to sustain a robust urban forest canopy (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

NS 5 LT - Sustain beautiful landscapes that provide ecosystem services with native landscaping on municipal grounds and community initiatives integrating color, texture, bloom times, and seasonal interest (Hawthorn Woods in Bloom Committee, Public Works)

**Indicators of Resource Flow Improvement**

- Recovery of land into more productive ecosystems for human and environmental health each year through an environmental stewardship plan
- Collection of accessible knowledge for village staff about what natural assets are available and how their value can be used (Tree Inventory, Wildlife Inventory, etc.)
- System of recording efficacy of stewardship efforts to increase productivity and effectiveness

## **Goal: Optimize the use of natural and constructed systems to manage stormwater**

NS 6 OG - Install and maintain bioswales, filter strips, trees, rain gardens, and other functional landscapes (Community Development, Public Works)

NS 7 ST - Encourage property owners to disconnect non-compliant downspouts and sump pumps from sewers and direct flow to landscaping (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

NS 8 OG - Create open networks throughout a community that serve a dual function of providing recreational areas and assisting in management of stormwater runoff (Parks and Recreation, Public Works)

NS 9 LT- Match parking requirements to the level of demand and allow flexible arrangements to meet parking standards. Encourage permeable pavement materials and natural vegetation swales. (Community Development, Planning, Building, and Zoning Commission)

### **Indicators of Adverse Outcome Reduction**

- Education efforts to community about stormwater and Low Impact Development (LID) options
- Decreased frequency and impact of damaging flood events

## **Goal: Conserve and provide quality water systems.**

NS 10 ST - Collaborate with regional initiatives to protect Lake Michigan and streams, rivers, and tributaries leading to the Mississippi River (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

NS 11 OG - Protect surface and groundwater from runoff and contamination such as pet waste, chemical contaminants, excess nutrients, etc. (Sustainability Committee)

NS 12 ST - Review and adopt codes to eliminate barriers to green infrastructure BMPs including cisterns, green roofs, bioswales, permeable paving (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

NS 13 ST - Amend code to require water efficiency and conservation in commercial and residential development such as landscape ordinance, lawn irrigation system ordinance, etc. (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

### **Indicator of System Condition Improvement**

- Changes to municipal ordinances to address barriers to green infrastructure
- Increased marine biodiversity protections and education opportunities

**Goal: Maintain clean and healthful air by reducing emissions of air pollutants harmful to human and environmental health.**

NS 14 ST - Discourage the use of high-emitting small engines, such as for landscaping (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

NS 15 LT - Reduce volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions for municipal operations by using low VOC cleaners, paints, and paving practices (Public Works, Finance Committee)

NS 16 ST - Measure and monitor GHG emissions and establish a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reduction target (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

NS 17 ST - Enact and enforce anti-idling policies for public fleet vehicles (Administration, Police Department)

NS 18 ST - Encourage residents and visitors to walk and bike (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

NS 19 ST - Adapt building codes to accommodate and encourage alternate fuel infrastructure (Administration, Planning, Building, and Zoning Commission)

**Indicators of Adverse Outcome Reduction**

- Greenhouse Gas inventory and emission reduction target for municipal operations
- Planning requirements ensure that all new developments connect trails and sidewalks within the development to nearby paths adjacent to the property
- Increase the miles of new and restored trails and bike paths within Hawthorn Woods

**Goal: Decrease waste generation and increase waste diversion from landfills in all sectors.**

NS 20 ST – Conduct waste audits to identify waste reduction opportunities (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

NS 21 ST - Support regional efforts for developing a food scrap composting service (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

NS 22 ST - Support exchange of goods and services among residents (i.e. Rummage Sale, Sporting Goods Swap) (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

NS 23 ST - Ban or discourage the use of products resulting in unmanageable waste (e.g. plastic bags) (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

NS 24 OG - Educate the community on recycling and composting practices  
(Administration, Sustainability Committee)

NS 25 OG - Avoid single-use plastics served at the Aquatic Center and for village-hosted events. Utilize compostable cutlery made from food products. (Parks and Recreation, Sustainability Committee)

**Indicators of Resource Flow Improvement**

- Increased participation in waste diversion services from residents such as recycling and food scrap composting
- Replacement of single use plastics from municipal functions
- Expansion of community education and incentives for reducing unmanageable waste





# ENVIRONMENT PLANNING AND DESIGN

**Goal: Encourage strategic development of land that upholds accessibility and sustainability principles.**

PD 1 ST - Revise and/or develop codes to promote sustainable building and site practices (Planning, Building, and Zoning Commission, Sustainability Committee)

PD 2 ST - Promote third party certification for sustainable private facilities (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

PD 3 OG - Enact and enforce policies to preserve dark skies and lighting standards (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

PD 4 OG - Encourage conservation design to protect natural resources (Community Development, Sustainability Committee)

PD 5 ST - Encourage planting and registering of pollinator gardens through the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge (Hawthorn Woods in Bloom Committee, Sustainability Committee)

PD 6 ST - Develop/ distribute a green building manual, including green roof design (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

## **Indicators of Value Creation**

- Create and give access to green building and development guides for community members
- Increase fuel and energy efficient practices and standards through 3rd party certification programs
- Maintain enforcement of Dark Sky International ordinances

**Goal: Support safe and effective transportation choices that use resources wisely.**

PD 7 ST - Identify gaps in pedestrian and the bicycle networks and barriers to active modes of travel (Administration, Community Development)

PD 8 OG - Work with developers to integrate and develop open space reserves and trails in developments (Community Development, Planning, Building, and Zoning Commission)

PD 9 LT - Use zoning and development regulations in strategic locations to increase walkability (Parks and Recreation, Planning, Building, and Zoning Commission)

PD 10 LT - Maintain efficient traffic flow within and around the community to reduce vehicle idling (Administration, Community Development)

**Indicators of System Condition Improvement**

- Growth of numbers and miles of bike and walking trails within Hawthorn Woods
- Decreased vehicle use miles per capita for residents
- Developed relationships with local bike shops and regional biking organizations
- Bike Path Trail Guide system installed across community

**Goal: Sustain beautiful and robust natural landscapes that can be effectively used by humans and animals.**

PD 11 LT - Maximize the amount of public spaces and parks accessible to residents and create Critter Crossings using open swales, culverts, and informational signage for motorists (Public Works, Parks and Recreation)

PD 12 ST - Support and promote strategies for successful family and community gardens (Parks and Recreation, Sustainability Committee)

PD 13 LT - Enhance natural features of stormwater detention and retention systems (Planning, Building, and Zoning Commission, Finance)

PD 14 OG - Collaborate to enhance wetlands for improved ecosystem services (Parks and Recreation, Sustainability Committee)

**Indicators of Resource Flow Improvement**

- Development of community garden within village
- Facilitation of yearly restoration and conservation efforts of owned natural properties that improve ecosystem vitality
- Track wildlife patterns within community



**Goal: Collect and manage data to advance sustainability initiatives.**

PD 15 OG - Report local and regional environmental data to advance national and international collaborative efforts (e.g., GHG reporting, water supply planning)  
(Administration, Sustainability Committee)

PD 16 OG - Leverage state/federal and private grants and resources to advance sustainability (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

PD 17 LT - Use 'smart' technology to efficiently manage waste, water, fleet, air, and energy data (Administration, Public Works)

PD 18 ST - Verify and report climate action to Carbon Climate Registry (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

**Indicators of System Condition Improvement**

- Pursue and/or acquire environmentally focused grant programs at least once per year
- Installation of smart technology in municipal run facilities that provide data for the advancement of initiatives



# ENVIRONMENT ENERGY AND CLIMATE

## **Goal: Minimize contributions to climate change in the form of greenhouse gases.**

EC 1 LT- Support energy audits and retro-commissioning studies of residential, commercial and institutional facilities (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EC 2 ST - Measure and monitor GHG from municipal operations (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EC 3 ST - Establish a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reduction target for municipal operations (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EC 4 ST - Adopt a Pay-As-You-Throw program to realize the real cost of consumption (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

### **Indicators of Resource Flow Improvement**

- A developed GHG emission inventory for municipal operations
- Establishment of an aggressive and yearly adjusted GHG emission reduction target based on reasonable expectations

## **Goal: Develop resilience to climate impacts.**

EC 5 ST - Assess infrastructure and public safety threats from extreme weather events such as floods, drought, and extreme heat (Administration, Public Works)

EC 6 ST - Plan for urban heat effects with Cool Communities development options (Administration, Planning, Building, and Zoning Commission)

EC 7 LT - Collaborate with state and federal partners to prepare for and respond to pest and disease threats to public health (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EC 8 OG- Design and construct smart and sustainable redevelopment projects for transportation (Administration, Community Development)

**Indicators of Value Creation**

- Completed assessment of public safety threat level from extreme weather events over upcoming decades
- Follow green development practices for new projects that account for climate stresses
- Education initiatives that demonstrate how climate stresses will affect the residents of Hawthorn Woods

**Goal: Advance opportunities for renewable energy by municipality and residents.**

EC 9 ST - Install and operate renewable energy systems at public works facility including solar panels (Grant Committee, Public Works)



EC 10 ST - Facilitate EV readiness in community through Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EC 11 ST - Adopt codes and permitting practices that support renewable energy systems in the community (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EC 12 ST - Support procurement of renewable energy through community choice aggregation (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EC 13 ST - Collaborate to provide alternative fuel infrastructure at public sites (Administration, Grants Committee)

**Indicators of Value Creation**

- Install and maintain EV charging stations within the village for the public
- Review of village code to assess barriers to renewable and alternative energy within public and private facilities

**Goal: Operate a safe, clean, and efficient fleet.**

EC 14 OG- Join Chicago Area Clean Cities Coalition and report reduction of petroleum fuel consumption annually (Administration, Public Works)



EC 15 ST - Enact and enforce anti-idling policies for public fleet vehicles (Administration, Public Works)

EC 16 ST - Conduct baseline fleet analysis (Administration, Public Works) EC 17 OG – Dedicate replacement of decommissioned fleet vehicles alternate fuel or electric/hybrid vehicles (Finance Committee, Police Department)

EC 18 OG – Purchase re-refined oil products for current fleet vehicles (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

**Indicators of Value Creation**

- Decreased level of GHG emissions from municipal operations in accordance to reduction goals
- Developed clean fleet of vehicles that decrease dependency on petroleum products





**Goal: Promote and embrace green innovation by residents and staff.**

ED 1 ST - Dedicate staff to direct sustainability initiatives (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

ED 2 OG - Engage residents through a sustainability, natural resources, and/or conservation subcommittee (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

ED 3 ST - Encourage residents and businesses to adopt green practices with recognition programs for participants (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

ED 4 OG - Create a community that is resilient and well-prepared for disaster (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

ED 5 OG - Reduce community water consumption per capita (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

**Indicators of System Condition Improvement**

- Developed participation and initiative output of Sustainability Committee
- Yearly assessment of resident and staff satisfaction and suggestions of green initiatives
- Invite residents and citizen organizations to supply suggestions for village projects

**Goal: Encourage local consumption of goods and access to green purchasing options.**

ED 6 ST - Adopt an environmental purchasing policy (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

ED 7 OG - Incorporate local and healthy options into public foodservice procurement and events (Parks and Recreation, Sustainability Committee)

ED 8 OG – Purchase and promote landscape plants from locally-grown sources, whenever possible, to support the genetic integrity of local native plant communities (Hawthorn Woods in Bloom, Sustainability Committee)

#### **Indicators of Value Creation**

- Develop or adopt a recommended environmental purchasing policy for municipal operations
- Host a public event yearly that educated about or promoted local businesses

**Goal: Promote a sustainable and vibrant identity for the community that supports historical and cultural preservation.**

ED 9 OG - Create and promote a community brand featuring natural resources or cultural characteristics of community (Administration, Community Development)

ED 10 LT - Promote tourism featuring natural and cultural assets of the community (Administration, Community Development)

ED 11 OG - Guide future development to conserve natural topography, views, drainage patterns, existing vegetation, and historic or cultural assets (Administration, Community Development)

ED 12 OG - Integrate historical and cultural assets through community programming including recognition of historic stewardship of land by indigenous people (Administration, Parks and Recreation)

#### **Indicators of Value Creation**

- Increased access to cultural landmark education for residents
- Produce a green development guide that includes information on cultural and historical assets

**Goal: Increase access to sustainably grown local food.**

ED 13 LT - Collaborate to provide access to under-utilized land (i.e. utility right of ways) for trails, community gardens, and sustainable landscapes (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

ED 14 OG - Support local food production by assuring access to affordable land (Administration, Community Development)

ED 15 LT - Support local Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) projects (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

ED 16 ST - Educate and engage the community in a sustainable food culture  
(Administration, Sustainability Committee)

**Indicators of System Condition Improvement**

- Supported or developed community gardening projects
- Generate educational opportunities with municipally generated food
- Yearly educational opportunities about local food production options in HW





**Goal: Cultivate local and sustainable development, jobs, and businesses.**

EW 1 ST - Seek collaboration with the business sector to support municipal sustainability, (e.g., product stewardship) (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EW 2 LT - Facilitate ongoing education and publicity about the characteristics and benefits of more sustainable businesses – sharing best practices (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EW 3 ST - Provide tools for businesses to use to improve their sustainable development or green performance and certify that performance to potential customers (i.e., Green Lodging Program, LEED, or local green business award) (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EW 4 ST - Advocate for broad adoption of clean fuel fleets (i.e. utilities, businesses, other agencies etc.) (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EW 5 OG - Promote green building practices to residents, businesses, and developers (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

**Indicators of Value Creation**

- Recognition program for green businesses in the village
- Increased profitability of green businesses and business practices in the village
- Business income increase through fuel and energy efficiency
- Education equity between business sectors for green development options

**Goal: Advocate for the development of “green workforce” training and jobs.**

EW 6 LT - Track green jobs and assess workforce capacity (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EW 7 OG - Stimulate local and regional economy by offering regular programming on public lands (i.e., nature walks, artist retreats, ski or golf tournament) (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EW 8 ST - Offer environmental training and materials to visitors, residents, and the local business community (i.e., courses, seminars, websites, printed materials, videos, etc.) on various sustainability topics (i.e., IPM, landscaping, composting, green building, etc.) (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

EW 9 OG - Budget for publicity / education related to community's commitment to sustainability (Administration, Finance Committee)

EW 10 LT - Cultivate relationships with schools, research institutions, universities, and colleges to encourage municipal lands and buildings be used for educational programs by students and teachers (Administration, Parks and Recreation)

#### **Indicators of Value Creation**

- Growth of green job workforce employees and training opportunities
- Cultivated relationships with school districts for green education initiatives
- Provide job opportunities within the village that focus on green initiatives and programming

**Goal: Support youth training opportunities in green job skills and environmental or climate awareness.**

EW 11 ST - Offer opportunities for local schools to have field trips that involve outdoor education (Parks and Recreation, Sustainability Committee)

EW 12 ST - Introduce Parks and Recreation Programming and Camps that involve sustainability awareness and skill development (Parks and Recreation)

EW 13 ST - Engage with programs and organizations that typically hire or train young people for sustainability initiatives and volunteer efforts (Administration, Finance Committee)

#### **Indicators of Value Creation**

- Growth of local youth employment opportunities
- Community education equity by reaching all ages and abilities in green education and skills



**Goal: Promote housing and zoning policies that are equitable, and conservation focused.**

ASE 1 LT - Promote diversity of housing stock accessible to diverse residents (Administration, Community Development)

ASE 2 ST - Identify existing Code impediments sustainable building and site best practices (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

ASE 3 OG - Integrate resiliency into land development decisions (Administration, Community Development)

ASE 4 ST - Require commercial and multi-family recycling (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

ASE 5 LT - Encourage the development of compact and complete residential neighborhoods (Administration, Community Development)

ASE 6 OG - Enforce soil erosion and sediment control regulations for construction sites (Police Department, Community Development)

#### **Indicators of System Condition Improvement**

- Increased recycling rate for commercial and residential facilities
- Produce a green development guide that is readily available to local developers
- Increased green retrofitting incentives and information available for residents

**Goal: Foster networks of support for greater livability in the community.**

ASE 7 OG - Promote beauty and livability in community design, stewardship, and through partnerships (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

ASE 8 ST - Maintain organic community gardens; provide opportunities for homeowners and guests to participate in gardening activities (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

ASE 9 OG - Provide transportation to and information about voting throughout the year (Administration)

ASE 10 ST - Collaborate with programs to support our residents in Aging in Place (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

### **Indicators of System Condition Improvement**

- Release of an updated guide on Aging in Place in Hawthorn Woods
- Implement regular volunteer restoration projects on municipal property to remove invasive species
- Support the expansion of pollinator habitat annually with residents and through Bee City USA

### **Goal: Sustain community principles that are welcoming, inclusive, and equitable.**

ASE 11 OG - Distribute public services and resources equitably in the community (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

ASE 12 ST - Encourage patronage by all demographics (discrimination-free resident, guest, or visitor policy) (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

ASE 13 OG - Integrate planning, policies, and programs to accommodate residents of all ages and abilities (Administration, Sustainability Committee, Parks and Recreation)

ASE 14 OG - Engage civic, faith-based, recreational, and other community group membership numbers in program implementation (Administration, Sustainability Committee, Parks and Recreation)

ASE 15 OG - Track population trends to address diversifying population or maximizing the marketing of current trends (i.e., seasonal residents, retirees, education levels, household incomes, etc.) (Administration, Community Development)

ASE 16 LT - Collaborate to assure equitable access to quality education in the community (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

### **Indicators of System Condition Improvement**

- Establish a discrimination-free resident, guest, or visitor policy
- Demonstration of how new initiatives and projects reflect the population of the village



**Goal: Foster a culture of health, safety, and wellness.**

HS 1 OG - Prioritize safe practices and collaborate to reduce accidental injuries and death (Administration, Police Department)

HS 2 ST - Promote and facilitate advisory group or wellness committee that is working to increase and improve active living, healthy eating, and tobacco-free lifestyles (Health and Wellness Committee)

HS 3 ST - Policy for limiting the advertising and promotion of less healthy foods and beverages in locations controlled by local city or county government buildings, parks, recreation centers (Administration, Parks and Recreation, Health and Wellness Committee)

HS 4 OG - Protect all residents from the effects of pollution (Administration, Parks and Recreation, Health and Wellness Committee)

**Indicators of Adverse Outcome Reduction**

- Establishment of a new wellness volunteer committee to the Village Board of Trustees or add a health and wellness duty to a current committee
- Regulations over advertisements over unhealthy products within municipally operated facilities
- Provided public information on financial or assessment tools to facilitate disaster mitigation
- upgrades needed at homes and businesses

**Goal: Maintain spaces for mental and physical wellness.**

HS 5 LT - Collaborate to offer active and healthy lifestyle programs to residents (Administration, Parks and Recreation, Health and Wellness Committee)

HS 6 ST - Advertise the mental health benefits of spending time outdoors and offer locations for the enjoyment of natural spaces and encourage their usage. (Sustainability Committee, Parks and Recreation, Health and Wellness Committee)

HS 7 ST - Connect community members to existing services that support health and wellness (Administration, Parks and Recreation, Health and Wellness Committee)

HS 8 OG - Offer recreational opportunities and healthy eating choices for all age groups (Administration, Parks and Recreation, Health and Wellness Committee)

HS 9 ST - Become a Play Friendly Community (Administration, Parks and Recreation, Health and Wellness Committee)

HS 10 LT - Provide bicycle parking at municipal facilities, business districts and transit stations and in neighborhoods (Administration, Sustainability Committee, Health and Wellness Committee)

HS 11 ST - Create on-site activities for locations such as a wildlife inventory at Brierwoods to help people identify with recreation experiences (Administration, Parks and Recreation)

### Indicators of System Condition Improvement

- Development of a comprehensive map of recreation opportunities for guests, residents, and potential new residents
- Residents of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds have access and are satisfied with options for recreation
- Growth of programs and projects that draw residents and visitors to physical activity within village



## Goal: Develop effective plans for emergency management and disaster prevention.

HS 12 OG - Encourage elected and executive-level officials to participate in the emergency management planning process, including exercises (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

HS 13 ST - Designate a single point-of-contact (e.g., public information officer) for dealing with news media and the public during emergencies and disasters (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

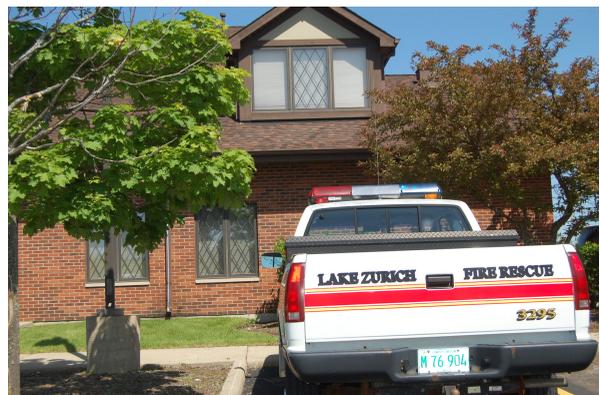
HS 14 ST - Coordinate Covid-19 Pandemic response with local and regional institutions and re-open on a schedule that reduces harm of increased infections and economic depression (Administration)

HS 15 OG – Track responses to previous disasters and adjust and learn lessons from past instances (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

HS 16 OG – Document and address inequalities that become increasingly visible during and after an emergency period (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

### Indicators of Adverse Outcome Reduction

- Approached COVID-19 response with a harm reduction strategy that protected employees and residents from high transmission risks (Administration)
- Generation of reports and data on the effectiveness of response to COVID-19 and reflections on how to prepare for other disaster responses (Administration)
- Acknowledgement and addressing the inequalities visible during disaster response (Administration)





**Goal: Seek out community designations that educate and promote sustainability principles to staff and residents.**

AEC 1 OG – Designate Hawthorn Woods as a Greenest Region Compact Sustainable Community and fulfill the responsibilities and requirements to maintain that certification

AEC 2 OG - Designate Hawthorn Woods as a Tree City USA Community and fulfill the responsibilities and requirements to maintain that certification

AEC 3 OG - Designate Hawthorn Woods as a Bee City USA Community and fulfill the responsibilities and requirements to maintain that certification

AEC 4 OG - Designate Hawthorn Woods as a Sol Smart Community and fulfill the responsibilities and requirements to maintain that certification

AEC 5 OG - Designate Hawthorn Woods as a Audubon International Green Community and fulfill the responsibilities and requirements to maintain that certification

AEC 6 OG - Designate Hawthorn Woods as a Dark Sky International Community and fulfill the responsibilities and requirements to maintain that certification

AEC 7 OG - Partner with non-governmental organization to advance sustainability in the community and regionally such as America in Bloom

AEC 8 OG - Participate with regional, state and federal initiatives to plan and achieve sustainability (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 9 ST - Share information about municipal leadership in sustainability broadly in the community and externally (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 10 ST - Seek recognition for community sustainability achievements (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

#### **Indicators of System Condition Improvement**

- Annual promotion of community distinctions through events and education initiatives
- Maintain staff and volunteer resources to efficiently upkeep with the responsibilities of the community programs

**Goal: Publicly recognize and engage community members that follow or innovate green initiatives.**

AEC 11 LT - Reach out and remove barriers to include all residents in civic affairs (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 12 ST - Assure community education messages are accessible in multiple languages and formats (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 13 ST - Publicly recognize institutional and private buildings that achieve specific energy efficiency targets (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 14 ST - Create an award or recognition program to encourage and report sustainable behaviors for residents at home (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 15 ST - Create an award or recognition program to encourage and report sustainable actions by local businesses (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

#### **Indicators of System Condition Improvement**

- Creation of award or recognition program for green innovation for commercial and residential initiatives

**Goal: Offer opportunities for volunteerism and private action of sustainability principles by residents.**

AEC 16 ST - Engage community volunteers in land stewardship activities on public and shared landscapes throughout the year (Parks and Recreation, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 17 ST - Enlist volunteer groups to help in acquisition and stewardship of public lands (Parks and Recreation, Sustainability Committee)



AEC 18 OG - Engage residents in sustainability initiatives through a sustainability-focused citizen committee of the Board of Trustees (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 19 ST - Develop incentives for volunteers (i.e. volunteer of the year awards, event attendance awards, vote for your favorite volunteer activity, etc.) (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 20 ST - Collaborate to raise watershed awareness and foster stewardship (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 21 OG - Drive municipal sustainability initiatives after the needs and priorities of residents (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

### **Indicators of Value Creation**

- Act on the resident led initiatives within the Sustainability Committee
- Create a community volunteer database where committees needing more volunteers can appeal to a specific audience
- Collaboration with outside organizations for education and sustainability actions within the village

### **Goal: Integrate sustainability education into community events and locations.**

AEC 22 ST - Operate an environmental demonstration site/ learning center (Administration, Parks and Recreation)

AEC 23 OG – Contain in newsletters and E-Blasts sustainability information to be distributed to residents (Administration)

AEC 24 ST – Create and maintain an active sustainability web page on the village website with updates on current programs and initiatives as well as resources for more information (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 25 ST – Maintain informational signage and demonstration sites throughout Village Hall and open space (Administration, Parks and Recreation)

AEC 26 ST - Engage the community in programs and special events to celebrate nature, such as Arbor Day and Earth Day (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 27 ST - Procure local food and goods, reduce generated waste, and conserve possible energy at publicly hosted events (Administration, Parks and Recreation)

AEC 28 OG - Use community festivals, lectures, workshops and other events to share information about sustainability (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

### Indicators of System Condition Improvement

- Creation of an environmental demonstration site
- Maintained current and relevant sustainability page for all residents
- Most every person who comes to Hawthorn Woods is aware of its sustainability initiatives

### Goal: Promote local cultural vibrancy in the community.

AEC 29 OG - Require all new development to be sensitive to local culture and history (i.e., buildings like regional architecture, culture) (Administration, Community Development)



AEC 30 ST - Integrate historical and cultural assets through community programming (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 31 LT - Preserve and maintain the community's historic assets and celebrate our cultural heritage. (Administration, Community Development)

AEC 32 LT - Recognize human and ecological history of the area before the establishment of the Village (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 33 ST - Develop an inventory of existing ecotourism, civic tourism, cultural and historic tourism, and adventure travelers and businesses for use in the creation of lists of activities and attractions that could enhance current offerings (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

AEC 34 ST – Continue to showcase the community in local, state and national programs and grant competitions, including the America in Bloom National Awards Program, the Audubon International Community designation, the International Dark Sky Association, and several other programs and initiatives that highlight our municipality's achievements (Administration, Sustainability Committee)

### Indicators of System Condition Improvement

- Have Hawthorn Woods develop the reputation as the premier sustainable community in Northern Illinois