



## City of Mercer Island – Sustainability Profile

### ***City Overview***

The [City of Mercer Island](#), population 23,577, is a community in the middle of Lake Washington. As defined in the city comprehensive plan, Mercer Island strives to be a sustainable community – meeting the needs of the present while preserving the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. To lessen its environmental footprint, the city is taking steps to reduce energy use, water use, waste and carbon output through efficient facility management, thoughtful use of resources and increasing behavioral changes. The city supports clean transportation alternatives by investing in trails, bicycle paths, access to transit and an electric vehicle infrastructure. The community commitment to sustainability is manifested in the local community groups that focus on sustainability issues such as [IslandVision](#), a community organization, and the [Green Ribbon Commission](#), a group of residents, elected officials, city staff, and community organizations. Mercer Island is also a founding partner of the [King County Cities Climate Collaboration](#).

### ***Recent Accomplishments***

- *Regional Collaboration* – The City participates in the C-7 Sustainable Cities to identify regional opportunities for collaboration on sustainability activities.
- *Clean Transportation* – Six publicly available electric vehicle charging stations are being installed in 2011.
- *Target Setting* – The City has adopted the goal of reducing the community green house gas emissions recorded in 2000 by 80% by 2050.
- *Communication* – The Mercer Island Weekly is an electronic newsletter that provides information on city activities and events including environmental and sustainability issues. The city also utilizes water bill inserts to encourage residents to choose sustainable practices.
- *Community Events* – The City promotes local sustainability through the annual [Leap for Green](#) earth day celebration, and other “You” Powered events that encourage participants to bicycle or walk. The city also hosts a weekly [Farmers Market](#) which encourages resident to support local business by purchasing produce from regional farms.
- *Green Business* – The city has partnered with the [Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce](#), [IslandVision](#) and the [Green Ribbon Commission](#) to help local businesses adopt sustainable practices and recognize them through a shop local program.

***City Contacts:***

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