



City of Portland Sustainability Goals

As we celebrate Earth Day this April, it is a good time to be reminded of our goals and the part OMF plays in encouraging sustainable practices. The City of Portland is known nationally and internationally as a leader in environmental and energy policy. Popsci.com has ranked the City of Portland #1 amongst the **Greenest Cities in the Nation**. Across Portland, half of the power comes from renewable sources, a quarter of the workforce commutes by bike, carpool, or public transportation, and we have 35 buildings certified by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Since the early 1990s, the City of Portland has proactively adopted policies to support and encourage sustainable alternatives. In 1993, Portland became **the first local government** in the U.S. to adopt a **carbon dioxide emissions reduction plan**. This action was followed by the adoption of Sustainable City Principles in 1994. The Office of Management and Finance has been actively involved in the development of many innovative sustainability policies and programs, such as sustainable procurement, green building, idle reduction policy and more.

Here are a few of the most recent sustainable policies adopted by City Council:

- Sustainable City Principles
- Green Building Policy
- Sustainable Paper Use Policy
- Sustainable Procurement Policy
- Toxics Reduction Strategy
- Idle Reduction Policy

A Bit of Earth Day History



After witnessing the ravages of the 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California, earth day founder Gaylord Nelson, a former U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, realized that energizing the public around air and water pollution would force environmental protection onto the national political agenda.

On the 22nd day of April, 20 million Americans took to the streets and parks to demonstrate for a healthy, sustainable environment in massive coast-to-coast rallies. Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political alignment, enlisting support from Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, urban dwellers and farmers, mature and young adult citizens.

The creation of the US Environment Protection Agency, the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts were the result of the first Earth Day.

Learn how to [join the movement](#).