



Brandt Richardson
County Administrator
www.dakotacounty.us

Gail Plewacki
Communications Director

Sharon Madsen
Communications
651-438-4235

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michelle Beeman, 952- 891-7004

June 18, 2008

Greening Dakota County

County Board of Commissioners adopts greening initiative

At the June 17 County Board meeting, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution to participate in a county-wide greening initiative through the Dakota County High Performance Partnership (HiPP).

The High Performance Partnership began in 2004 to identify collaborative opportunities for local governments in Dakota County. In late 2007, the steering committee, consisting of representatives from throughout Dakota County, focused on a county-wide sustainability effort that would address lowering energy consumption and the county's impact on the environment. This new "greening" initiative is co-chaired by Commissioner Nancy Schouweiler (Dakota County), Mayor Holly Dahl (Lakeville) and Assistant to the City Administrator Dianne Miller (Eagan).

Through this collaborative effort, Dakota County will conduct a greenhouse gas inventory of its government operations. The inventory will be used as a tool to inform next steps to save energy and build more sustainable practices in government operations.

While the inventory work is under way, greening initiative committees will continue to meet on a regular basis. County and city staff, as members of the greening committees, will gather to evaluate best practices, develop "green" strategies and integrate collaborative efforts in their respective communities.