

## Cleveland Clean Air Century Campaign meeting 9.24.08

Present: Emily Lee, Abbey Lukianowicz, Lisa Camardo, Chris Trepal, Brad Chase (Green City Blue Lake), Eleanor Bykoski, Richard King, Stu Greenberg, Matt Berges, Frank Foley, Jackie Henderson, George Coder, Mike Bower, Michelle Bower, David Heard, Keith Riley, Mary Farrell, Stephanie Spear, Cynthia Richards, Jim Marconi, Mira Banugaria

Linda and Sanda – Welcome by facilitators

Introductions

Brad Chase (GreenCityBlueLake Institute) – overview of carbon footprint program & results so far:

First project since merger, 3 areas:

- Carbon footprint data collection methodology
- Footprint for the Natural History Museum applicable to others
- Transition plan – strategies and policy changes that can have a significant impact in the distant future

- Outreach – take plans to groups, govt. and businesses – how to become a carbon neutral region by 2030. – Developing arguments for why everyone should get involved in carbon footprint reduction.

- Climate change strategy: educating every individual that small changes make a difference that compounds in time.

- Princeton stabilization triangle: increasing CO<sub>2</sub> production, and how to stabilize it – break the problem into smaller pieces

- McKinsey abatement curve – analysis of opportunities to act individually and collectively (McKinsey report, Reducing US Greenhouse Emissions, 2007)

- 37 states have completed action plans or are in progress (Ohio does not have a plan yet) (“Charting the Midwest”)

- estimates using ICLEI software (Local Governments for Sustainability)

CO<sub>2</sub> output = # vehicles x utilization x fuel efficiency x fuel co<sub>2</sub> intensity (decrease all but the fuel efficiency) → strategies:

- Pay full cost of externalities – congestion, pollution roads, parking, climate change
- Reduce need to travel - Demand management, modal shifts, transportation & land use planning

- win-win strategies (“Win-win emission reduction strategies”)

- [www.apta.com/info/online/documents/land\\_use.pdf](http://www.apta.com/info/online/documents/land_use.pdf)

- CAFE rules
- scenarios – for how to get from 14.5 M tons to 3-4 tons
- calculate footprint: [www.gobl.org/climatechange](http://www.gobl.org/climatechange) & [www.gobl.org/transitionplans](http://www.gobl.org/transitionplans)

Environmental Health Watch – Stu & Matt – new program for affordable green housing – Affordable Green Housing Center (Mandy Metcalf, Director) – ewh.org

- healthy indoor environment
- lower utility costs
- lower environmental impact
- sustainable community

Focus on renovation of existing houses but also new construction – what can be done in homes?

- o 12.7 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub> per household
- o Those who need it the most can afford it the least
- o Understand the house as a system (moisture, heat transfer, interrelationships) – home energy audits
- o Efficiency upgrades – air sealing, insulating, etc.- [www.energystar.com](http://www.energystar.com)
- o Deep energy retrofits

### **What do people do? Discussion**

- Rain barrels, redoing offices, home game with electricity bill – lowering costs, navy-style showers, cats who don't like air conditioning, motion sensors, shutting off some of the lights at work, began diets, reduce meat intake, change eating habits (with side benefits), belong to CSA, sprout, grow stuff in the garden, get local with the food, can, weed-and-feed, compost, help the neighbors recycle
- Political choices are important! CAFE standards, subsidies for alternative energy

## Carbon Footprint Survey Results

### Lifestyle:

- I use water efficiently-6
- I buy/eat organic food-9
- I compost-5
- I bring my own bags to the market-6
- I buy "local" whenever possible-6
- I am a recycler-10
- I switch off the lights upon exiting a room-12
- I unplug my small/large appliance-5
- I use a water-efficient showerhead-9
- I don't let my car idle for long periods-12
- I use a manual or electric lawnmower/leafblower-2
- I wash my clothes in cold water-8

### Work:

- I recycle paper, waste, and cardboard-11
- I bring my lunch, or walk to the local eatery instead of driving-12
- I turn off my monitor and/or work station when not there-6
- I make double-sided copies whenever possible-10

### Commute:

- I commute to work by public transportation-2
- I bike to work-0
- I walk to work-1
- I carpool to work-1
- I drive a hybrid-1
- I use renewable fuels-0

### Energy:

- I use energy efficient lighting-compact fluorescent lighting-14
- I use solar or wind power-2
- I have energy/star appliances-9

So, what are most people doing to decrease their carbon footprint?

Over half of the people who attended the meeting are:

Recycling (at home and at work), switching off the lights upon exiting a room, not idling their cars, bring their lunch/or walk to the local eatery instead of driving, make double-sided copies whenever possible, and use energy efficient lighting-compact fluorescent lighting

For additional information on how reduce greenhouse gas emissions:

US EPA

<http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/wycd/home.html>

Environmental Health Watch

[http://www.ehw.org/AGHC/HGAH\\_home.htm](http://www.ehw.org/AGHC/HGAH_home.htm)

GreenCityBlueLake Institute

<http://www.cmnh.org/site/Sustainability/ClimateActionPlan.aspx>