

The following is a chronological listing of significant City of Little Rock sustainability initiatives and partnerships. If you notice errors or omissions please let us know. For additional information please contact Melinda Glasgow at mglasgow@littlerock.gov.



- 1999 — Light reflective roof membranes were put on some City facilities.
- 2002 — The City partnered with Johnson Control Inc. (JCI) to evaluate energy efficiency of city facilities. This is an ongoing partnership.
- 2003 — All City stop lights, street lights, and cross signals were changed to LEDs.
- 2008 — The City landfill began harvesting and selling methane gas through their partnership with Johnson Control Inc.
- 2010 — The City placed 37,000 CFL bulbs with residents to help educate citizens about the vital need to conserve energy.
- 2010 — The LR Zoo's fleet is two-thirds electric vehicles.
- 2010 — The LR Zoo has converted 90% of their lighting to energy efficient T-8 fluorescent light bulbs.
- 2011 — Seven HVAC replacements and upgrades in City of LR facilities were completed to be energy efficient, and 1,300 light fixtures in City facilities were retrofitted to LED.
- 2011 — City of LR partnered with Clinton Foundation and the Clinton Climate Initiative to offer the HEAL Program's residential energy audits free to city employees.
- 2012 — The City installed an electric vehicle charging station in the 2nd and Main parking deck.
- 2013 — The City installed eight solar powered parking meters along President Clinton Avenue. This change has decreased free parking by 108 spaces, bringing in \$4,000 of revenue for the City within the first year.
- 2013 — City parks put Musco™ timing sensors on sports complexes at Kanis Park.
- 2014 — City parks put Musco™ timing sensors on sports complexes at Otter Creek Park.
- 2014 — The City opens its first public fast fuel CNG station, located at I-30 and 6th street.
- 2015 — Building Services completed a HVAC retrofit at Stephens Community Center saving 5,845 kWh of energy usage.
- 2015 — Building Services completed interior and exterior lighting retrofits throughout city buildings that saved 139,252 kWh of energy use.
- 2015 — The Little Rock Convention and Visitors Bureau complete lighting retrofits at the Convention Center and the River Market Pavilions that saved a total of 131,060 kWh of energy usage.
- 2016 — The Little Rock Convention and Visitors Bureau complete lighting retrofits at the Convention Center that saved over 1 million kWh of energy use.
- 2017 — Building Services completed interior and exterior lighting retrofits at three city facilities that saved 41,561 kWh of energy usage.
- 2017 — The Little Rock Convention and Visitors Bureau completed interior lighting retrofits that saved 346,944 kWh of energy usage.



- 2009 — First Sustainability Summit held in the City of Little Rock.
- 2010 — Mayor Mark Stodola announces a city policy that every attempt will be taken to qualify all city buildings to be considered LEED certified or an equivalent designation.
- 2012 — Bike lanes were added to 12th Street.
- 2012 — There are 33 total LEED qualified buildings and homes in the City of Little Rock: 6 Certified, 12 Silver, 12 Gold, and 3 Platinum
- 2004 — The Clinton Center opens as a LEED Platinum building.
- 2007 — City partnered to create a pedestrian walkway across the Junction Bridge.
- 2012 — Fire Station #23 on Taylor Loop was LEED certified.
- 2010 — The City puts bike racks that hold two bikes on every city bus.
- 2013 — Bike lanes were added to Main Street.
- 2014 — The Port Authority building is LEED certified.
- 2014 — Police Station-Internal Affairs on 12th street is LEED Silver.
- 2014 — Sturgis building named the most historic, highest level LEED building in Arkansas, as a 115 year old building with Gold level certification.
- 2015 — The Arkansas River Resource Center, home of the Little Rock Port Authority, has been certified as LEED Silver.
- 2015 — The Board of Directors passed a Complete Streets Ordinance that calls for the incorporation of bike and pedestrian access into street design and development.
- 2017 — The City hires its first full-time Bike and Pedestrian Coordinator.
- 2018 — The City applies for and receives grant funding for integration of the Complete Streets design policies into the City's Master Street Plan.



- 2009 — The City develops an Energy Star incentive to offset permit fees for residential and commercial building.
- 2010 — Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport partnered with Energy Systems Group to save 9 million dollars through energy savings with HVAC and electrical systems improvements, lighting retrofits, and an installation of a one KW wind turbine. The airport recycles 49.88 tons of card board/paper, 30-40 yards of scrap metal, and electronic waste annually. Their fleet has 32 vehicles, 16 of which are CNG.
- 2012 — City began Creative Corridor on Main street through grants with the EPA and National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) with a total of 74 million dollars committed to Main Street as of May 2014.
- 2013 — Tech Park authority, with representation from the City of LR, identifies Main Street as location for the Tech Park.
- 2015 — The Board of the LR Port Authority has passed a Resolution to establish a sustainable Port.



- 1994 — Curbside residential recycling programs begin.
- 2007 — Mayor Mark Stodola signed the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement to advance the Kyoto Protocol agreement to address climate disruption.
- 2008 — First City of Little Rock recycling coordinator was hired.
- 2008 — Little Rock Parks and Recreation partnered with Central Arkansas Master Naturalist to remove and control invasive plant species in Allsopp Park.
- 2008 — City Parks and Recreation begins the seeding of wild flowers to promote habitat for birds, bees, and butterflies.
- 2009 — LR Recycles introduced a tote bag give away to promote plastic bag reduction.
- 2010 — Zoo begins composting animal waste.
- 2010 — The LR Zoo is focused on water conservation and quality. They feature many native plants which consume less water than exotic species and they have engineered wetlands to purify run-off water before it is released into the City's storm water sewer system.
- 2011 — City of LR partners with Clinton Foundation to build Bill Clark Wetlands.
- 2011 — An ordinance was passed to allow the use of rain barrels within the city limits.
- 2011 — The first annual Mayor's car free challenge promoting alternative transportation begins.
- 2011 — The City creates a policy to reduce school vehicle idling.
- 2012 — Single stream recycling begins in LR, NLR, and Sherwood.
- 2012 — Little Rock Parks and Recreation Landscape division installed rain sensors on irrigation systems.
- 2012 — River Market goes Green with recycling initiative.
- 2014 — Multi Family Recycling Ordinance passed, requiring recycling to be offered in multi-family residential locations.
- 2014 — The City fleet services establishes a goal to convert 20% of its fleet to vehicles that can run on CNG.
- 2018 — The City will consider citizen input regarding recycling cart size, collection frequency and potential "pay as you throw" trash programs.
The City will gather public input in 2018 before the residential recycling contract is renewed in 2019.



- 1974 — City of LR holds first Farmers Market.
- 2005 — Keep Little Rock Beautiful was established with three goals: to reduce litter, to increase recycling and consequently reduce waste production, and to continually beautify the city with community involvement.
- 2007 — City partnered to create a pedestrian walkway across the Junction Bridge.
- 2008 — LR Mayor's Sustainability Commission was established by Mayor Mark Stodola.

- 2008 – Little Rock Parks and Recreation installed and maintain bio swales for drainage of all park interactive water spray pads.
- 2009 – City installed wind turbine in the Dunbar community garden.
- 2010 – City built affordable housing in Central High neighborhood with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds.
- 2011 – Two Rivers Bridge dedicated, connecting the western section of Arkansas River Trail.
- 2011 – City partnered with Clinton foundation to dedicate the Clinton Presidential Park Bridge, serving as the easternmost crossing of the Arkansas River Trail.
- 2011 – Little Rock Parks and Recreation Director Truman Tolefree signed an agreement to provide sustainable and low impact development measures in all future projects.
- 2012 – First Sustain the Rock awards presented.
- 2012 – City of LR entered into a Memorandum of Understanding for the Arkansas River Trail which was signed with 11 signatories in order to connect 88 miles of bike trails.
- 2012 – City of LR hires first Sustainability Officer.
- City of LR amends ordinance to allow farmers markets throughout city.
- 2013 – Michael Drake, Chief Service Officer, began a Love Your School program with all public schools in the Little Rock School District. This program is promoting healthy eating through school gardens, as well as exercise and mental health programs.
- 2013 – City of LR designed, produced, and sold cycling jerseys.
- 2013 – City partners with the Clinton Foundation on the Health Matters initiative.
- 2013 – City partners with Entergy, Philips Lighting, and others to light three city bridges with programmable LED lights.
- 2014 – As of May 2014 the City has 36.8 miles of bike paths, 24.3 miles of bike lanes, and 20 miles of sharrows or signed routes.
- 2014 – The Little Rock parks system consists of 6,315 acres of land; 4,013 are within the City's 60 developed parks, while roughly 2,306 acres are undeveloped.
- 2014 – Fourche Creek is the largest urban wetland in America within a city limit and encompasses 1,800 acres of swamps, low lands, and open space in south Little Rock.
- 2016 – The Fresh2You Mobile Market hits the road for the first time in August and becomes the city's first mobile food market.
- 2017- The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission invested \$53,000 into a new boat ramp access to the Fourche Creek at Benny Craig Park in Little Rock.
- 2017 – A part of the Fourche Creek from Benny Craig Park to Interstate Park is names as the State's first Urban Water Trail.
- 2017 – The City began working with a company to bring Bike Share to Little Rock.