



Date: 12/31/2019 **Updated:** 12/31/2022 **Date To Be Reviewed:** Three Years - 12/31/2025

Title of Document: 7.8 LOPR_Environmental Sustainability Policy and Program

The City of Lake Oswego focuses on improving the sustainability of municipal operations and provides quality services to Lake Oswego community members in a fiscally prudent, socially responsible, and environmentally sound way since the adoption of the first Sustainability Action Plan for City Operations in 2007. In May 2020, City Council adopted the [Sustainability and Climate Action Plan](#) (SCAP) which includes strategies and prioritized actions to meet the following goals:

- Reduce transportation emissions
- Promote energy efficiency
- Promote water conservation
- Protect natural resources
- Reduce exposure to toxins
- Reduce waste
- Enhance public education on topics related to sustainability
- Promote City employee health and engagement
- Adapt to climate change

The SCAP also sets community-wide emissions reduction goals of net zero electricity by 2035, net zero emissions buildings by 2045, and carbon neutrality by 2050.

Lake Oswego Parks & Recreation (LOPR) is committed to implementing city-wide sustainability goals and policies outlined in the SCAP. [Parks Plan 2025](#) provides a framework for investing in a network of parks, greenspaces, and natural areas in Lake Oswego that centers on sustainability.

Examples of LOPR's implementation of sustainability goals include:

- Using water efficient irrigation systems in parks and piloting drought tolerant grass seed mixes.
- Supporting community organizations and private landowners to improve water quality, riparian habitat, and wildlife corridors and to remove invasive species through the Habitat Enhancement Program. [Natural Areas Habitat Management Plan | City of Lake Oswego](#)
- Supporting local, organic and sustainable gardening and farming programs and education through the Community Supported Agriculture program, community gardens,



and children’s gardens at Luscher Farm. <https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/luscher/about-luscher-farm>

- Implementing a policy to eliminate single-use plastic at the Lake Oswego Farmers’ Market. (See Farmer’s Market Vendor Handbook, p. 6)
<https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/2022%20Vendor%20Handbook.pdf>)
- Reducing community and staff exposure to toxins and air pollution through:
 - contracting for all-electric handheld landscaping equipment for the LOPR’s multi-site landscaping contract and transitioning LOPR-owned landscaping equipment to electric models wherever feasible, and
 - implementing an Integrated Pest Management Policy (IMP) for LOPR properties that prioritizes cultural practices for sustainable landscape management, allows chemical pesticide use only after all IMP methods have been exhausted, and employs sustainable management practices to avoid generating pesticide waste. (<https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/Lake%20Oswego%20Parks%20%20Recreation%20IPM%202022.pdf>)
- Incorporating sustainable design elements into capital projects, including the new Lake Oswego [Recreation and Aquatics Center](#) (LORAC) which will include a rooftop solar array, electric vehicle charging stations, low-flow plumbing systems, all-LED lighting with external fixtures that meet dark sky requirements, low-maintenance landscaping that utilizes many native species, green infrastructure to treat all stormwater run-off onsite, and uses sustainable building materials including low-carbon concrete.
- The City purchases 100% renewable energy for all eligible City accounts (this covers the majority of City facilities and energy use; ineligible accounts are small accounts like individual traffic signals).
- The City of Lake Oswego maintains certification as a Tree City USA. This certification represents 33 years of work to protect and enhance urban tree canopy.



PARKS & RECREATION

Links to Sources:

[Sustainability and Climate Action Plan \(SCAP\)](#)

[Parks Plan 2025](#)

[Lake Oswego Parks Recreation IPM 2022.pdf](#)

[Natural Areas Habitat Management Plan | City of Lake Oswego](#)

[Stormwater Manual | City of Lake Oswego](#)

[About Luscher Farm | City of Lake Oswego](#)

Responsibility/Contacts: Director, Deputy Directors, Parks Manager