

Northfield Energy Subcommittee Report



Vision

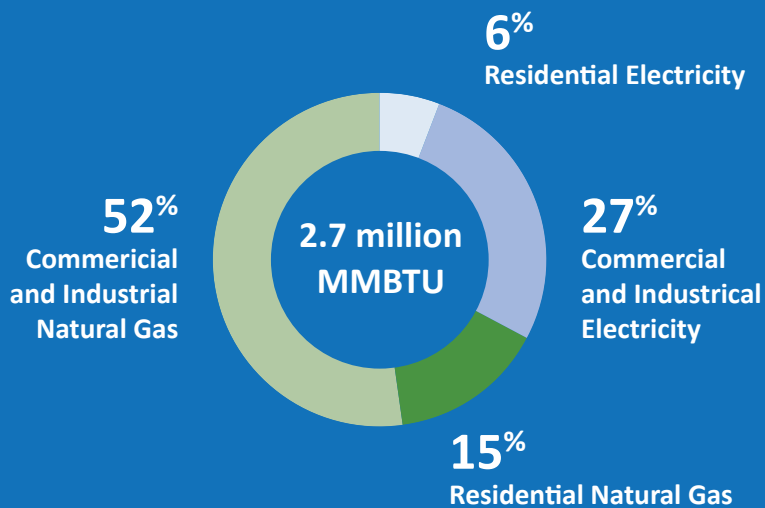
Northfield strives to ensure all citizens have access to clean, renewable, reliable, and affordable energy systems that will adapt to a changing climate by conserving energy, reducing our community-wide carbon footprint, and supporting sustainable energy solutions.

Carbon Reduction Goal

Achieve a **50%** reduction in energy-related carbon emissions from 2015 levels by **2030**, and consume **100%** carbon-neutral energy no later than **2050**.

Our Energy Snapshot*

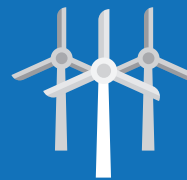
Energy Consumption



\$31 million spent across all sectors

*2017 data

Renewable Energy Support



Three college-owned wind turbines



81 solar panel installations



145 community solar garden subscribers



Almost **26 million kilowatt-hours (kWh)** of purchased green energy



Photo credit: City of Northfield



Photo credit: Carelton College



Photo credit: City of Northfield

18-Month Energy Action Jump Start

The 18-month Energy Action Jump Start includes 14 strategies and near-term targets to help Northfield hit the ground running towards meeting our carbon reduction targets.

At the core of the 18-month Energy Action Jump Start is accessible education and outreach. This will ensure everyone in the Northfield community is aware of the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy, and resources are available.

This outreach is focused on two target audiences:

SMALL CONSUMERS: inclusive of all residents, including homeowners and renters, small businesses, and nonprofit organizations.

LARGE CONSUMERS: inclusive of local institutions, such as the colleges and hospital, large businesses, and industrial businesses.

The City's Role in Fighting Climate Change

This plan includes 15 strategic priorities created to:

REDUCE: The City will reduce existing energy-related emissions through energy efficiency programs for its existing buildings, and by emphasizing strategic growth tactics from its own Comprehensive Plan for new buildings and developments.

RENEW: The City will encourage businesses and residences to expand use of on-site renewable energy resources and Xcel Energy's green power purchase programs.

EDUCATE: The City will publish its own annual energy data annually and be a source of information about existing energy efficiency incentives and green energy programs, as well as less familiar topics like net-zero energy construction and deep energy retrofits.

DEMONSTRATE: The City will normalize unfamiliar concepts by seeking opportunities to partner on or build net-zero energy or deep energy retrofit projects.

Guiding Principles

1. Pursue a sustainable energy future with clean energy available to all businesses and residents, with particular support for under-resourced households.
2. Increase overall energy literacy among residents and business owners and operators, including knowledge of where energy comes from, the environmental impacts of different types of energy generation, and what can be done to reduce energy use.
3. Expand renewable energy generation.
4. Lead by example and offer recognition for successful energy efforts.
5. Make energy efficiency feasible, affordable, and achievable for both residents and businesses.
6. Promote economic growth while increasing energy conservation and renewable energy generation.
7. Empower future generations to be self-motivated in working toward a sustainable energy future.
8. Inspire and support a high quality of life for future generations.

More About The Energy Subcommittee Report

This report was created by the Northfield Energy Subcommittee, which included over two dozen volunteers from Northfield residences, nonprofits, businesses, institutions, and industries. The City collaborated with the Xcel Energy's Partners in Energy offering to develop and implement our community's energy goals. The Energy Subcommittee created this report through a series of facilitated workshops.

The Northfield Energy Subcommittee is part of the Climate Action Plan Advisory Board, appointed by Mayor Rhonda Pownell to address Item Six in the City's 2018–2020 strategic plan, to “create a clear vision for climate action” by developing and implementing a Climate Action Plan. To see the full report and the Climate Action Plan, visit ci.northfield.mn.us.



Photo credit: City of Northfield

Strategic Priority Summary Matrix

Area A: Education and Engagement (EE)	
EE-1	Small Consumer Energy Engagement
EE-2	Large Consumer Energy Engagement
EE-3	Energy Marketing and Tourism
EE-4	Energy Reporting and Transparency
Area B: Policy and Planning (PP)	
PP-1	Building Energy Use Benchmarking and Disclosure
PP-2	Building Energy Efficiency Standards
PP-3	Energy Conscious Strategic Growth
PP-4	Forward-Thinking Utility System Expansion
PP-5	Renewable Energy Development Plan
PP-6	Community Energy Resilience Plan
Area C: Innovation and Demonstration (ID)	
ID-1	Deep Energy Efficiency Retrofits
ID-2	Net-Zero Energy Buildings
ID-3	Strategic Electrification
Area D: Supporting and Continuing the Plan (SC)	
SC-1	City Energy Coordinator Position
SC-2	Advancing and Updating the Plan

Want to Get Involved?

Are you passionate about energy conservation and renewable energy? Do you want to help Northfield residents and businesses save money on their energy bills? Join Northfield’s Energy Task Force.

Contact Beth Kallestad, Program Coordinator at Beth.Kallestad@ci.northfield.mn.us.

