



THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST  
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## NEWS RELEASE

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### LAKE FOREST ISSUES SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY

Lake Forest has a natural beauty and unique local ecosystem that first attracted our forefathers and continues to attract people today. It is important to preserve this natural beauty for us and for generations to come. Doing this will enhance property values and ensure the community remains a highly-desirable place to live, work, and play. This is the reasoning behind the creation of a Sustainability Plan.

In the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan, the City's first listed Environmental Stewardship goal is to, "develop a Lake Forest Sustainability Plan to identify priorities and guide future initiatives." A Sustainability Plan in this context is a City Council-approved document that aims to improve the challenges and needs related to environment, economy, and society by encouraging behavioral changes that save energy, water, City resources, and money, and clean up and protect our environment. Such a Plan will also fulfill the Strategic Plan's recommendation that the community take a "leadership role in modeling best practices in environmental sustainability" in collaboration with educational institutions, property owners, neighbors, garden clubs, and land management associations. In addition, it is the City's duty to uphold our 1861 motto, "Love of Nature and Science," and to protect Lake Forest's unique local ecosystem and nurture pride in our conservation ethic for generations to come. Acting on these sentiments, the City Parks Department recently began drafting a Lake Forest Sustainability Plan and releasing a Sustainability Survey with support from the Lake Forest Collaborative for Environmental Leadership (LFCEL).

LFCEL, comprised of representatives from School Districts 67 and 115, LF Open Lands, LF College, and the City, was formed to bring together the community to educate and engage in environmental action and to promote sustainable practices within Lake Forest. The role of LFCEL is to combine the collective resources of its members to recognize and consider existing issues while identifying new programs and approaches that encourage environmental thinking and action. LFCEL's established goals include protecting Lake Forest's unique natural heritage; enhancing residents' quality of life; making meaningful contributions to creating a healthier community and local ecosystems; and expanding the conservation ethic and resident pride. All of these goals will be realized in the creation of a Lake Forest Sustainability Plan.

Therefore, the City of Lake Forest with support from the Lake Forest Collaborative for Environmental Leadership is beginning the planning process with the release of a Lake Forest Sustainability Survey. The purpose of this survey is to gain insight into the opinions of Lake Forest residents on local environmental issues, and to use these insights as guidance in the creation of the Lake Forest Sustainability Plan.

Our hope is that you are inspired to take the Lake Forest Sustainability Survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LFsustainabilitysurvey>) and to promote the survey within your networks. All Lake Forest and Lake Bluff residents are welcome and encouraged to fill out the survey by June 30, 2015. We will forward Lake Bluff resident responses to Lake Bluff Village government. LFCEL will follow up this survey with a Community Forum in the fall of 2015, during which we welcome ideas.

For information on the Collaborative, please visit the City's website and click on the "Environmental Initiatives" button or <http://www.cityoflakeforest.com/environmental-initiatives/>.

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