

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY DIVISION

ANNUAL REPORT: 2018
City of Urbana, Illinois

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY DIVISION

The Environmental Sustainability Division works to improve the performance of energy, water, and waste management while reducing sanitary nuisances. The Division administers community energy efficiency and water conservation efforts while working with City staff to also save energy and water. The Division operates the U-Cycle curbside and multi-family recycling service while conducting engagement with City staff to reduce waste. The Division enforces nuisance vegetation and refuse codes and waste hauler licensing while engaging community groups to ‘adopt’ street sections for litter collection with the Adopt Urbana program. The Division manages the Municipal Electric Aggregation program and the concomitant purchase of renewable energy credits. The Environmental Sustainability Division works with the Sustainability Advisory Commission whose members are appointed by the Mayor. The Commission meets regularly to receive updates from the Division and advise on the future course of sustainability work. For more information, visit <http://urbanaillinois.us/sustainability>.

Division Staff

Scott R. Tess, Environmental Sustainability Manager
 Courtney Kwong, Recycling Coordinator
 Jason Arrasmith, Environmental Compliance Officer
 Amanda Flores, Administrative Assistant

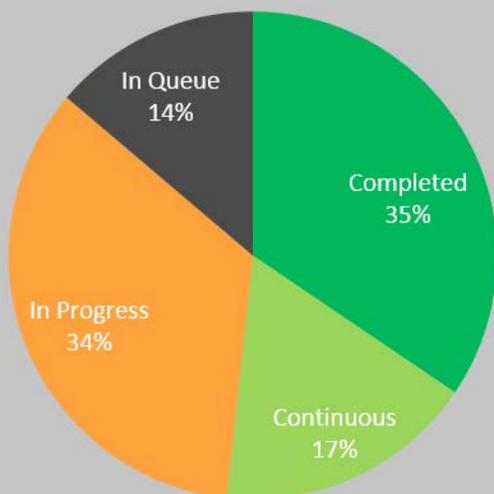
Sustainability Advisory Commission Members

Andrew Stumpf
 Claire Johnson
 Dustin Allred
 Madeline Garbacz
 Morgan White
 Stacy Gloss, Chair
 Tesfaye Wolde-Medhin
 Todd Rusk

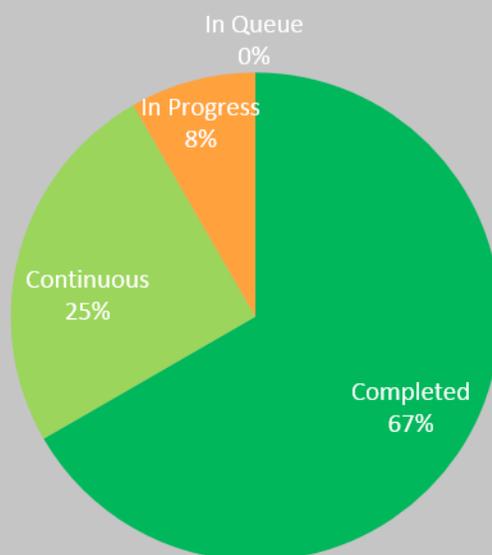
Environmental Sustainability Division Budget Fiscal Year 2018-2019

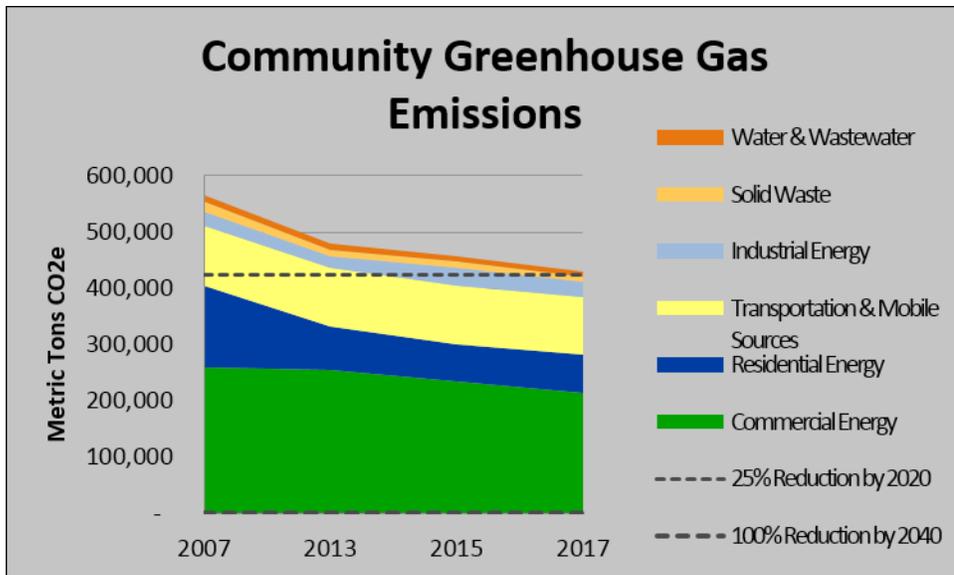
Category	Budget
U-Cycle -staff, collection, carts, education	\$589,320.00
Environmental Management & Planning -staff, administration, electric supply	\$140,767.00
Nuisance Code Enforcement -staffing, inspections, abatement	\$109,786.00
Total	\$839,873.00

Climate Action Plan Phase 2 Progress

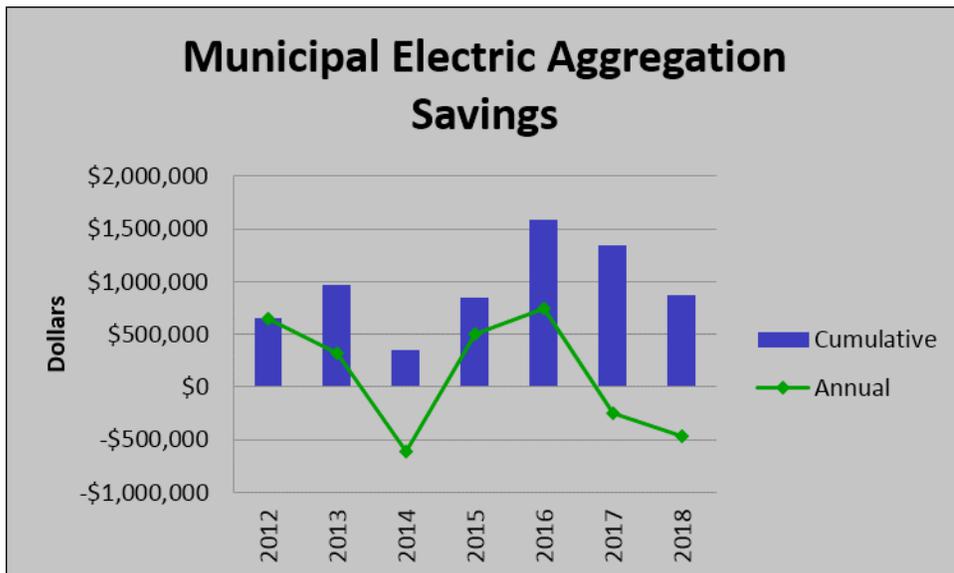


Sustainable Water Management Plan Progress

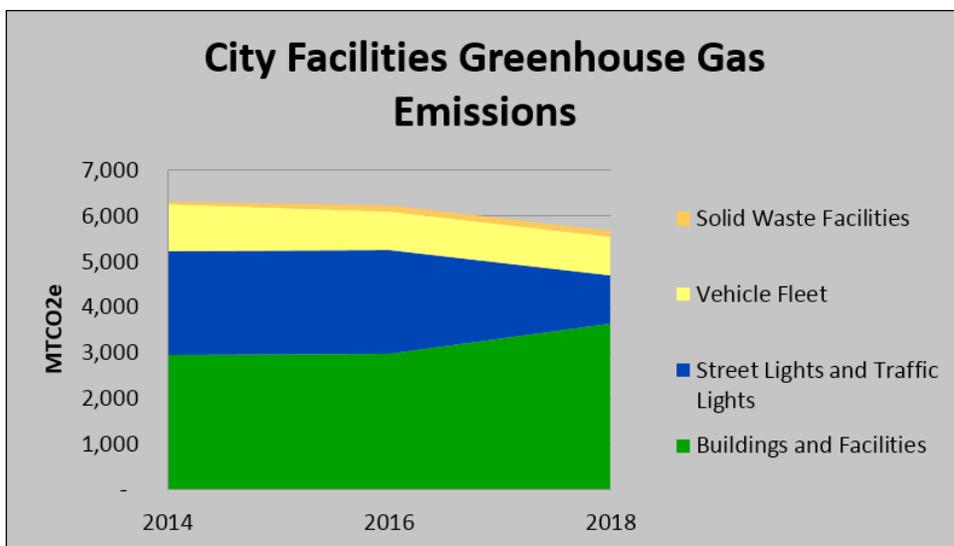




Additional Information
 Municipal Electric Aggregation is typically provided through two or three years contracts secured through an energy market broker. Price performance is measured against what households would have otherwise paid Ameren Illinois for electric supply. While Ameren Illinois has lower rates on occasion, overall the program has saved rate-payers nearly \$900,000 since 2012.



Solar Urbana-Champaign
 The City's bulk solar purchase program, facilitated by the Midwest Renewable Energy Association, completed a third round of solar installations. In 2018, the program installed 574 kilowatts of solar across Champaign and Piatt Counties. Over the course of three years, the program surpassed 1.6 megawatts of solar capacity in 185 installations.



In 2018, Solar UC began educating residents on the community solar model recently authorized by the Illinois General Assembly and also offered power purchase agreements as a means to procure solar energy.



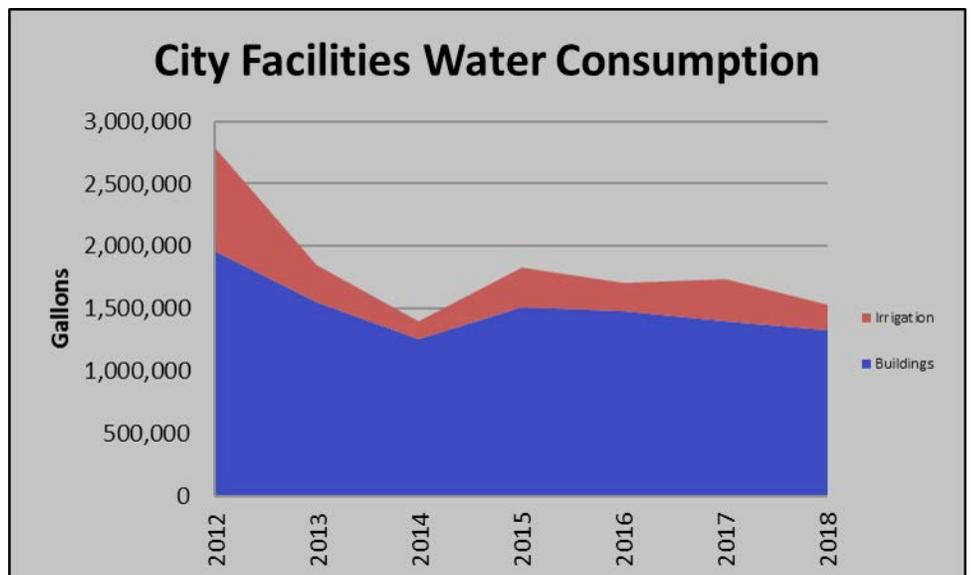
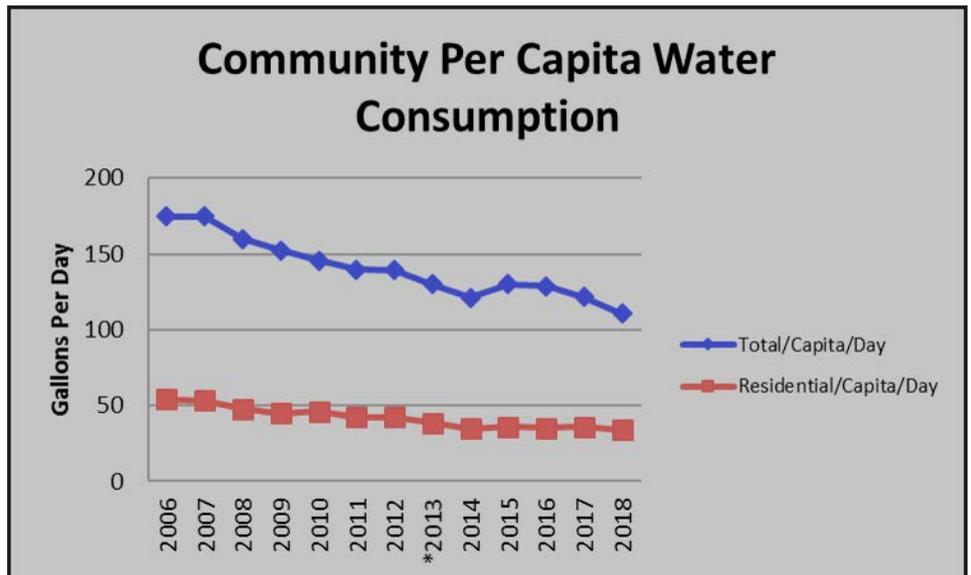
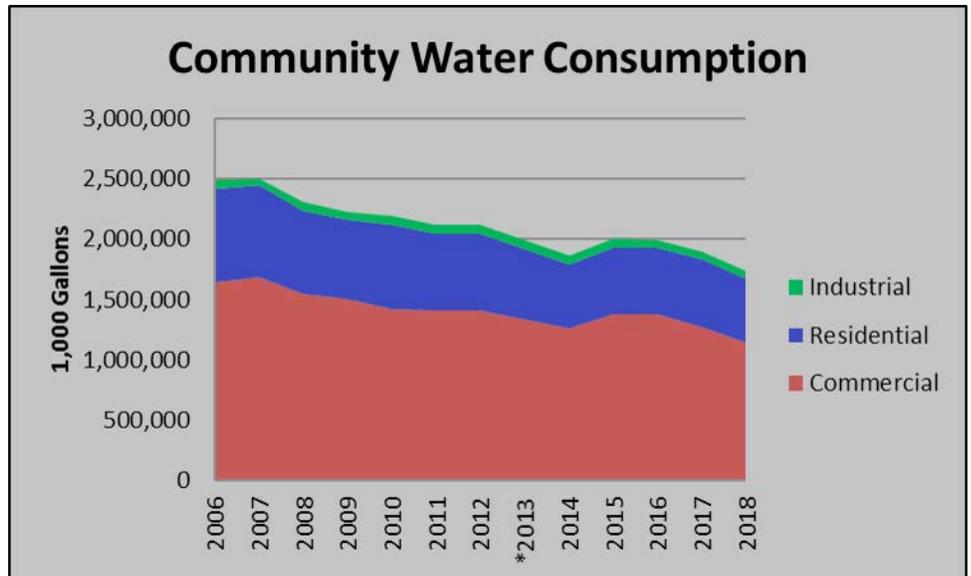
Additional Information

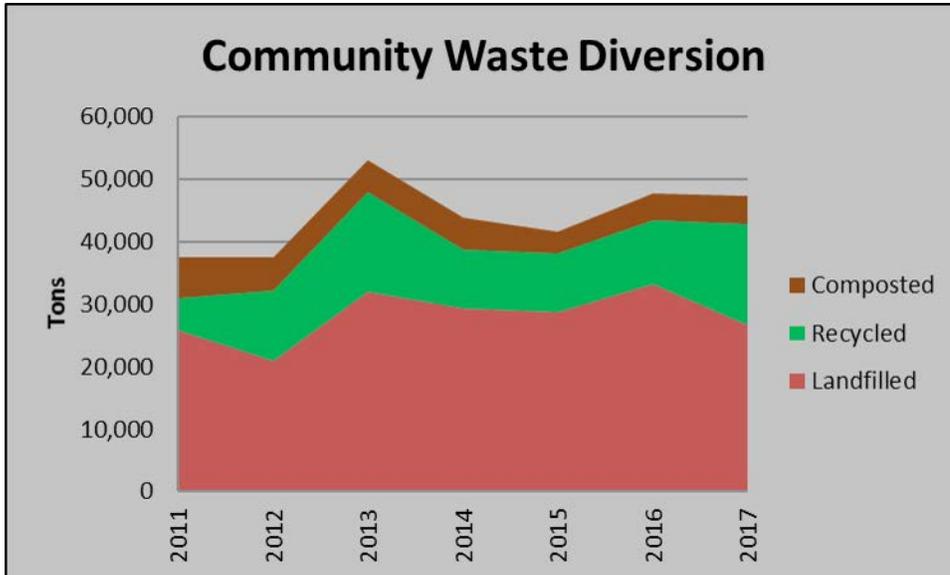
The Community Water Consumption chart shows proportional water consumption by sector in the community over time. *2013 data in this chart is estimated since actual data is not available from Illinois American Water.

Natural Lawn Care

The City of Urbana, with the Urbana Park District, Parkland College, and the University of Illinois, partnered again this year with the Integrated Pest Management Institute's Midwest Grows Green program. The effort organized a full weekend of events to promote and educate about natural lawn care and sustainable landscaping.

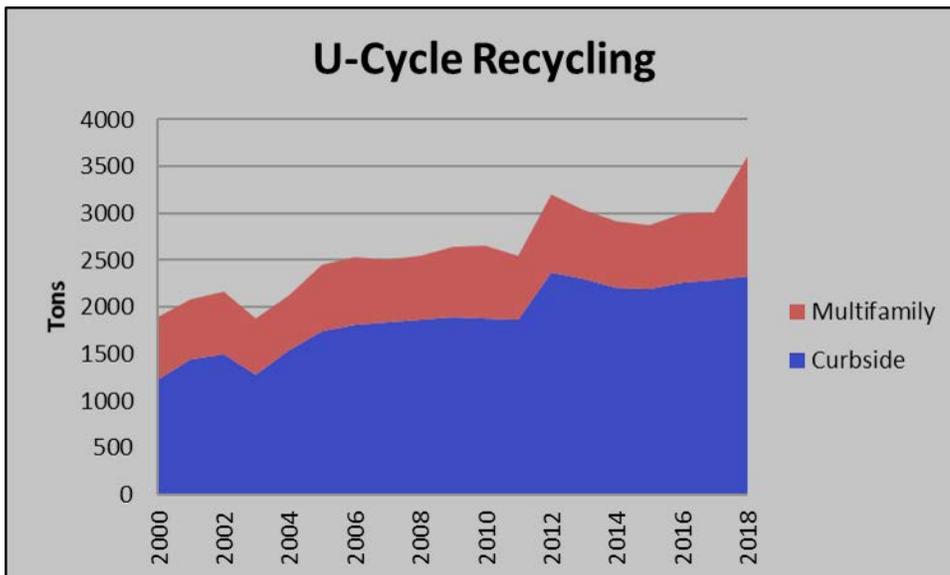
City staff tabled at the Urbana Market at the Square to collect natural lawn care pledges and share information about subsequent events. The Urbana Park District launched their organic gardening season with fun and educational games that cover controlling weeds, improving soil fertility, and more. Parkland College presented a natural lawns & gardens workshop while the University of Illinois hosted a rain garden design workshop.





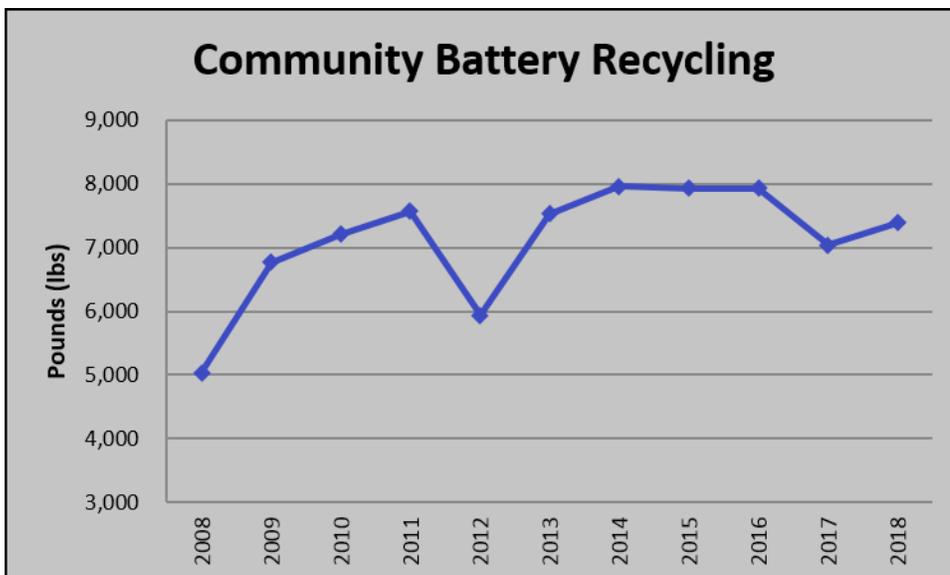
Additional Information

The Community Waste Diversion chart shows proportional waste, recycling, and composting over time. In 2018, total waste diversion was 47%.



Backyard Composting Workshop

On May 5, 2018, the City of Urbana's U-Cycle program and the Urbana Park District co-hosted the first annual backyard composting workshop. The workshop covered the basics of developing a backyard composting bin, along with discussing a successful 'recipe' of the carbon and nitrogen mixture needed for a compost pile to thrive. Guest speakers at the workshop discussed their expertise on developing a backyard bin, how to develop nutrient-rich compost, and vermicomposting methods for those with limited backyard space. The workshop was limited to 25 participants, and a waiting list was developed due to demand. The U-Cycle program and the Park District will continue the workshop in 2019.



NUISANCE ABATEMENT

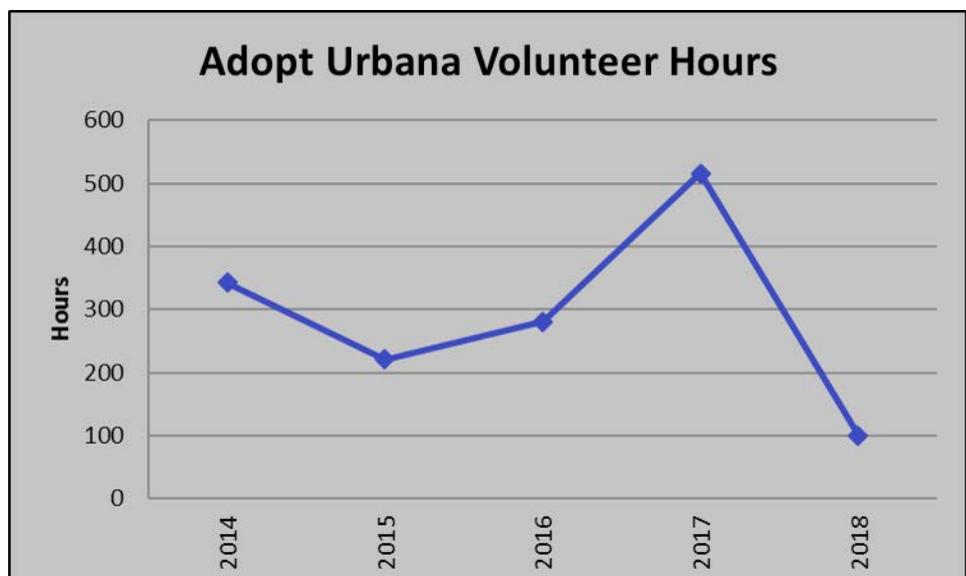
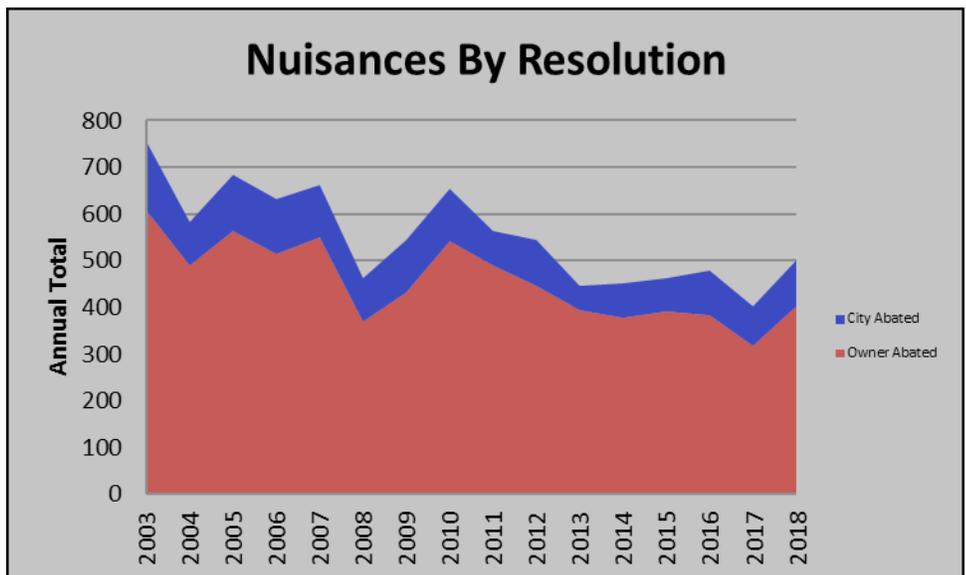
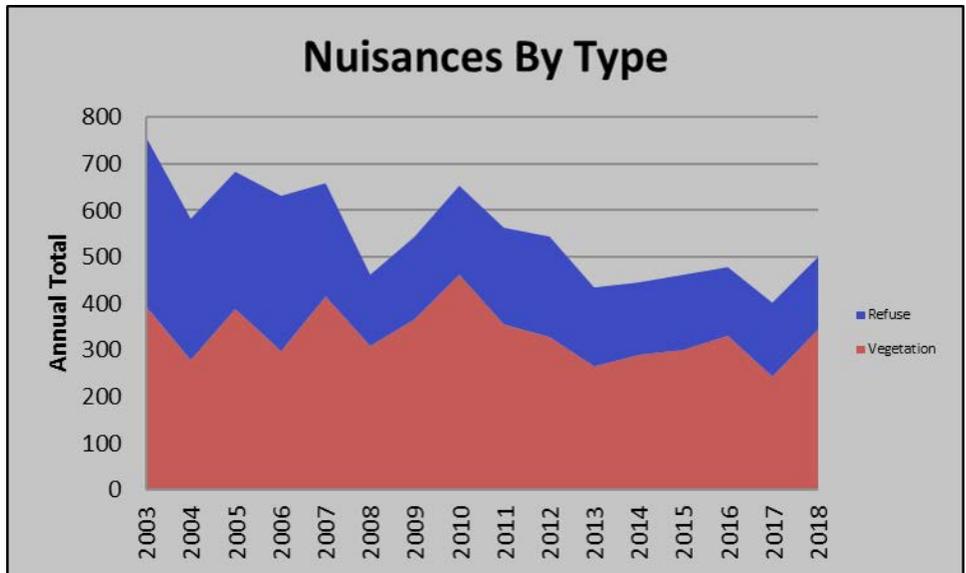
Additional Information

The Nuisances By Type chart shows the proportion of nuisances that are either vegetation or refuse. Sidewalk snow removal violations as well as noise ordinance violations are not shown due to the very low instances of these violations.

Staff works to resolve nuisances without the City having to abate the nuisance. In most cases, property owners are provided seven days to abate a nuisance before a fine is assessed and the City hires a vendor to clean up or remove the nuisance.

Adopt Urbana

The Adopt Urbana program, initiated in 2010, is a way for civic-minded groups, businesses and other organizations to help improve a local street or waterway. Participating groups pick up litter in their designated area at least three times each year. A two year program commitment is requested. Interested groups can select from a predetermined list of streets and waterways to clean up. If you would like to adopt an area that has not been pre-selected, you may submit the area for approval. The City provides each participating group with the following items: temporary street safety signs; safety vests and gloves; garbage and recycling bags; pickup and disposal/recycling of all collected materials; and placement of a street sign featuring the name of each participating group.





The City of Urbana’s Recycling Coordinator was awarded the Steve Thompson Memorial Grant to fund attendance at the Resource Recycling Conference in St. Louis. The Conference is the largest annual event in the recycling industry. The grant is in memory of recycling industry leader Steve Thompson who passed away in 2016 and was a committed recycling champion.

The City of Urbana partnered with the Integrated Pest Management Institute of North America on a successful grant request from the Lumpkin Family Foundation to fund Midwest Grows Green programming which engaged and educated residents on synthetic-free, natural lawn care practices. The City also committed the south lawn of the City Building to synthetic-free management.

