



CONTACT:
Cori Burbach
Sustainable Community Coordinator
563-589-4110
cburbach@cityofdubuque.org
www.cityofdubuque.org

NEWS RELEASE

February 16, 2010 – For Immediate Release

3rd Annual ‘Growing Sustainable Communities’ Conference Set for March 9

DUBUQUE, Iowa – Mayor Roy D. Buol and the Dubuque City Council are pleased to announce that Dubuque’s third annual “Growing Sustainable Communities” conference will be held on **Tuesday, March 9, 2010**.

The theme of this year’s conference is “Sustainability: A Tool for Community and Economic Development.” The public is invited to attend the event, sponsored by the City of Dubuque and local private businesses, which will run from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Grand River Center in the Port of Dubuque. Cost to attend is \$20 per person, which includes workshops with expert presentations, a keynote speaker, and lunch.

As community and business leaders across the country learn more about sustainability, they have realized that sustainability offers us the opportunity to improve the quality of life for our community while capitalizing on new economic development opportunities. Dubuque’s annual conference will bring together regional industry leaders, elected officials, business owners, and those interested in learning more about opportunities to help their communities grow and prosper in the most sustainable way possible. Keynote speaker for the event is Richard Swett, CEO of Climate Prosperity Enterprise Solutions LLC, and a former Member of Congress, where he served on the Public Works and Transportation Committee dealing with infrastructure and energy issues. He is also a former U.S. Ambassador to Denmark and has worked in alternative energy development and energy conservation.

The third annual conference will also include workshops for participants featuring speakers from across the country on the topics of sustainability related to green buildings, regional economies, community knowledge, and local food. Full summaries of each of the workshops are available at www.sustainabledubuque.org.

“Sustainable economic development is a community-wide effort, one that will foster innovative approaches that support the creation of new jobs and business opportunities,” said Mayor Roy Buol. “This annual conference offers us a significant opportunity to learn from national experts about best practices and a culture of entrepreneurship, in addition to elevating our understanding about ways to collaborate and help the tri-state area grow and prosper.”

Registration for Growing Sustainable Communities is required by Monday, March 1. A limited number of student scholarships for the cost of the event are also available. Online registration and payment and additional information are available at www.sustainableubuque.org or by calling 563.589.4110 during business hours. The event will be a zero-waste event and the lunch menu will feature locally grown food.

The Growing Sustainable Communities conference is an annual event in support of the City’s Sustainable Dubuque initiative, a three-part approach to sustainability to create policies and programs that address economic prosperity, environmental integrity, and social cultural vibrancy. When all three components are addressed, the result is a community that is viable, livable, and equitable. The past two conference events brought national experts to Dubuque to provide education and participate in panel discussions about climate change, policy decisions, and historic preservation and attracted over 500 elected officials from around the State, business and education leaders, college students and private citizens each year.

The mission of the conference is to educate the public on the issues that impact the long-term health and sustainability of our region and to create an opportunity for policy decision-makers from the tri-state area to come together to discuss ways in which they can enact the most effective change at the local level.

###