



**CONTACT:**  
Roy D. Buol, Mayor  
563-564-5455  
[rdbuol@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:rdbuol@cityofdubuque.org)

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Dubuque Recognized for Climate Protection Efforts at U.S. Conference of Mayors Meeting**

**DUBUQUE, Iowa** – Dubuque Mayor Roy D. Buol and the Smarter Sustainable Dubuque initiative received honorable mention for local climate protection efforts in the 2013 Mayors' Climate Protection Awards, an initiative sponsored by The U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) and Walmart. The winners were announced last week during the Mayors' Climate Protections Awards luncheon, which was held in conjunction with USCM's 81st annual meeting in Las Vegas.

The annual awards program, now in its seventh year, recognizes mayors for innovative practices in their cities that increase energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. An independent panel of judges selected the winners from a pool of applicants. Brief descriptions of all winning programs can be found at: [www.usmayors.org/climateprotection/2013awardees](http://www.usmayors.org/climateprotection/2013awardees).

Smarter Sustainable Dubuque is the research function of the Sustainable Dubuque initiative. It is a unique public/private partnership between the City of Dubuque, IBM Watson Research Center's Global "Smarter Planet" Initiative and other key partners. It has led local climate protection efforts through the development of smart technology models and pilot studies with volunteer Dubuque residents including Smarter Water, Smarter Electricity, and Smarter Travel. Pilot studies are currently underway in Smarter Health and Wellness and Smarter Discards. These models give citizens and policymakers new insights on how to conserve Dubuque's resources, become more sustainable, and improve opportunities in an increasingly competitive world economy.

For more information about Smarter Sustainable Dubuque, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/ssd](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/ssd).

First place winners of the 2013 Mayors' Climate Protection Awards were Salt Lake City, Utah Mayor Ralph Becker and Asheville, N.C. Mayor Terry Bellamy. Honorable mentions were awarded to mayors in four large cities and six small cities for their exceptional achievements in efforts to promote climate protection.

"Mayors are leading the way on climate protection just like so many other issues before the nation," said Conference of Mayors CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran. "In their cities, we can see the innovation and imagination that leads to new strategies to combat the growing energy and climate challenges before us."

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,309 such cities in the country today, and each city is represented in the conference by its chief elected official, the mayor. For more information about the U.S. Conference of Mayors, visit [www.usmayors.org](http://www.usmayors.org).

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