

DUBUQUE IS A 4-STAR CERTIFIED COMMUNITY!



Dubuque has achieved a 4-STAR rating under the STAR Community Rating System (STAR), a national certification measuring a community's environmental, economic, and social efforts to achieve sustainability.

While the nationally-developed framework uses slightly different words, the seven major objectives mirror Dubuque's twelve sustainability principles. STAR's rating criteria is designed to assess communities' sustainability efforts in a clear and data-driven way.

How did Dubuque become a 4-STAR Community?

In 2014, over 30 Sustainable Dubuque partners collected data to measure our progress towards national sustainability standards. **Dubuque earned 468 points, a significant achievement.**

The STAR framework is comprehensive, including everything from how safe our residents feel, how successful our schools are, and how fast our emergency response times are, to things like workforce readiness, housing affordability, and civic engagement.

The following partners were part of the effort to prepare Dubuque's certification:

- Alliant Energy
- Arts Community
- City of Dubuque
- Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque
- Crescent Community Health Center
- Dubuque Bike Coop
- Dubuque Community School District
- Dubuque County Iowa State University Extension
- Dubuque County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Dubuque Main Street
- Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency
- DuRide
- East Central Intergovernmental Association
- Greater Dubuque Development Corporation
- Green Dubuque
- Inclusive Dubuque
- Northeast Iowa Community College
- The Jule

The 4-STAR rating is a reflection of the qualities that make Dubuque a better place to live, work and play.

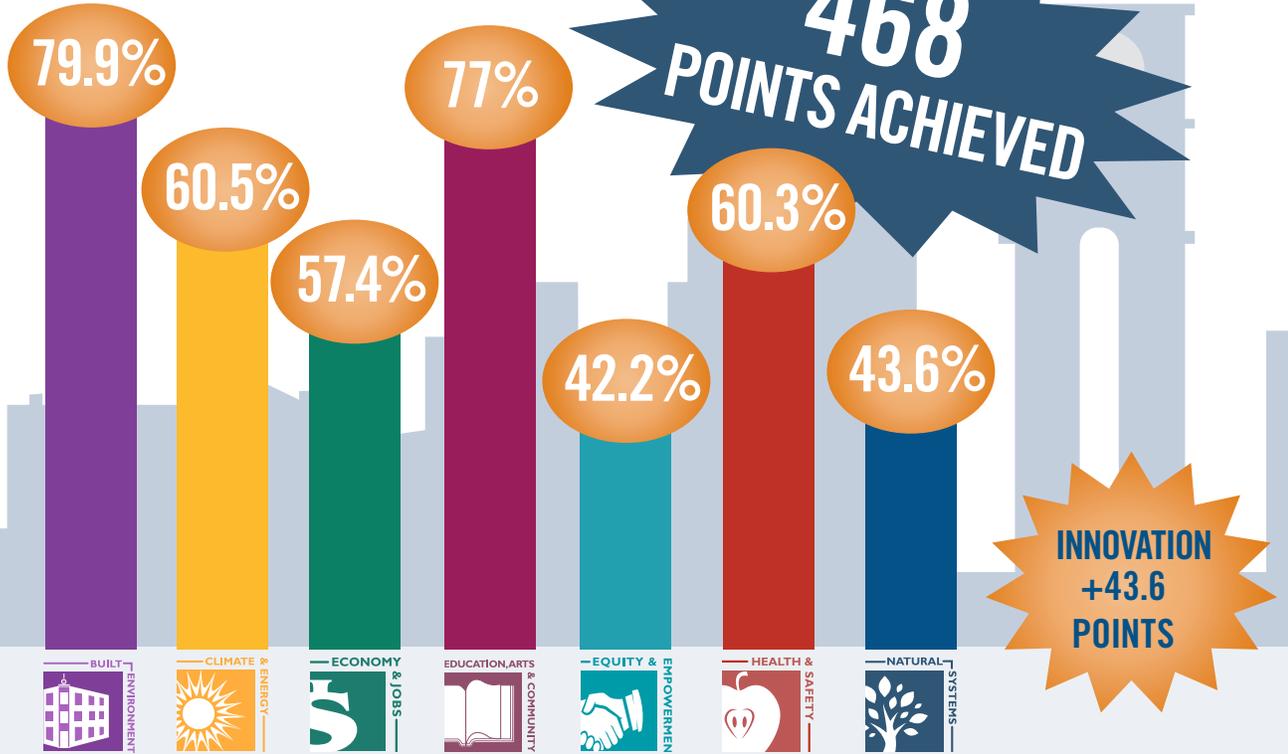
For more information on Dubuque's sustainability efforts, visit www.sustainabledubuque.org



OUR 4-STAR RESULTS

THE CITY OF
DUBUQUE
Masterpiece on the Mississippi

2015



WAY TO GO, DUBUQUE!

Successes:

- Adequate supply of safe drinking water
- Compact downtown neighborhoods provide safe, accessible access to public transit, parks, employment and schools
- Safe transportation networks for pedestrians and bicyclists
- 5% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions since 2003
- Public and private initiatives reduce solid waste being sent to landfill
- 98% of residents live within ½ mile walk of a park or open space
- Residents have access to and attend arts and culture events that represent the diversity of the community
- Progress towards a 90% high school graduation rate
- Since 2000, downtown rehabilitation has contributed to 3,000 net new jobs and over \$329 million in public and private improvements
- Increased investment in renewable energy sources
- Increase in number of businesses and employees in targeted industries (Information Technology, Insurance & Financial Services, and Food Manufacturing)
- Opportunities for volunteerism, public education, and community engagement are high
- Active youth and adults have access to services, public spaces, and information to make healthy choices

LOOKING FORWARD Areas of Improvement



- Increase opportunities for quality jobs and living wages
- Ensure equitable access to community assets and human services programs
- Increase number of residents biking, walking, or riding public transit to work
- Increase affordable housing alternatives
- Increase the percentage of students at Grade Level Reading
- Develop community-wide plans for environmental justice and poverty reduction
- Increase access to healthful food options
- Improve stream and groundwater quality
- Coordinate preparation and response plans to create a more resilient community

Contact:

Cori Burbach, Sustainable Community Coordinator
cburbach@cityofdubuque.org | 563.690.6038
www.cityofdubuque.org/STARcommunity