

What Can You Expect?

From 2008 to 2010, the Town of Bridgewater will be consulting with people and organizations in the community to figure out each component of our **Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP)**. Our goal is to reach out to as many community members as possible to develop a great action plan for becoming a sustainable community. We have already formed a Sustainable Planning Focus Group, comprised of members of the community, that will assist us with this work. You can expect from us:

- **Partnerships** with local businesses and organizations
- **Public events** aimed at getting the community's input on major sections of our ICSP
- **Information** on the process made available through public media (newspapers, radio, internet). Visit www.bridgewater.ca/sustainability to learn more

We always welcome direct input from the community on matters relating to sustainability. We are looking for people to get involved as volunteers, to serve on committees, and to help spread the word on our process. If you have comments or ideas for us, or want to get involved, please contact us!

For regular updates, please sign up for our **email newsletter** on our website:

www.bridgewater.ca/sustainability



Sustainable Living

Eight things you can do to make your home or workplace more sustainable:

- Do an energy audit, and find ways to reduce energy use
- Install solar heating panels to turn sunlight into warmth
- Purchase more local products and services
- Cut down on waste, especially from packaging
- Car pool
- Walk and bicycle to get to work and run errands
- Start a garden to grow food locally
- Educate yourself and others about sustainability



Contact Us

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Sustainable Bridgewater

Planning a

clean, equitable,
vibrant, thriving
community...

for future generations





What is Sustainable Bridgewater?

Through the public consultations called “Imagine Bridgewater”, members of our community made it clear that we want to live in a community that is clean, vibrant, and a good place to live and work. We want to live in a community that meets today’s needs, and the needs of future generations. In other words, a “sustainable” community: one that can support an attractive economy, serving a healthy and equitable population, all living within the Earth’s means.

The Town of Bridgewater has made a commitment to becoming a more sustainable community. The first step down this path is to create an **Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP)**. We will be creating this plan between 2008 and 2010, by working closely with people and organizations of the Bridgewater community.

We encourage you to get involved and have your voice heard too!

What Does the ICSP Accomplish?

The ICSP will help us answer the following questions:



What is “Sustainability”?

Sustainability means living in such a way that future generations can enjoy as much quality of life as we do. To help make this practical, we use a science-based definition of sustainability called *The Natural Step*. *The Natural Step* outlines a clear set of goals for a sustainable society, which we summarize as:

- all people have the capacity to meet their basic needs
- pollutants do not continuously build up in the environment
- natural ecosystems do not become continuously degraded

For more information on *The Natural Step*, visit www.naturalstep.ca



Funding for Sustainable Bridgewater

One funding source for this major planning project is the Federal Gas Tax Agreement. The Gas Tax provides Bridgewater with the dedicated funding needed to plan for a sustainable future, and to develop the services and infrastructure necessary to achieve our sustainability goals. Capital projects (such as community energy systems, transit systems, and community programs) funded by the Gas Tax will result in:

- Cleaner air
- Cleaner water
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions

Several sustainability projects are already being funded by the Gas Tax program, and the Federal government has committed to extending this program into the next decade.

