

BEMIDJI 2017 ACTION PLAN - Summary of Completed and Planned Best Practices

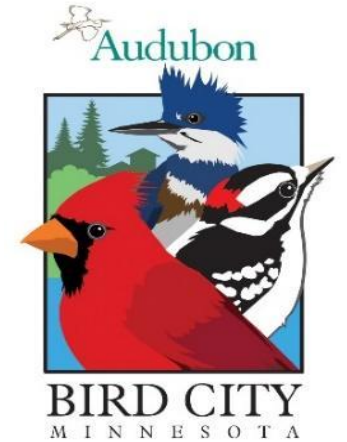
Community: Bemidji

Bird City Minnesota | Full Checklist

Requirements: Bird City communities are recognized for meeting at least 8 of the 19 criteria including 1 required action and 7 best practices (BP) in 3 categories as specified below. Examples of actions for each best practice are provided.

Instructions: For each action checked please provide a complete narrative description.
(The actions listed on this form are examples of activities that might fulfill the Best Management Practice)

Note: Actions from the Minnesota [GreenStep Cities](#) program have been incorporated into [Bird City Minnesota](#) as indicated by the numbers assigned to them in GreenStep program (ex. GS #18.1 refers to GreenStep Best Practice #18 action 1). If your community is a GreenStep City and has already fulfilled this action, you may count it as a Bird City action.



Required of all Bird City communities (complete 1 of 1)

Adopt an official resolution and hold a celebration recognizing International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD). See www.migratorybirdday.org for ideas. Sample resolution available.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolution Date (attach a copy):	<i>May 1st, 2017</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IMBD Event and Date:	<i>Organize the official Bemidji 'Bird City' designation and International Migratory Bird Day celebration on Saturday June 10 – Sunday June 11th National Get Outdoors Day.</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Register your event at http://www.migratorybirdday.org/events.html	<i>Done</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Event description:	<i>Activities include a morning bird hike and afternoon Live Raptor program at Bemidji State Park, June 10 (Saturday is also the park's open house). On Sunday we will have a bird hike led by MHAS/BSU, and Bird City 'ribbon cutting' ceremony at Cameron Park.</i>

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Category I: Educate and engage citizens in birding and conservation (complete at least 2 of 5)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #1: Increase awareness of birds in your community								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1) Create a map and/or information about birding locations in your area and make it available to citizens and tourist outlets in print and/or online.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update existing BJI birding brochure? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of birding hot spots is available from Visit Bemidji. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update existing BJI birding brochure? 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update birding hot spots. Make brochure more interactive for user (e.g. scavenger/challenge hunt w/clues etc.)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2) Develop a birding checklist for your area and make it available to citizens and tourist outlets in print and/or online				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checklist developed for Lake Bemidji State Park (LBSP) 				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3) Install and maintain a birding kiosk and / or signage that identifies birding locations in your area		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretive kiosk/sign on purple martins at Cameron Park - 2016. 						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (4) Share regular social media posts about birds and birding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHAS Facebook postings 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BemidjiBirding Twitter and Instagram accounts are being created. 			
<input type="checkbox"/> (5) Promote Important Bird Areas (IBAs) , birding hotspots, birding trails and phenomena (ex. Raptor, waterfowl or songbird migration, Chimney Swift roosts in your area								

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<p><input type="checkbox"/> (6) Install or promote local nest cameras (but take care if/when disclosing nest locations to avoid disturbance).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (7) Work with municipal or private landowners to allow access to birding hotspots such as wastewater treatment ponds, special habitats or water features.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice</p>								<p>• Install webcam on osprey nest site in Bemidji Area.</p>
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #2: Involve residents in conservation and stewardship projects</p>								
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1) Create and maintain and/or encourage bird feeding stations at parks, nature centers, schools and tourism / lodging sites.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2) Illustrate how your community has a program that involves schools, garden clubs, or other organizations in bird conservation activities.</p>	<p>• Bemidji ABC Project to work with kids and the community to get habitat on the ground. A collaboration with the Bemidji Library, educators, and local businesses in Bemidji's downtown urban landscape</p>			<p>• LBSP maintains a very active bird feeder in winter, hummingbird feeders in summer</p>	<p>• BSU maintains several bird feeding stations along campus walking trail</p>			

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<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3) Develop a program to involve community members in hands-on land and stewardship projects. (GS #18.8)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (4) Research Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in your community and encourage stewardship activities within them (ex. Bird and/or habitat monitoring, restoration, invasive species removal, advocacy).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (5) Support the creation of a stewardship group for important birding resources in your community - an Important Bird Area (IBA), Bird Sanctuary, Birding Trail or similar.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice</p>		<p>• Parks Partners Program (BJI GS18.8),</p>			<p>• Bemidji Sustainability Committee does a Sustainable Places Tour every summer to showcase sustainable land management practices</p>			

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Best Practice #3: Educate and engage youth audiences

<input type="checkbox"/> (1) Promote the creation of a youth birding club / support their activities						<i>• Science Club meets weekly except when the public schools are not in session. It provides hands-on afterschool science activities for students in 3rd through 5th grades</i>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2) Demonstrate that educators are incorporating birds and bird conservation into their formal and informal learning environments on their own or through existing curriculum like Flying WILD .		<i>• City Recreation Coordinator attended Project Wild/Aquatic Wild training workshop Feb 2017. • City will be offering activities in City Parks in the future</i>						
<input type="checkbox"/> (3) Sponsor or facilitate training for educators in the Flying WILD curriculum				<i>• Host Flying Wild workshop for K-12 educators through LCCMR project (fall 2017)</i>				

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (4) Provide bird related programs for children, youth and families <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Demonstrate actions that meet this best practice in an attached narrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bemidji ABC Project • Young Naturalists Program, summer 2017 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headwaters Science Center "Raptors Rule" demonstration program. Presented 43 times in 2016 to 835 individuals, including, students and teachers • MHAS presents during Saturday Science at Headwaters Science Center once per year. 2016 - screened "The Messenger" 		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #4: Promote citizen science monitoring and research								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1) Demonstrate that your community is represented in at least one bird monitoring program such as the Christmas Bird Count , Great Backyard Bird Count , or Chimney Swift Sit .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHAS Christmas Bird Count 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LBSP does a Christmas Bird Count 				

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<p><input type="checkbox"/> (2) Attach a summary of bird monitoring results and/or other data obtained from researchers or local volunteers at sites within the municipality.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (3) Create an eBird account for your community, designate your local birding areas as hotspots and encourage park visitors, volunteers and staff to submit sightings</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (4) Encourage bird monitoring (ex. In conjunction with regular park programming or in cooperation with local birding groups) and submit sightings to eBird</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (5) Encourage / support nest box and feeder monitoring through Nestwatch, FeederWatch or equivalent</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (6) Facilitate citizen participation in water quality monitoring (ex. WHEP - Wetland Health Evaluation Project)</p>		<p>• <i>Promote community eBird account through City website and social media?</i></p>		<p>• <i>Promote eBird use with visitors at LBSP?</i></p>				<p>• <i>Several local birders already using the application</i></p> <p>• <i>Lake Bemidji water quality is monitored as part of the MPCA Citizen Lake and Citizen Stream Monitoring Programs</i></p>

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<p><input type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice</p>								
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #5: Ensure access to nature</p>								
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1) Work to encourage traditionally underserved communities to visit and enjoy birding in your parks</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (2) Offer multilingual programs and/or materials on birds and birding</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3) Develop one or more accessible nature / birding trails</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (4) Identify and remedy gaps within your community's system of parks, offroad trails and open spaces. (GS #18.1)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (5) Plan and budget for a network of parks, green spaces, water features and trails in all new development areas. (GS #18.2)</p>		<p>• <i>Development of North Country Park in underserved neighborhood. 2017 DNR grant to construct a shelter, outdoor classroom/ nature study area and interpretive signs</i></p> <p>• City Parks, Open Space & Trail System Plan - 2011</p> <p>• City parkland dedication fees for new subdivisions</p>		<p>• <i>LBSP provides 3 accessible trails: Rocky Point, Sundew Pond, and the Bogwalk</i></p>				

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<input type="checkbox"/> (6) If your community's has a park score , make a plan to increase your score. <input type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Not applicable for Bemidji (only for cities < 100,000)</i> 						
Category II: Protect, restore and enhance bird habitat (complete at least 3 of 7)								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #6: Practice conservation planning								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1) Certify your community as a GreenStep City <input type="checkbox"/> (2) Develop/fund a conservation easement program, such as a purchase of development rights program, in collaboration with a land trust (GS#10.5) or otherwise protect existing bird habitat through ordinances, easements, fee title acquisition and other methods <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3) Include ecological provisions in the community's comprehensive planning process that explicitly aim to minimize open space fragmentation and/or establish a growth area with expansion criteria (GS BP#6.4).		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bemidji is a Step 3 - GreenStep City, 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSU Master Landscaping Plan, 2013 provisions to use native species, protect and restore natural areas, sustainable practices 			

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<p><input type="checkbox"/> (4) Demonstrate that the local Chamber of Commerce (or a similar group) takes an active role in the planning process for protecting and enlarging favorable bird habitat.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (5) Conduct a Natural Resource Inventory or Assessment (NRI or NRA); incorporate protection of priority natural systems or resources through the subdivision or development process (GS BP#10.1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (6) Document that current community planning seeks to provide additional bird habitat.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice</p>		<p>• 2013 City Tree inventory/assessment</p> <p>• <i>GreenCorps worker to re-inventory boulevard and park trees, (2017).</i></p>						<p>• <i>BSU/DNR may be interested in working with City to enhance the inventory to include habitat components</i></p>
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #7: Create and protect habitat</p>								
<p><input type="checkbox"/> (1) Attach ordinance or other evidence that existing bird habitat has legal protection.</p>								

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<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2) Increase the amount of bird habitat in the community by enlarging existing habitat, acquiring new and/or restoring parcels - creating connections wherever possible</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (3) Ensure that local rules do not restrict brush piles that provide essential cover for birds</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (4) Provide information to property owners on how to create and enhance backyard habitat for birds and/or participate in bird-friendly habitat certification programs (ex. National Wildlife Federation, Audubon Native Plants for Native Birds - spring 2016)</p>	<p>• See also "Birds, Bees, Butterflies & Babe campaign BP #8 – Other</p>				<p>• Since 2008 BSU has established 4 native plant beds on campus and has adopted a Master Landscape Plan that integrates native, perennial and edible plantings across campus to promote environmental health and natural habitat (2016 Progress report, pg 21)</p>			

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<input type="checkbox"/> (5) Assess your acreage of manicured green space (mowed grass) and document conversion of some of that area to low maintenance turf or native landscaping. (similar to GS #18.5) <input type="checkbox"/> (6) Restore habitat in power line and pipeline rights-of-way. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Shore shoreland restoration project 						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #8: Promote use of native and beneficial plant species								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1) Develop and disseminate recommendations for citizens on preferred plantings for birds & pollinators <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2) Create demonstration areas with signage to promote bird-friendly plantings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See brochure for "Birds, Bees, Butterflies & Bemidji campaign - BP #8 – Other • (ABC Proj #3) Hold two 'planting day' demonstration events where businesses and local residents work together to install native plants in downtown 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish Demonstration Monarch Gardens at North Country Park, Library, & Lincoln Elementary School (Spr 2017) 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check with Master Gardeners, Bemidji Garden Club, others for suggestions

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<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3) Participate in existing "pollinator friendly" programs and / or develop a program to provide pollinator habitat</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (4) Adopt local landscaping/nuisance ordinances that promote, rather than create barriers for, native vegetation including taller grasses and forbs which provide important food and cover for birds.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (5) Increase the number and proportion of locally sourced native plants used in city projects and encourage similar standards for new development</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice</p>		<p>• Greater Bemidji Area Joint Planning Board Zoning Ordinance – Performance standards for Native Landscaping (Section 1006) and Tree Preservation (Section 1007)</p>	<p>• Mayor’s Monarch Pledge adopted, Monarch committee established</p>		<p>• BSU Sustainability Office exploring possibilities</p>			
<p>• MHAS is partnering with the City of Bemidji Monarch Project committee on a local campaign we are calling “Birds, Bees, Butterflies & Bemidji” to promote planting of native trees, shrubs, and flowers for birds and pollinators. Local businesses, the city, BSU, and others will install bird and pollinator friendly plantings. Partner with local nurseries to provide plants and information. Multiple partners</p>								
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #9: Control invasive and detrimental species</p>								
<p><input type="checkbox"/> (1) Show how the community offers the public information on control and removal of invasive plant species (ex. buckthorn, garlic mustard and purple loosestrife).</p>								

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2) Actively manage species that are having a detrimental impact on habitat or wildlife (ex. Cats, White-tailed Deer, etc.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3) Actively manage invasive plant species (ex. buckthorn, garlic mustard and purple loosestrife) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (4) Educate citizens about management of invasive plant species on private property (ex. Conduct a workshop and/or involve citizens in invasive species removal projects) <input type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>City manages two special deer hunt areas</i> • <i>Initiate buckthorn control on Lake Blvd lakeshore trail (2017)?</i> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>LBSP manages three special hunts to limit the whitetail population.</i> • <i>LBSP actively manages to control buckthorn, knapweed, loosestrife, etc.</i> • <i>Presentation on native replacements for invasive garden plants to Bemidji Garden Club (May/June)</i> 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Do an invasive species assessment on City/public lands</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #10: Create and protect nesting opportunities								
<input type="checkbox"/> (1) Develop a policy to avoid trimming of trees and shrubs on city lands from early May until mid-July to allow tree and shrub nesting species to complete nesting. Encourage this practice on private lands as well.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Will assess as part of GreenCorps project (see BP #6.5)</i> 						

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<input type="checkbox"/> (2) Develop a policy to delay mowing of road ditches, storm water retention ponding basins and other grasslands until August 1st to allow ground nesting species to complete nesting <input type="checkbox"/> (3) Develop a risk tree management policy that allows, whenever possible, dead trees to remain standing as a nesting and foraging resource for birds <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (4) Encourage the use of nest boxes / structures including not only creation, siting, and installation but also maintenance and monitoring. Keep records of structures and usage. <input type="checkbox"/> (5) Inspect structures for nesting evidence of species like the Common Nighthawk (flat rooftops) and Chimney Swift (chimneys) and reduce disturbance to allow these declining species to succeed. <input type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details for consideration to meet this best practice		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will assess as part of GreenCorps project (see BP6.5) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annually maintain bluebird trail on Paul Bunyan State Trail, east side of Lake Bemidji 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purple martin, bluebird, and wood duck houses on BSU Campus 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • erected a bat house at LBSP • maintain bluebird trail at North Country City Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City, DNR, BSU will partner to add additional Purple martin house at South Shore Park • MHAS & DNR work with Bemidji Downtown Business Alliance to identify Chimney Swift use, provide information

Best Practice #11: Ensure best management of urban forests

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<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1) Certify your community as a Tree City USA (GS#16.1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (2) Work with city or contract foresters to manage intact plots of land with a diversity of over-story and understory trees and shrubs including native and beneficial species</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3) Develop a list of recommended tree and shrub species, at least 1/3 of which are native and beneficial to birds</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (4) Work with local growers / suppliers to increase / ensure local supply of native trees / shrubs / plants</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (5) Build community capacity to protect existing trees/to plant resilient species by certifying at least one or more local staff/volunteers as MN Certified Tree Inspectors from the MN Dept. of Natural Resources. (GS BP#16.6)</p>	<p>• <i>Native species list for Bemidji area developed for Birds, Bees, Butterflies & Bemidji initiative (BP#8 other)</i></p>	<p>• <i>City of Bemidji is a designated Tree City USA</i></p> <p>• GreenCorps worker to develop strategies to tree diversity and pest management</p> <p>• <i>See BP #8 - Other</i></p> <p>• <i>Bemidji P&R has completed an Emerald Ash borer preparedness plan</i></p> <p>• <i>City of Bemidji has 4 P&R staff certified as Tree Inspectors</i></p>						<p>?</p>

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<p><input type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice</p>		<p>• GreenCorps worker to review/develop stronger tree ordinance and standards</p>						
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #12: Ensure clean water in natural waterways</p>								
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1) Maintain set-backs and buffers of at least 50 feet from wetlands, rivers and lakes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (2) Encourage and support the creation of rain-gardens on private and public land</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (3) Host / sponsor training on planting for clean water</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (4) Allow high and low water oscillation to best mimic the natural system</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (5) Adopt low-impact design standards that infiltrate or retain all 2 inch, 24-hour storm water events on site. (GS #18.4)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (6) Use sources of nonpotable water, or surface/rain water for irrigation. (GS #18.5c)</p>		<p>• Greater Bemidji Area Joint Planning Board Zoning Ordinance, Article IX Shoreland Regulations</p>			<p>• Rain barrel at Gitigaan, BSU's community garden (2016 Progress Report, pg 7)</p>			

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<p><input type="checkbox"/> (7) Support a multi-party community conversation around improving local water quality. (GS BP#19.2)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (8) Create/assist a Lake Improvement District. (GS BP#19.7)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (9) Adopt goals to revegetate shoreland and create a local program or outreach effort to help property owners with revegetation. (GS BP#19.5)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice</p>		<p>• South Shore development plan – native species planting and restoration of pine forest</p> <p>Highway 371 Reconstruction and Lake Bemidji South Shore Native Vegetation Restoration</p>		<p>• <i>Native plant species used for the Bemidji Lake Aquatic Management Area & Paul Bunyan State Trail development in South Shore project</i></p>				

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Category III: Reduce Threats to birds (complete at least 2 of 6)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #13: Reduce collisions with windows								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1) Demonstrate that your community provides property owners with information on how to protect birds from window-strikes <input type="checkbox"/> (2) Adopt bird-friendly design practices for all new municipal owned and operated buildings <input type="checkbox"/> (3) Assess all current municipal owned and operated buildings for bird collision problems <input type="checkbox"/> (4) Develop an action plan for fixing existing collision problems at municipal buildings <input type="checkbox"/> (5) Implement action plan for fixing existing collision problems at municipal buildings <input type="checkbox"/> (6) Develop comprehensive guidelines or requirements for addressing bird-safety in the design of both municipal and private buildings in the community.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN DNR will install and demonstrate window treatments at regional office to reduce strikes (April). • Present or host event with BDA, etc. 	?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore federal and nonprofit guidelines that could be modified for use at the City level

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<p><input type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice</p>								
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #14: Reduce threats from other man-made structures</p>								
<p><input type="checkbox"/> (1) Follow federal guidelines for siting and operations of wind power facilities to study and reduce impacts on birds and other wildlife</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (2) Follow federal guidelines for siting and operations of power lines to study and reduce impacts on birds and other wildlife</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (3) Follow federal guidelines for siting and operations of communication towers study and reduce impacts on birds and other wildlife</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (4) Document how new bridge projects were planned to consider their potential impacts on birds.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (5) Where vehicle collisions with birds occur, reduce speeds, post signage and/or modify corridor to reduce this threat</p>								

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<p><input type="checkbox"/> (6) Require open pipes be capped or filled to protect birds and other animals from entrapment. Incorporate capping/filling into regulations and permit conditions, and local building codes. Remove pipes that are not in use, cap with wire or netting or fill with sand or rocks. Examples of open pipes include mining claim markers, residential rooftop plumbing and heating pipes, irrigation system vents etc.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice</p>								
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #15: Reduce light pollution</p>								
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1) Adhere to Lights Out operations according to Audubon's Lights Out program; sign each municipal building on; encourage participation community-wide</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (2) Inventory all municipal lighting (building, facility, street) for Dark Sky compliance</p>				<p>• MN DNR will install new outdoor lighting and apply appropriate Lights Out practices</p> <p>• Present or host demonstration event with BDBA, etc.</p>				<p>• additional benefit is that insects (pollinators and some of the aquatic insects that have hatches) can be disoriented by light</p>

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<p><input type="checkbox"/> (3) Develop a plan for Dark Sky compliance including a timeline and priority actions</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (4) Implement plan to replace inefficient fixtures (exterior building, street, parking lot/ramp and traffic lighting) with Dark-Sky compliant, energy efficient, automatic dimming lighting technologies (GS#4.6, 4.7 and 4.8)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (5) Require energy efficient, Dark-Sky compliant new or replacement outdoor lighting fixtures on city-owned/private buildings and facilities (GS#4.1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice</p>		<p>• 95% of all traffic signals within city outfitted w/ LED lamps</p>						
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #16: Reduce disturbance and predation by free-roaming pets</p>								
<p><input type="checkbox"/> (1) Develop an educational program to control free-roaming cats and/or actively publicize the "Cats Indoors!" program about the danger of free-roaming cats and the benefits of keeping cats indoors</p>								

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<p><input type="checkbox"/> (2) Provide "Cats Indoors" educational materials in print with every spay / neuter (at city, veterinary offices, local NGO and private facilities)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (3) Require owners of every cat adopted from local facilities (city or NGO) to sign a pledge to keep cats indoors or enclosure or leashed when outdoors</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (4) Prohibit Trap-Neuter-Release programs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (5) Prohibit free-roaming cats in your community (ex. Cat leash law)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (6) Limit off-leash dogs in natural areas where disturbance threatens ground nesting birds and waste degrades habitat and makes areas inhospitable to wildlife.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice</p>								

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Best Practice #17: Reduce the threat of pesticides and other toxins

<input type="checkbox"/> (1) Demonstrate that the city's pesticide management program reduces the use of toxins, takes advantage of the least toxic choice(s) and that you are following manufacturers guidelines in application (GS 18.5a).								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City could provide reminders to citizens about fertilizing lawn, appropriate use of chemicals, etc •
<input type="checkbox"/> (2) Adopt USFWS Pollinator Guidelines or similar pollinator-friendly ordinance / policy.								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3) Encourage and promote the use of non-lead tackle and ammunition. Work with local sportsman's clubs to include related education in hunter education / gun safety.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LBSP promotes copper ammo for youth hunt participants 				
<input type="checkbox"/> (4) Reduce toxins in the environment by coordinating clean up of lead ammunition on gun ranges and lead tackle at fishing areas. (Pick up fishing line to reduce this entanglement and ingestion risk).								
<input type="checkbox"/> (5) Prohibit the use of lead ammunition and tackle on municipal land								

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<input type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Practice #18: Reduce climate impacts								
<input type="checkbox"/> (1) Develop a climate action plan as part of comprehensive plans or in a separate policy document to reduce energy use and carbon emissions (GS#6.5) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2) Ensure residents have the option of purchasing green energy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3) Demonstrate a decrease in energy use and carbon emissions through operational or building design changes. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - provide details of other actions for consideration to meet this best practice		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Beltrami Electric Coop offers members the option to receive, locally-produced, solar energy. 33% of the retail energy is wind generated</i> • <i>Participates in the Guaranteed Energy Savings Program</i> • <i>Mayor's presentation at Bemidji Climate Adaptation Conference January 28, 2016</i> 			<p><i>BSU Climate Action Plan progress tracked annually (see 2016 progress report).</i></p>			