The Maine Downtown Center's **Green Downtowns!** program is designed to strengthen the link between the natural and built environment in Maine's historic downtowns to make them more environmentally responsive and ecologically conscious. The program has been designed to assist towns in recognizing and achieving their own unique green potential. The overall plan can be broken down into individual projects allowing different interest groups to champion the project of their choice.

Maine Downtown Center

Green Downtowns!

August, 2010

1: Green Canopy

a. Urban forest plan
b. Green roofs + green walls
c. Green streets/Hardy Street Trees/ Tree pits
d. Riparian policies
e. Native species selection
f. Community gardens
g. Central/consolidated parking
h. Right tree, right place

Plants are a natural compliment to downtown, making the space more livable for residents, visitors and merchants.

2: Active Transportation

a. Green Ways + Multiuse Trails
b. Waterfront Trails
c. Nature Trails
d. Sidewalks + Pedestrian amenities
e. Bike Lanes
f. Cycling amenities (lockers, tools etc.)
g. Bike share programs
h. River + Waterfront public space.

Engaging in active transportation is choosing to ride your bike or walk, rather than drive; educating others and providing the infrastructure are preferred options.

3: Stormwater Planning

a. Daylight Stormsewers
b. Porous paving+ infiltration
c. No-net runoff site standards
d. Rain Gardens
e. Bio-Remediation
f. Stormwater wetlands
g. Watershed planning

Stormwater retention eases the load on city/town systems saving both the environment and the collective coffers.

4: Healthy Communities

a. Outdoor exercise stations
b. Green school yards
c. Greenways, trails + bike lanes
d. Open space and parks
e. Recreational facilities
f. Grow local
g. Farmer + Fish markets
h. Active living programs for seniors

Providing the infrastructure for healthy living improves the quality of our downtowns and our quality of life, which in turn strengthens the business climate.

5: Green Energy

a. LEED certification for new Buildings
b. LED Lighting
c. Dark sky compliant lighting
d. District Heating
e. Seawater/ground water heat pumps
f. Solar energy
g. Wind energy

Science is advancing at a rate such that progressive technology is readily available to the everyday consumer, making affordable green energy a viable option.

A Renewed Purpose.

The concept for this new park will demonstrate the practical and artistic application of recycled materials. People can relax and take a rest after shopping at the bordering shops and cafe. All the while appreciating the environmental commitment that Millinocket has made to future generations.

Balancing livability, sustainability, green design, urbanism, active living and ecological development.

Circulation

Penobscot Ave is now a two-way street. This will open up the downtown and increase the flow of traffic.

6: Urban Living

a. Mixed use downtowns
b. Increasing urban density
c. Maintain community character
d. Wi-Fi downtown
e. Smart Growth Policies
f. Downtown Revitalization
g. Connecting the downtown to its natural amenities

Smart living, working, playing and learning all within an accessible distance is what urban living is all about.

7: Transportation

a. Public Transit
b. Car-share programs
c. Outlets for electric cars
d. Small car parking stalls

Focus is shifting from auto-centric urban sprawl to revitalized downtowns with public transit connecting everyone to everything.

8: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

a. Preserving historic buildings
b. Adaptive building use
c. Recycling street furniture

Memorable downtowns with character draw people; authenticity and reverence for our built and cultural heritage pays substantial dividends.

Which way does the River run?
The former Newberry site and parking lot has become the jewel of Millinocket. The park isn't just a great place to eat your icecream, it has become a classroom to learn about the Millinocket River. Through fun interactive components kids of all ages will be soaking up new found knowledge and appreciation of a beautiful natural ammenity in their own backyard.

Mud Park, Hydrological Scale Model of the Lower Mississippi River
Mud Island River Park - Memphis

Key Strategic Improvements:

1. Open Penobscot Ave. for two-way traffic.
2. Create a central pedestrian focal point for the town and residents.
3. Connect people to the environment with practical applications of education, art and materials.
4. Green the rooftops.
5. Green or infill lost or forgotten spaces.
6. Attract business to the surrounding buildings and beyond that compliment the park setting.

Millinocket

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EKISTICS PLANNING & DESIGN