

Sustainable Neighborhoods for Happiness

What constitutes a happy and sustainable neighborhood? For that we turn to the Sustainable Neighborhoods for Happiness Index. In the worksheet, we are going to explore a streamlined version of the Sustainable Neighborhoods for Happiness Index. The 7 components we are going to use as part of our evaluation are:

1. Community Involvement
2. Water Management
3. Energy Management
4. Community Design
5. Food Management
6. Waste Management
7. Transportation

Similar to the Sustainability Neighborhoods for Happiness Index, we are going to use a 3-point scoring system. Subjective data scoring criteria are as follows:

Subjective Score	Scoring Criteria
1	Neighborhood has no to limited sustainability goals or practices for the scored measure. Overall the neighborhood falls below expectations for this measure.
2	Neighborhood has invested in sustainable practices with respect to scored measure and has set sustainability as a goal and strives to include its residents in the process. Overall the neighborhood meets expectations for this measure.
3	Neighborhood has extensive sustainability practices, includes its residents in the process and has assigned a working group—such as a sustainability office—to achieve/meet set goals. Overall the neighborhood exceeds expectations for this measurement.

Neighborhood: _____

Criteria	Supporting Data	Ratings
Community Involvement		
The residents feel part of a community.		
The residents can participate in the rulemaking for the community.		
Average Rating (add the above scores & divide by 2):		
Water Management		
The neighborhood landscape doesn't need much water.		
Residents feel like they will always have all the clean water they need.		
Average Rating:		

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Criteria	Supporting Data	Ratings
Energy Management		
Residents are encouraged to use solar energy. <i>Note: If the neighborhood or home owners association has any restrictions or bans on solar panels, score this measure as '0'</i>		
The street and park lights are energy efficient (LEDs, solar powered, down lighting).		
Average Rating:		
Community Design		
The neighborhood has lots of public green space (parks, preserves, community gardens).		
The neighborhood has a mix of offices, homes, schools, and businesses.		
Average Rating:		
Food Management		
The neighborhood has regular farmers markets that are accessible to all residents (e.g., the market accepts Women, Infants, & Children (WIC) and Food Stamp vouchers).		
The neighborhood is supportive of community and household gardens. <i>Note: If the neighborhood or Home Owners Association has a ban on hens or front yard gardens, score this measure as '0'</i>		
Average Rating:		
Waste Management		
The neighborhood has regular curbside recycling pick-up.		
The neighborhood has a composting program. <i>Note: If the neighborhood or Home Owners Association restricts household composting, score this measure as '0'</i>		
Average Rating:		
Transportation		
You can safely bike and walk around the neighborhood using bike lanes and sidewalks.		
The neighborhood has access to public transit and comfortable, safe stops.		
Average Rating:		
Total Rating:		