

# moving forward → → →

2006 brought many new developments and a significant increase in partner businesses. With success comes a new set of challenges. In 2007, challenges include providing increasing services to our growing list of partners as well as increasing the number of completed projects that affect greenhouse gas reduction, all with limited resources. As such, 2007 will bring an additional focus to improved tracking systems and more efficient partner services. The program will continue to focus on results and allocate appropriate resources to those partners who show a commitment to the program.

By tackling these challenges head on, Climate Wise will continue to be a credible resource for the business community. The program focuses on documenting tangible and accurate results which are making a positive difference in our community. Further, the program continues to evolve and create valuable partnerships. We are committed to serving our business partners, working together to become more efficient. Most importantly, we'll strive to offer the highest level of service possible while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

## mission

To build and serve an active group of businesses and organizations that is committed to making Fort Collins a world-class community through climate protection, environmental stewardship and economic vitality.

Printed on recycled paper.

2007 Climate Wise Theme

## Growing a Valuable Partnership;

working together as Climate Wise staff and partners to improve accountability, resources, and progress toward our goal.



To learn more about Climate Wise  
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During 2006, the City of Fort Collins welcomed the 48th partner to our Climate Wise program, an impressive milestone after seven years.

The Climate Wise businesses have helped Fort Collins develop a reputation as a leader in green business. By balancing environmental and economic impacts, Climate Wise has shown that green business is not only responsible; **it's smart business.**

As you review this annual report you will see the impressive, tangible results of the Climate Wise program. The success of this program is due to the commitment of the City's Climate Wise business partners and the Climate Wise staff. Please join me in thanking them for their efforts in creating a healthy environment, a robust economy, and a vibrant community, now and for many years to come.

the city of fort collins  
**climatewise**

2006 summary of accomplishments



# ClimateWise

## Business Smart

Imagine a program that combines money saving practices with protecting the environment. That's smart business, and this is Climate Wise. Climate Wise is a City of Fort Collins voluntary program to support local businesses or organizations dedicated to environmental stewardship and a vibrant local economy. Partners voluntarily reduce their greenhouse gas emissions through waste reduction, energy efficiency, water conservation, and transportation reduction. These actions result in cost savings and program participants find additional benefit as the program provides public recognition, technical assistance, support, and peer networking opportunities.

While Climate Wise partners are saving money, the program also strives to model efficiency. The program received a Pollution Prevention grant for 2005/2006, and the cost of operating the Climate Wise program with local government dollars continues to be very low. The program helps build local capacity for climate protection and other environmental benefits for the community.



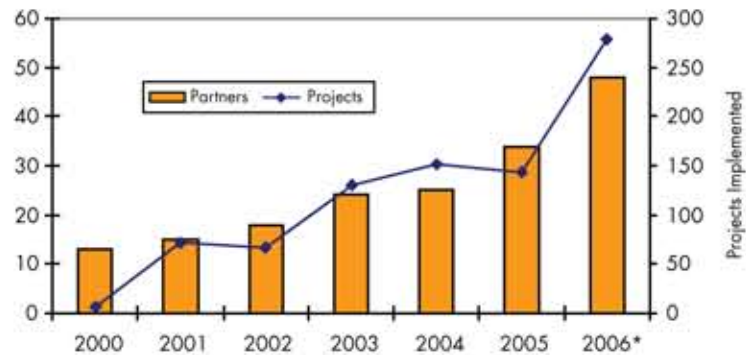
## Progress toward Climate Protection

During 2006, the Climate Wise Program grew by 14 organizations to include 48 business partners. These partners have made significant progress to the program's goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 93,390 tons per year by the year 2010. In 2006, Climate Wise partners reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 62,202 tons. These reductions are less than those originally reported in 2005. During 2006, the Climate Wise program conducted a comprehensive quality control assessment of all data dating back to 2000. Through this process, consistent and stricter data acceptance criteria were applied, resulting in some activities being ineligible for reporting. Yet with continued growth of the program and the great enthusiasm of the partners, Climate Wise staff and partners are confident and committed to reaching the 2010 goal within the next three years.

### Program Partners and Projects Implemented



\*73% of partners reporting



## New Developments

### Research and Innovation in Greenhouse Gas Accounting

Climate Wise partners report on quantifiable projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and these projects often result in cost savings. Climate Wise staff help partners follow industry standards when measuring carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions; however, the program is forging new ground in researching, and expanding the tracking of cost savings.

Staff began an innovative process during 2006 to collect and analyze new cost savings data for various projects. Initially focusing on recycling, transportation, and water related projects, the Climate Wise program ultimately aims to complete a comprehensive cost/benefit analysis for partners.

### Implementation of New Partner Levels

During 2006, Climate Wise implemented a new four-tiered approach that identifies partners as Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Platinum. The new structure helps motivate organizations to continue to do more and strive for a more prestigious level. It also aids program management by allocating resources to those businesses that have greater potential for contributing to the program's greenhouse gas reduction goal.

### New Tools for Partners

As part of the Climate Wise commitment to improving service to partners, staff developed the Climate Wise Resource Guide, an electronic tool that helps partners maximize the benefits of participating in the program. The Resource Guide includes new innovative tools such as a greenhouse gas baseline tool, a self-assessment checklist, a data collection form with active links, and more. These resources support new partners as well as veteran partners interested in taking their Climate Wise actions to a new level, and the number of projects reported by partners increased by 88% over 2005, making 2006 the program's most successful year yet for data reporting.

### New Partner Requirements

As of last year, partners are now required to attend an orientation session that highlights member benefits, requirements, and program changes. Additionally, partners who want to achieve Gold or Platinum Levels are required to host a "Talk and Tour" at least once each year. Talk and Tours allows partners to showcase greenhouse gas reducing projects and provide networking opportunities for all Climate Wise partners.

### Sector Work

In partnership with the City of Boulder, Climate Wise staff sent information to the restaurant sector about best practices. Later in the year staff sent information to hotels and motels which resulted in several hotels joining the Climate Wise program. Further, Climate Wise collabo-

rated with Larimer County to send information about best practices and reference links to area dry cleaners.

### New Annual Event

Staff began a new tradition of recognizing partners before Earth Day each year with a new event, EnviroVation – A Climate Wise Showcase. The name is symbolic for innovation and standing ovation for successes in environmental stewardship.

## Valuable Partnerships

- The Climate Wise program was able to leverage more than \$9,000 in sponsorships during 2006, partnering with a variety of businesses from Poudre School District to Café Ardour.
- Climate Wise staff collaborated with the Fort Collins Area Chamber of Commerce's Environmental Education Committee to organize the first meeting of the seminar series, The Saving Green Seminar: How to Do Business Profitably and Help the Environment.
- Climate Wise staff advised other agencies in the U.S. and Canada to assist with research on program effectiveness and/or to bring similar outreach programs to other cities including Seattle, Denver, Boulder, and Chicago, as well as the David Suzuki foundation in Vancouver.
- Through a partnership with Colorado State University and Poudre School District, the Climate Wise program worked with two volunteer students who logged more than 350 hours.

## Working Together: Partner Highlights

The Climate Wise program assisted partners with the following achievements:

- Poudre School District completed a Sustainability Management System.
- The Neenan Company beta-tested the greenhouse gas baseline calculation tool.
- Fort Collins Wal-Mart Supercenter was designated as one of six sustainable pilot stores in the United States.
- Anheuser-Busch received a Corporate Wildlife Habitat Certification for their new wildlife education site.

## Climate Wise in the Media

The Climate Wise program and Climate Wise partners were featured in numerous publications in 2006, including the Northern Colorado Business Report, The Fort Collins Coloradoan, The Fort Collins Weekly, The Chamber of Commerce Compass, The Fort Collins Forum, The Denver Post, and SignOn San Diego.

# ClimateWise

## Making Fort Collins A Better Place

### Cost Savings

Annual cost savings for partners of the Climate Wise program exceeded \$2 million in 2006. Since the program's inception, cumulative savings to partners are nearly \$6 million.

### Did You Know?

Climate Wise business partners reduced 62,202 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2006 to-date, which is approximately equivalent to:

- 4,975,000 trees planted
- A reduction of 780,000 round trip vehicle trips between Fort Collins and Denver
- A reduction of 66,800 roundtrip airline flights from Denver to New York City
- Removing 8,800 vehicles from the road this year
- Taking 171,500, 60-watt light bulbs, that were in use 24 hours a day, out of service

### Measures that Matter



#### **Water conservation:**

Cumulative savings since the year 2000: 2,105,083,000 gallons or 2.1 billion gallons

Approximately equivalent to:

- the annual water use of 33,500 homes
- having to fill City Park pool 9,900 times

#### **Electrical energy:**

Cumulative savings since the year 2000: 154,873,609 kWh

Approximately equivalent to the annual energy use of 14,000 homes

#### **Natural gas energy:**

Cumulative savings since the year 2000: 3,225,000 therms

Approximately equivalent to the annual natural gas use of 4,500 homes

#### **Material diverted from landfill by reduction, reuse, or recycling:**

Cumulative savings since the year 2000: 51,969 tons

Approximately equivalent in weight to 3,700 Transfort city buses

### Partnership Demographics

Partners in the program employ nearly 18,000 people ranging from small one-employee businesses to Colorado State University, the largest employer in Northern Colorado.

- 90% of partners are private employers
- 10% of partners are public organizations

# Climate Wise Business Partners Make a Difference

## Thank You Partner Steering Committee for Your Dedication!

Anheuser-Busch Inc.  
Avago Technologies  
Café Ardour  
Colorado State University

Poudre School District  
The Brendle Group  
The Neenan Company

### GOLD LEVEL PARTNERS

Anheuser-Busch Inc.  
Avago Technologies  
Café Ardour  
Poudre School District  
The Neenan Company

### SILVER LEVEL PARTNERS

Alliance Construction & Land Development Inc.  
Ben & Jerry's  
Colorado State University  
Compliance Partners\*  
Custom Blending, Inc.\*  
Dako Colorado, Inc.  
Delta Construction  
Foothills Mall  
Front Range Community College\*  
Hewlett-Packard Company  
Houska Automotive Services, Inc.  
JAX Outdoor, Inc.  
Land Images, Inc.\*

New Belgium Brewing Company, Inc.  
Nolte Associates, Inc.  
Odell Brewing Company  
Platte River Power Authority  
Poudre Valley Hospital  
Rio Grande Mexican Restaurant\*  
Scuba Schools International\*  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
USDA-APHIS  
Value Plastics, Inc.  
Vaught-Frye Architects\*  
Wal-Mart Supercenter\*  
Whole Foods Market

### BRONZE PARTNERS

Waterpik Technologies

### ACTIVE PARTNERS

Advanced Energy Industries, Inc.  
Eco-Thrift\*  
European Motor Cars\*  
Fort Collins Area Chamber of Commerce\*  
Fort Collins Club  
Fort Collins Marriott

Lafarge West, Inc.  
Media Tech Productions\*  
Residence Inn by Marriott\*  
The Coloradoan  
TransPro, Inc.\*

\* = NEW PARTNERS

Many thanks to The Brendle Group for providing fantastic technical assistance!