

The Newsletter of the  
Illinois Green Government Coordinating Council



# Green

Spring 2006

Lt. Governor Pat Quinn, Chair

[GreenSolutions.il.gov](http://GreenSolutions.il.gov)



## First Illinois Green Lease

Last month, the Illinois Department of Central Management Services announced its first green lease, which will incorporate environmentally sound building practices into the requirements for all state leased facilities.

The green components of the new lease will increase energy efficiency, minimize waste, improve indoor air quality and reduce life cycle costs for state occupied properties. In the first awarded lease under the new practice, the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation will occupy green space in 122 South Michigan Avenue in Chicago.

## Environmental Leaders Convene

On April 19, the Illinois Green Government Coordinating Council hosted the first annual Green Government Symposium at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Building in Springfield. There were 140 people in attendance at the event, representing state, local and county governments, as well as public universities, businesses and nonprofit organizations.

The day's sessions focused on ways to build healthier, more environmentally sound communities in Illinois. Panelists addressed the topics of green building practices, energy efficiency, green purchasing, recycling, sustainable transportation and strategies to greening the workplace.

With the success of the April 19 symposium, the Council looks forward to hosting future events promoting environmental policies and initiatives. On June 28, the first Sustainable University Symposium will take place at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Building in Springfield. To register, please visit [GreenSolutions.il.gov](http://GreenSolutions.il.gov).

## Green Government Awards

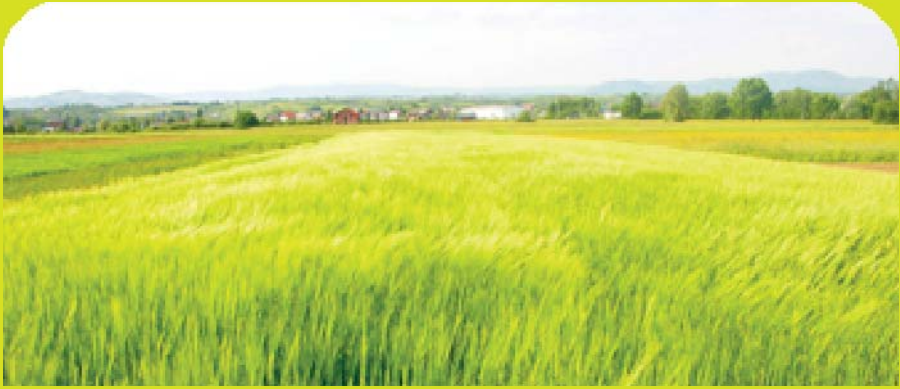
Congratulations to the 2006 Green Government Award recipients! For more information about the environmental accomplishments of these six state agencies, please visit [GreenSolutions.il.gov](http://GreenSolutions.il.gov).

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency: *General Achievement Award*  
Illinois Department of Central Management Services: *Green Facilities Award*  
Illinois Department of Corrections: *Energy Efficiency Award*  
Illinois State University, ISU Green Team: *University Achievement Award*  
Illinois Department of Transportation: *Green Innovator Award*  
Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services: *Waste Reduction Award*

## Online Forum

The Illinois Green Government Coordinating Council has unveiled an online forum and message board at [GreenSolutions.il.gov](http://GreenSolutions.il.gov), where interested parties may post any questions or suggestions they have for creating more environmentally healthy communities and workplaces in Illinois. Thank you for your feedback and participation!

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## Six Weeks To A Greener Illinois

On March 6, the Illinois Green Government Coordinating Council initiated a new program called "Six Weeks to a Greener Illinois." Every week through April 14, state employees received easy tips from the Council on ways to make office operations more efficient and environmentally friendly in Illinois. Those who participated were able to log into the Council's website at [GreenSolutions.il.gov](http://GreenSolutions.il.gov) to track their progress. By mid-April, state employees representing more than 30 agencies and departments helped make Illinois a greener, healthier place to live and work. To take part in the ongoing "Six Weeks" program, please visit [GreenSolutions.il.gov](http://GreenSolutions.il.gov). Feel free to let the Council know what other ways you are helping the environment at the new online forum.

## What's New @ [GreenSolutions.il.gov](http://GreenSolutions.il.gov)

Now available on [GreenSolutions.il.gov](http://GreenSolutions.il.gov):

- Agency update forms for Annual Report, due Friday, June 30
- Green Solutions forum and message board
- Contact info for Council designees at state agencies and departments
- Map of recycling opportunities available at state facilities in Illinois



[GreenSolutions.il.gov](http://GreenSolutions.il.gov)

### Upcoming Events

- June 16: Council Quarterly Meeting
- June 28: Sustainable University Symposium
- June 30: Agency Updates Due at [GreenSolutions.il.gov](http://GreenSolutions.il.gov)

- Lt. Governor Pat Quinn, *Chair*
- Jack Lavin, *Director of Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity*
- Sam Flood, *Acting Director of Department of Natural Resources*
- George Vander Velde, *Director of Waste Management and Research Center*
- Doug Scott, *Director of Environmental Protection Agency*
- Janet Grimes, *Executive Director of Capital Development Board*
- Chuck Hartke, *Director of Department of Agriculture*
- Paul Campbell, *Director of Central Management Services*

This newsletter is published quarterly by the Illinois Green Government Coordinating Council. Design by Gil Jimenez; Copy by Cathy Malina. For more information, please visit [GreenSolutions.il.gov](http://GreenSolutions.il.gov) or email [GreenCouncil.ltgov@illinois.gov](mailto:GreenCouncil.ltgov@illinois.gov).



## GGCC Annual Report

The Illinois Green Government Coordinating Council is preparing its 2006 Annual Report, and it is requesting that all state agencies, boards, commissions, and public universities submit updates on their environmental activities and achievements from the past year. To access the standard form for agency reports, which are due for submission by Friday, June 30, please visit [GreenSolutions.il.gov](http://GreenSolutions.il.gov). Email the Council any questions at [GreenCouncil.ltgov@illinois.gov](mailto:GreenCouncil.ltgov@illinois.gov).

## State Legislative Update

*Energy Performance Contracting*  
SB 1827 passed both houses and is headed to the Governor's desk to be signed. This bill allows local governments, universities, community colleges and park districts to extend the maximum length of EPCs from 10 to 20 years.

*Mercury Removal*  
Public Act 094-0732 creates the Mercury Switch Removal Act, providing that mercury switches removed from end-of-life vehicles must be managed in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act. The bill also requires vehicle recyclers, vehicle crushers and scrap metal recyclers that remove mercury switches to recycle these devices.

*Energy Efficiency*  
The new state budget has earmarked \$300,000 for energy efficiency projects in state buildings.

**ILLINOIS  
GREEN GOVERNMENT  
COORDINATING COUNCIL**