



# Montevallo Sustainability

## WE'RE LEADING BY EXAMPLE

### 2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT



## Summary:

Montevallo hosts several sustainability programs. Most visibly, Montevallo's Recycling Center serves as a hub for residents to recycle in Montevallo and surrounding communities as far as Chilton County. Since the hiring of the city's first Sustainability Coordinator, Montevallo's recycling center added additional programs like donation bins to the local thrift store and plastic bag recycling. During its first three months, Montevallo donated 11,500 lbs to America's Thrift Store. Montevallo also entered Trex's plastic film recycling challenge where, for every 500 pounds of plastic film collected in six months, Trex will exchange the plastic for an outdoor bench. We collected and recycled 500lbs in less than 6 months – a token for how successful programs grow quickly here. The bench was installed November 2020. Montevallo also takes pride in its parks, walkable downtown, and public art.

In a partnership with Commute Smart Birmingham, three additional bike racks have been installed along our Main Street corridor. We also host a local farmers market and we have the oldest bike share program in the state. Montevallo regards energy efficiency as a top priority as our parks, fire department and city hall are equipped with LED and motion sensor lights. Our downtown Main Street corridor also has LED lights and, most recently, Montevallo has partnered with Alabama Power to change all of our streetlights to LED.

Montevallo's sustainability goals would not be nearly as robust without the help of our community organizations, city departments, University partnership, and support from the Mayor and City Council. Whether directly related to energy savings, emission reduction, or resource conservation, Montevallo has a knack for doing good for the environment and its residents while cutting costs.



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### *Montevallo by the Numbers:*

- Waste diverted away from landfill since Jan 2020:
  - Recycled: 117,560 lbs\*
  - Donated: 39,500 lbs
- Impressions:
  - +2,000 residents reached
  - +620 social media followers
  - 100 resident contacts\*
- Funding Awarded: \$101,857
- Energy (City Operations) 2019: 661,856 kWh\*
- Energy (Resident Usage) 2019: 180,000,000 kWh\*
- Fuel Consumed 2019: 26,064 gallons\*
- Municipal Greenhouse Gas Footprint 2019-2020: 1,173.6 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e\*

### Montevallo's Reuse It Book Vol. I

Made in conjunction with the City of Montevallo and the University of Montevallo's Trio Upward Bound Program

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[cityofmontevallo.com/sustainability.aspx](http://cityofmontevallo.com/sustainability.aspx)



Sustainable Montevallo



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### Recycling:

- Renovated Recycling Center with new signs and new hours for a more efficient operation.
- Saved 60% on fees.
- Added additional recycling programs:
  - Plastic Film Recycling
  - Electronics Recycling
  - America's Thrift Store Donation Bins

### Impressions:

- Tabling at Arbor Day, Montevallo's Farmer's Market, and Love Montevallo Day.
- America Recycles Day Celebrations
  - Community Clean Up, Recycled Bench Ribbon Cutting, and Document Shredding Truck
- Group Presentations on Waste Reduction.
- Earth Day reusable bag giveaway at Montevallo High School.
- Monthly Sustainability Segment in Chamber Chatter.
- Active Facebook Page.

### Grants:

- Awarded:
  - \$38,313 ADEM Recycling Fund Grant
  - \$29,544 AARP Communities Challenge Grant
  - \$34,000 ADECA State Energy Program Grant
- Applied:
  - Alabama Power Foundation Grant
  - VW Settlement Grant

### Energy:

- Conducted Energy Audit for city operations.
- Calculated Montevallo's first municipal carbon footprint.
- All Alabama Power Street Lights will be converted to LED.

### Walkability:

- Three new Bike racks installed on Main Street Corridor.
- Montevallo Elementary School Island Street crosswalk and completed Bulldog Bridge path.
- ADA Transition Plan and New Construction sidewalk prioritization.

### Community:

- Worked with University of Montevallo Sustainability Capstone Course.
- Produced First "Reuse It Book" with University of Montevallo's Trio Upward Bound Program.
- Active Board Member on:
  - Alabama Environmental Council
  - Montevallo Main Street
- Montevallo Main Street Sustainability Committee.
  - Green Business Program:
    - 3 community supporters
- Diane Johnson was the first Certificate of Recognition recipient for her extraordinary volunteer work at the Recycling Center.

