

Hi Matt:

I just spoke with Scott Gustin who suggested emailing you directly. I wanted to let you know, as chair of the Conservation Board, that Burlington recently became (with funding and assistance from the Regional Planning Commission) a STAR Community Leader. STAR stands for *Sustainability Tools for Assessing and Rating Communities*. This basically means that we'll be tracking a breadth of sustainability-related data over time and will be able to compare progress from year-to-year. It will also allow us to be nationally ranked and compared to other communities. Info is here: <http://starcommunities.org/>

To help with data collection, Melanie Needle/CCRPC and I have hired several interns. (Josh Kendrick, Margot Halpin and Skyler Golann are cced here). Some of what Josh, Margot and Skyler need to collect is related to natural systems protection, and the CB's work in particular. That said (and I know how busy you are so we really appreciate the time) – can either Josh or Margot follow up with you to see about setting up a time to meet or to speak by phone about the breadth of data they need and who you feel might be the best source, whether within the CB or beyond?

Thank you in advance for your help. Email from Josh/Margot to follow.

Jen

PS I'm also arranging with Scott to have Josh and Margot do a quick 10 minute presentation to the Board on the STAR Community Index at your next meeting, June 30, 5:30. Thanks for time on the agenda.

Jennifer Green
Sustainability Coordinator
Community and Economic Development Office
City of Burlington
City Hall, 149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401
802-865-7532

Please note that our email domain has changed to @burlingtonvt.gov; please DELETE jgreen@ci.burlington.vt.us in your address books as it will not work. My new email address is jgreen@burlingtonvt.gov.

