

## **WWF'S EARTH HOUR LIST**

BACKGROUNDER Monday, March 21, 2011

## #8 (tie) - Halifax, Nova Scotia

Score: 5.3/10

Halifax ties with Mississauga for the eighth spot on The Earth Hour List. WWF congratulates Halifax on its leadership on climate change and looks forward to many improvements the city can continue to make.

## Highlights of Halifax's activities

- Halifax initiated Climate SMART (Sustainable Mitigation and Adaptation Risk Toolkit) in 2005. The Climate SMART initiative is an ongoing, leading edge partnership between HRM, the Province of Nova Scotia, the Government of Canada, and private companies.
- In November, Halifax Regional Council approved for staff to develop a large scale Community Solar Project. The project aims to install approximately 1,000 solar panels on 500 homes.
- Significant greenhouse gas reductions have come from initiatives such as converting municipal buildings from oil to natural gas heating, replacing older transit fleet vehicles with new, cleaner vehicles, and switching incandescent traffic signal bulbs to efficient LED lamps. Methane gas recovery at the Sackville Landfill also prevents the release of more than 100,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas per year.
- The city has implemented new Bus Rapid Transit services (Metro Link and Metro Express), which have attracted a great number of former carcommuters.
- HRM has purchased 2,137 LED street light fixtures for \$1.6million from a local company, LED Roadway lighting. This will make Halifax Regional Municipality the first major Canadian municipality to fully convert to LED street light fixtures.

## **Additional information**

City of Halifax Sustainability Page

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