

4. The City should consider using impact fees and other creative funding mechanisms to minimize the cost to the taxpayers of providing expanded facilities to serve new development and to spread the cost of these improvements among the projects that benefit from the improvements.

K. Energy and Environmental Considerations

State Goal: None specific to this topic.

Local Objectives:

- **To improve the efficiency of energy use by South Portland residents, businesses, and government entities.**
- **To reduce the amount of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions from City facilities and activities by 17% of 2007 levels by 2017.**
- **To reduce the amount of solid waste generated by residents and businesses and increase the rate of recycling.**

Pursuant to these objectives, the policies of the City of South Portland are:

1. The City should adopt, fund, implement and regularly update a “climate action plan” for the City that spells out how the City and the larger community, including the commercial/industrial and residential sectors, will reduce GHG emissions.
2. As part of the implementation of Phase 1 of the Climate Action Plan, the City should reduce the energy usage and GHG emissions from municipal and school buildings and the City’s vehicle fleet and other transportation activities.
3. The City should undertake a program to reduce the amount of waste generated by City operations and to increase the percentage of wastes that are recycled.
4. In the longer term, the City should work with the business community to develop and implement Phase 2 of the Climate Action Plan focusing on energy efficiency and voluntary reductions in energy use and GHG emissions by the City’s commercial and industrial uses.

5. The City should also work with the larger community to develop and implement Phase 3 of the Climate Action Plan focusing on improving the energy efficiency of residential properties.

6. The City should continue to promote recycling and carry out ongoing efforts to encourage residents to increase their rate of recycling and to compost organic materials (photo, right).



7. The City should promote the use of “green building technologies” (see Chapter 6 Land Use Goals and Policies).

L. Arts And Culture

State Goal: None specific to this topic.

Local Objective: To expand the role of the arts and culture in the community as well as in the local economy.

Pursuant to this objective, the policies of the City of South Portland are:

1. The City should establish an “Arts Commission” that is responsible for promoting and supporting the arts and cultural activities in the community.

2. The City should establish a “public arts program” to provide for public art that is integrated with community resources. This program should seek matching grants or other outside funding to support public arts programs.



3. The City should encourage the inclusion of public art in new public buildings and facilities.

4. The City should consider the quality of the architecture in decisions about