

For more information about Delta programs
and how you can get involved, please visit
www.delta-institute.org or call (312) 554-0900.



Delta

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Blazing a trail
to the green economy.



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Delta

Where will you be in 2020?

We are at a crossroads. The choices we make today will shape the future for generations to come.

For over a decade, Delta has helped individuals, organizations and communities demonstrate that building better economies and reforming our relationship with the environment go hand in hand. Together, we have been busy defining a new path.

Delta creates, funds and implements programs that promote a healthy environment, a strong economy and thriving, vibrant communities. Working together with diverse partners from across the Great Lakes Region, we are blazing a trail for the green economy.

We are creating jobs by removing carbon from the atmosphere. We are helping businesses cut their costs by adopting green best practices, and we are transforming urban wastelands into vibrant, profitable marketplaces.

But our work has only just begun. By 2020, we believe the Great Lakes Region has the potential to be a global leader in green technology, green jobs and innovation.

We have some big plans for 2020. All we need now is you.

By 2020: We will make green choices a part of **mainstream thinking**, fueling transformation to the green economy.

For example: Delta and various stakeholders in Grand Rapids, MI developed the West Michigan Sustainable Purchasing Consortium (WMSPC), a platform for cooperative purchasing of local green goods and services. The larger scale purchases provide lower per-unit pricing for the individual organizations while keeping transactions local.

“Economies of scale and cost savings aside, this green purchasing network is unifying our community. Municipalities, businesses, schools, churches, NGOs, colleges, you name it -- they're getting involved.”

NORMAN CHRISTOPHER, DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY,
GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY



By 2020: We will create 50 cutting-edge sustainable models for **community economic development**.

For example: Delta Redevelopment Institute transformed a brownfield site on Chicago's South Side into a seasonal farmer's market, selling affordable organic produce directly to residents in one of Chicago's "food deserts."



“The farmer's market has quickly turned into a community fixture. My grandchildren like to pick out food there. On Saturdays, we take it to the nearby youth center, so the kids can eat some fresh fruits and vegetables.”

DIANE BROWN, CHICAGO RESIDENT

By 2020: We will **reduce carbon emissions by 12 million tons** by forging unique partnerships, enacting climate change programs, and promoting energy efficient practices.

For example: Empowering Midwest farmers and landowners to enact new conservation methods is the thrust of The Illinois Conservation and Climate Initiative. Delta carefully audits qualifying practices, which can be rewarded carbon credits that are sold on www.deltacarbon.org. Originally a joint project of the State of Illinois and the Delta Institute, the initiative has been expanded to include 1400 landowners from 13 states.

“I make improvements, and I get carbon credits. I sell the credits so I can invest in more improvements. It's a positive cycle that builds itself.”

VAN BITNER, FARMER



By 2020: Achieve **green ratings for 100 buildings and develop 200 sustainability programs** for businesses and government.

For example: Delta guided the leaders of the Merchandise Mart, the world's largest commercial building through the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification for its existing building in 2007. Delta is now helping the Mart develop a comprehensive sustainability plan for its business.



“ Making our own building improvements was only a small part of the puzzle. Active participation from tenants, suppliers, housekeepers, engineers and staff was paramount to achieving and continuing to uphold LEED certification. It’s a group effort.”

MARK BETTIN, VICE PRESIDENT OF ENGINEERING,
MERCHANDISE MART

By 2020: We will generate \$250 million in investments for **pollution prevention, remediation and reuse.**

For example: Delta and the Reuse People are creating a Building Materials Reuse Center where used building materials are resold to the general public at a very low cost. The Center diverts unnecessary landfill waste while employing “deconstruction” workers to dismantle valuable and reusable building components before demolition.

“ Working on these deconstruction projects has provided my crew with steady, dependable work when many construction jobs are disappearing.”

RICK KIMMONS, WORK CREW CHIEF

