

RECOGNITION - FAQs

GENERAL QUESTIONS

When will my organization receive recognition?

The City provide recognition for a previous quarter's submissions at the beginning of the following quarter. Recognition for the following activities within the Advocate category will occur in 2024:

- Sharing your portfolio's building performance data for public disclosure.
- Promoting your participation in GWI.

As we move into 2025, a submission process will be in place for quarterly recognition. Additionally, the following activities will be eligible:

- Resources shared with the Knowledge Bank.
- Completion of 3 GWI-offered trainings.
- Presenting or contributing to a GWI Collaboration Event.
- Hosting a building tour.
- Development of a decarbonization or emission reduction plan.
- Implementation of decarbonization projects.

What if my organization has completed an activity in the past?

If your organization has completed an eligible activity within the last five years, it can still be submitted for recognition. The City does have records of certain past activities. The following City-led activities have been documented for retroactive recognition in 2025:

- Resources shared with the Knowledge Bank.
- Completion of 3 GWI-offered training.
- Presentation or contributions to a GWI Collaboration Event.

How do I submit my organization's activities for recognition?

A submission portal will be available quarterly for your organization to submit its eligible activities.

How frequently can I submit our activities?

Each organization is allowed one submission per quarter. Please ensure all eligible activities are included in a single submission. Subsequent submissions will not be considered.

What will recognition rewards be?

Organizations who have completed 2 or more activities in a chosen category will receive one or more of the following recognition rewards;

- GWI Newsletter Feature.
- Letters of Recognition.
- Digital Badge.
- Training Certificates.
- Project Profile on City Website.
- Participation in special City events and initiatives.

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ACTIVITY REQUIREMENTS

Advocate Category

The initial stages of making the commitment to the Green Will Initiative and advocating for the decarbonization of Toronto buildings.

What kind of data is appropriate for sharing?

Building energy data of your portfolio should be shared through Energy Star Portfolio Manager and must cover at least 12 consecutive months of energy use at the property. In compliance with Toronto's [Energy and Water Reporting By-law](#), under Municipal Code Chapter 367 (Building Emissions Performance), buildings 4,645 m² (50,000 ft²) and larger will begin reporting in 2024, while buildings 929 m² (10,000 ft²) and larger will be required to report in 2025.

How do I share our data?

Data required to be shared with the City of Toronto's **ExistingBuildingsToronto** (bbp@toronto.ca) account through [ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager](#). Organizations must share Read Only property information and data access with the ExistingBuildingsToronto account for their properties within Toronto. This requirement is distinct and separate from the City of Toronto's Energy and Water Reporting By-law (Municipal Code Chapter 367). Contact your Green Will representative if you have questions about this process.

How can I promote my organization's participation in GWI?

Promote your organization's participation in the Green Will Initiative through external channels that work best for your organization. Appropriate options include sharing updates on social media, featuring your involvement in your ESG report, or highlighting your membership on your organization's website.

Collaborator Category

Recognizing leadership efforts and efforts to make meaningful contributions to the GWI program and member community.

What kind of participation in the collaboration activities will be recognized?

Only active participation through contributing or presenting content at a GWI collaboration session or GWI offered training will be recognized. Participating as an attendee will not count.

What kind of resource should I share?

A tangible resource that can support GWI members and other building owners on the journey to decarbonizing their buildings and be shared in the GWI Knowledge Hub. This may include case studies, templates, tip sheets, and/or presentations.

How can I host an event or building tour for GWI members?

Connecting members to real-world examples is key. If you are interested in hosting a GWI event or tour, please contact GreenWill@toronto.ca.

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ACTIVITY REQUIREMENTS

Mobilizer Category

Efforts to build capacity and knowledge to mobilize your organization to act.

How many trainings do I have to take to get awarded?

To receive recognition, members must have participated in 3 or more GWI offered training. Eligible training courses include GWI-CIET courses and GWI Strategic Carbon Management.

Is there a certain kind of plan or data required for submission?

At this stage, we are open to accepting various long-term emissions reduction and decarbonization plans for your organization's buildings. These could include comprehensive strategies like energy efficiency upgrades, renewable energy integration, retrofitting initiatives, or electrification efforts. Ideally, your plan should detail key milestones, specific actions, timelines, and measurement methods to track progress. While there's no rigid format, plans that provide clear pathways toward significant GHG reductions and support a transition to net zero by 2040 would be particularly valuable.

What is an appropriate decarbonization project?

An appropriate decarbonization project could take many forms. It might focus on achieving a specific reduction in emissions (e.g., a 20-50% reduction in GHG emissions through energy efficiency upgrades), fuel switching (e.g., transitioning from natural gas to renewable energy sources like solar or wind), or driving innovation (e.g., using cutting-edge technology for carbon capture or electrification). Rather than set rigid criteria, we encourage projects that align with long-term emissions reduction and decarbonization, whether through gradual improvements, innovative solutions, or operational shifts.

Have another question? E-mail GreenWill@toronto.ca