## Manage What You Measure

Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute

March 8, 2013

#### **EcoAction Partners**

#### Formed in 2007 through a grass roots citizen effort

#### Funding partners in 2012

Town of Telluride, San Miguel County, Town of Mountain Village Colorado Governor's Energy Office, The Faraway Foundation, Ouray, Ridgway, Ouray County

Past and Present Grants received from: Telluride Foundation, Body Shop Foundation, CDPHE, et al.

#### **Our Mission**

 To inspire, initiate, and support collaborative community actions that enhance resilient economic, environmental, and social systems.

# **Brief History**

- 2005 A grass roots group formed and suggested the three governments fund a `one stop shop for sustainability information'.
- 2005-2006 Governments agreed and hired ICLEI to first create a Sustainability Inventory for the *region*.
- 2007 Non-profit formed, first employees hired.
- 2013 One full time ED, one full time OSM/VISTA, three part time coordinators

#### **Focus Areas**

Energy Efficiency and Green Building
 Waste as Resource - Recycling/Zero Waste
 Supporting Local Food Systems

Emphasizing education & systems approach in all areas

# **Regional goals**

 Energy - Govts all adopted 20% reduction in GHG emissions by 2020

#### Waste - Mtn Village adopted Zero Waste goal

 ...Zero Waste Action Plan, dated August 8,2008 and endorses a Zero Waste or Darn Close goal by 2025, with interim goals of 50% diversion of solid waste from landfills and incinerators by 2011,75% diversion by 2018, and 90% or greater diversion by 2025.

#### Measures Needed

Energy – GHG inventory, energy use data

- Waste baseline numbers of volume or weight of trash and recycling by region
- Food basic consumption and production numbers

#### **Measurement Challenges**

#### Energy

- GHG inventories for both government and 'region'
- Worked with rural utility cooperative to obtain the data they were willing to share
- Govts shared data and/or began to track

## **Measurement Challenges**

#### Waste

- Volume estimates problematic, subjective
- Rural pickups meant aggregated numbers
- No local scale until 2011 for weights
- Worked with festivals first
- Govts revised town contracts to require data and reporting

#### **Measurement Challenges**



- Completed a watershed-wide community food assessment in 2009
- Ties to GHG emissions 10% local food means 14% reduction in GHG
- Ongoing efforts to reduce food miles economic and environmental benefits.

# Managing



- Energy Action Coordinators in each govt. All trying facilitydude software
- Annually updating GHG inventory
- EcoAction Initiative using carbon footprint tracking software

   includes utility bills, travel and habits

# Managing



- Lodging program getting underway
- Residential education push
- Educating about local resource recovery park
- Monitoring for improvements in both measurements and actual results

# Managing



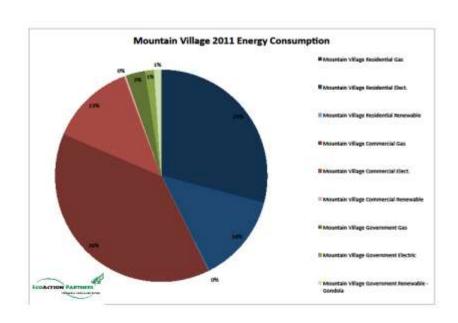
Farm to Fork programs

Local schools – greenhouses

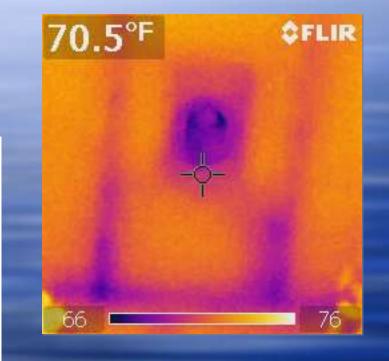
Regional collaboration – ex: mobile meat facility

#### **Energy Management tools**

#### GHG inventory chart



Produced for Western San Juan Community Energy Board by EcoAction Partners



#### Infrared camera image shows cold spots

#### **Festival reporting**

Telluride Bluegrass Festival						
Year to Year Comparison						
2011 to 2010	by Volume					
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	
OVERALL						
Trash	481	490	510	714	591	
Recycle/comingle	243	143	129	209	176	
Compost	135	127	137	135	97	
Cardboard	231	60	53	110	105	
total diverted	609	330	319	454	378	
total volume	1090	820	829	1168	969	
% diverted	55.87	40.24	38.48	38.87	39.01	

# It's not all about numbers!



4<sup>th</sup> of July Picnic Compost Volunteers

NON HOM!

COMPOST

OMPO

FEED

Pro Cycling Challenge and The Ride - CRT mgt.

#### August, 2012





# Thank You!

# LANDFILL

Kris Holstrom kris@ecoactionpartners.org 970-728-1340 www.ecoactionpartners.org