

# Abundance EcoVillage

Fairfield, Iowa, United States



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**Size:**  
15 acres, up to 23 single-family units, 2 multi-family units, 14 homes occupied





**Dates:**  
2002-Ongoing

**Project Team:**  
Michael Havelka, Lawrence Gamble, Amy Greenfield

**Abundance EcoVillage is a planned off-grid community located on agricultural land outside of the town of Fairfield.** Residents can purchase a lot and build a house to required performance standards. Creating a robust community that promotes health and prosperity for the residents and greater environment.

## Goals & Strategies

 <b>Place</b>	
<b>Food</b>	<b>Goals:</b> Promote community engagement in agriculture. <b>Strategies:</b> Community gardens and greenhouse, permaculture landscaping.
<b>Habitat</b>	<b>Goals:</b> Goals not defined. <b>Strategies:</b> Landscaping with native prairie plants, constructed wetlands for water purification, beekeeping, large amount of undeveloped acreage.
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>Goals:</b> Promote commuting by bike. <b>Strategies:</b> Bike infrastructure connecting to greater community, walking paths.
 <b>Water</b>	
<b>Water</b>	<b>Goals:</b> 100% stormwater infiltration on site, blackwater treatment on site. <b>Strategies:</b> Rainwater capture, storage, and reuse for non-potable uses in the home; constructed wetlands.
 <b>Energy</b>	

<b>Energy</b>	<p><b>Goals:</b> Consume 80% less energy than code; maximum 300 kilowatts per month per house.</p> <p><b>Strategies:</b> Passive solar design strategies, passive house envelope strategies. On-site renewable energy: wind, solar PV and hot water, passive ventilation, geothermal for heating and cooling.</p>
<p> <b>Health + Happiness</b></p>	
<b>Neighborhood Design</b>	<p><b>Goals:</b> Foster community, promote health and wellbeing for residents.</p> <p><b>Strategies:</b> Public access to streets, walking paths, outdoor community amphitheater, ponds for swimming, community education on sustainable living, community hosts lectures, films, and concerts.</p>
<p> <b>Materials</b></p>	
<b>Material Plan</b>	<p><b>Goals:</b> Sustainable materials preferred.</p> <p><b>Strategies:</b> Wood construction, labeled material preference for no toxicity.</p>
<b>Waste</b>	<p><b>Goals:</b> 100% food wastes composted.</p> <p><b>Strategies:</b> Waste treated on site; composting, recycling facilities on-site and collection services provided to the neighborhood.</p>
<p> <b>Equity</b> (Details not provided by researchers)</p>	
<p> <b>Beauty</b> (Details not provided by researchers)</p>	

> See next page for Performance Levels achieved

**Performance Levels Achieved:**

	Standard	Good	Better	Living	Regenerative
<b>Place</b>					
Limits to Growth					
Food					
Habitat					
Transportation					
<b>Water</b>					
<b>Energy</b>					
<b>Health + Happiness</b>					
Civilized Environment					
Neighborhood Design					
Biophilia					
Resilient Connections					
<b>Materials</b>					
Material Plan					
Embodied Energy & Carbon					
Waste					
<b>Equity</b>					
Neighborhood & Access					
Access to Nature					
Access to Community Services					
Investment					
<b>Beauty</b>					
Beauty & Spirit	Not specified				
Inspiration					

**Sources:**

<http://www.abundance-ecovillage.com>

<http://www.greenfieldproperties.com/?gallery=abundance-ecovillage>

*\*Note: This case study was developed using found information.*

**21st Century Development** is a model for the creation of regenerative communities that strives to provide a healthy environment for all people and living systems now and in a dynamic future.

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