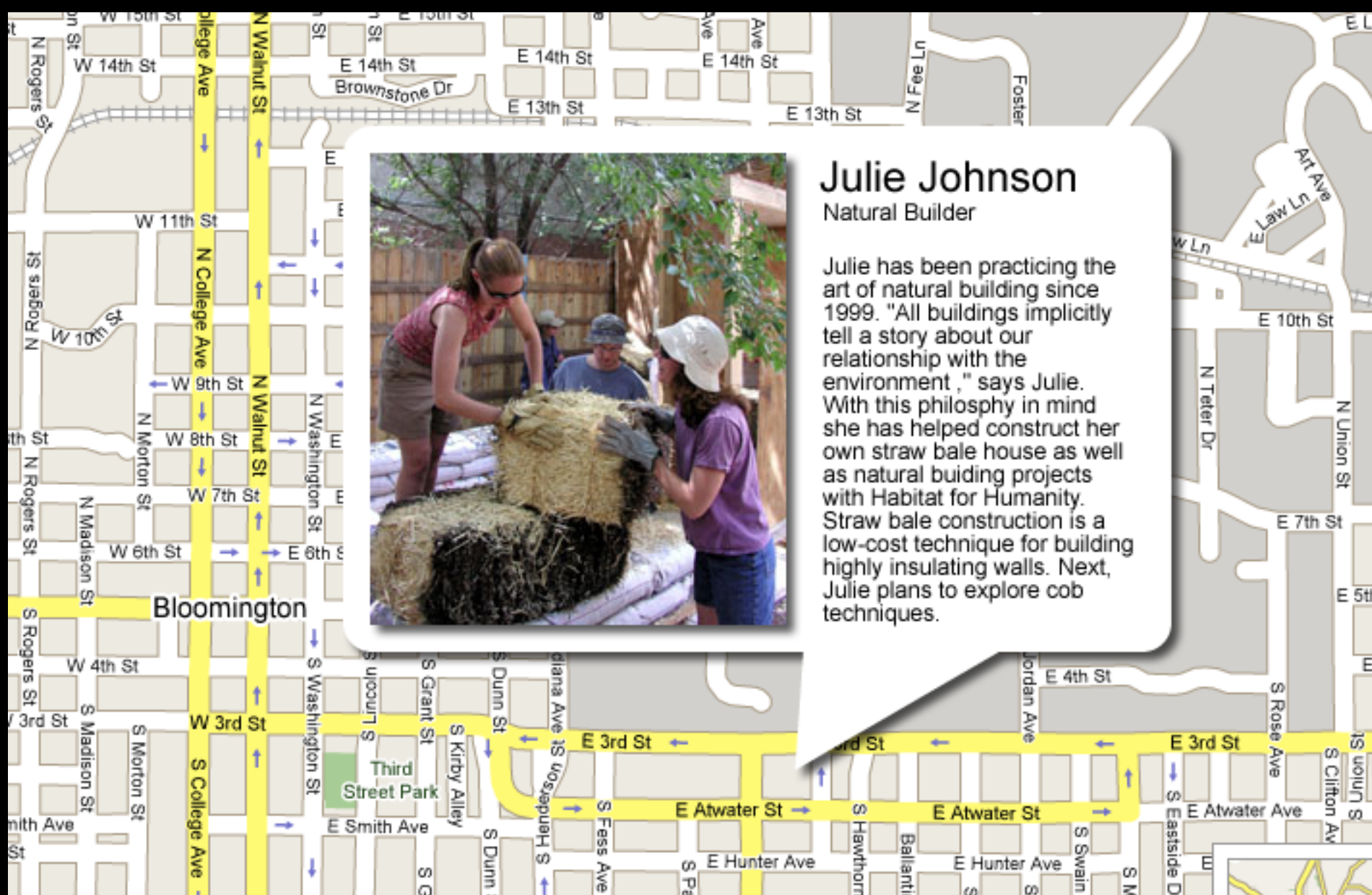# Sustainable Bloomington

Designing a Durable Future

Creative thinking and collaboration are needed if Bloomington is to ensure a socially, economically, and ecologically healthy city for our present and future generations. To strenghten local community and reduce our ecological footprint, new practices should be implemented in the following areas:

- Strategic Planning
- Community and Cultural Development
- Economic Development
- Urban Design
- Indicators and Assessment

It is our belief that sustainability can not be achieved by the efforts one group or organization alone; rather it is a challenge which must be dynamically engaged by an entire community of concerned citizens. Our design concepts draw upon Bloomington's already rich social resources in order to foster the dialogue and reflection necessary to produce effective action, whether by individuals, organizations, or the city governement.

Open Discourse

Communication and interaction among community members and across social groups is fundamental to developing a common vision of a sustainable Bloomington. The annual sustainability unconference is instrumental to establishing social cohesion among disconnected groups, actively engaging participants in discussion and reflection, as well as organization for collective social action.

Disconnect between groups   Unconference   Collective action

BCOS, team green & other government groups

Non-Profit Organizations

Neighboorhood associations and other citizens

Informal follow-up events

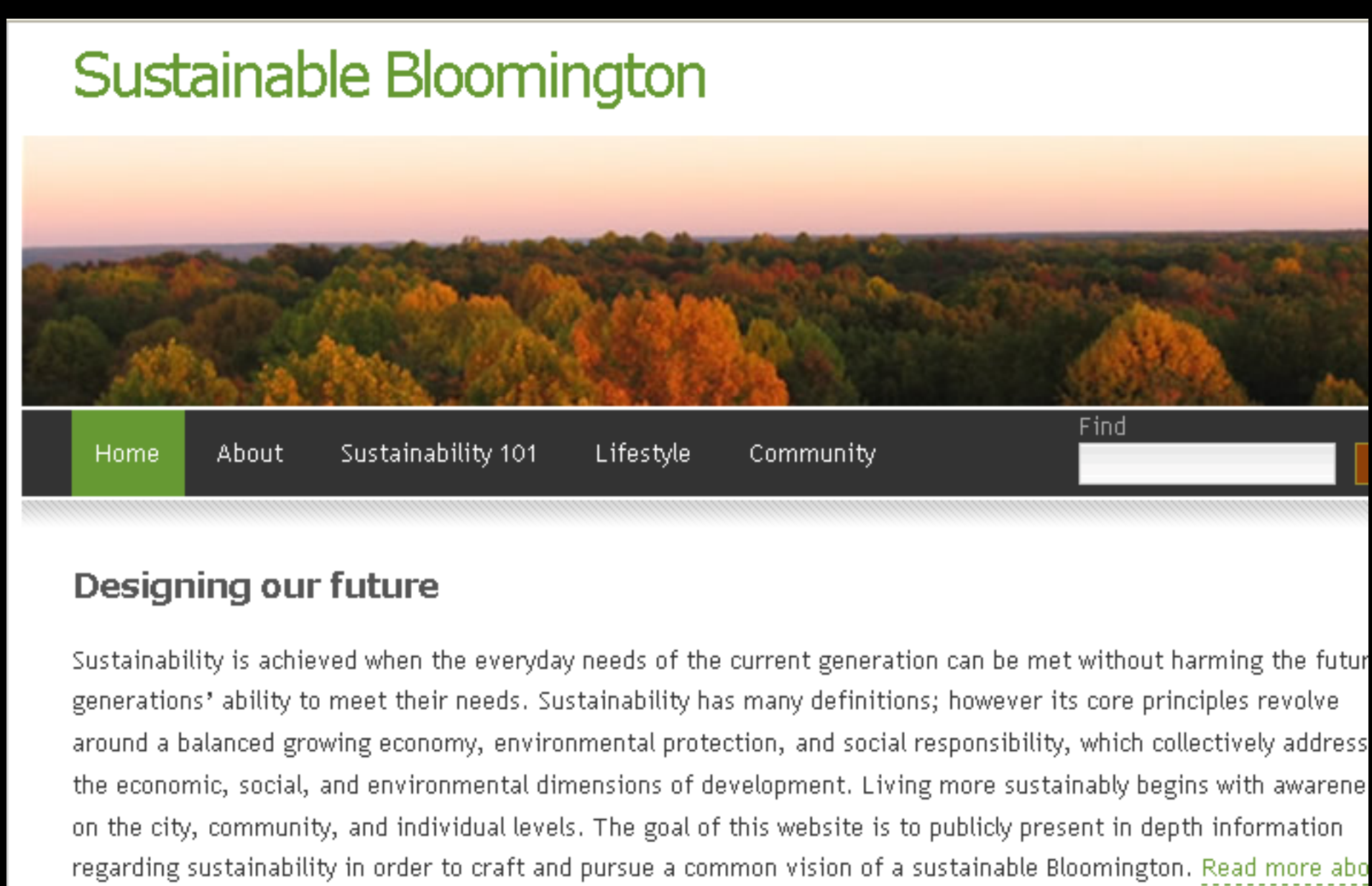Micro-community building events

Political Advocacy

Local Connections

An interactive community green map recognizes forward-thinking individuals actively engaging in sustainable practices. This application simultaneously raises awareness, promotes community interaction, and provides connections to social resources.
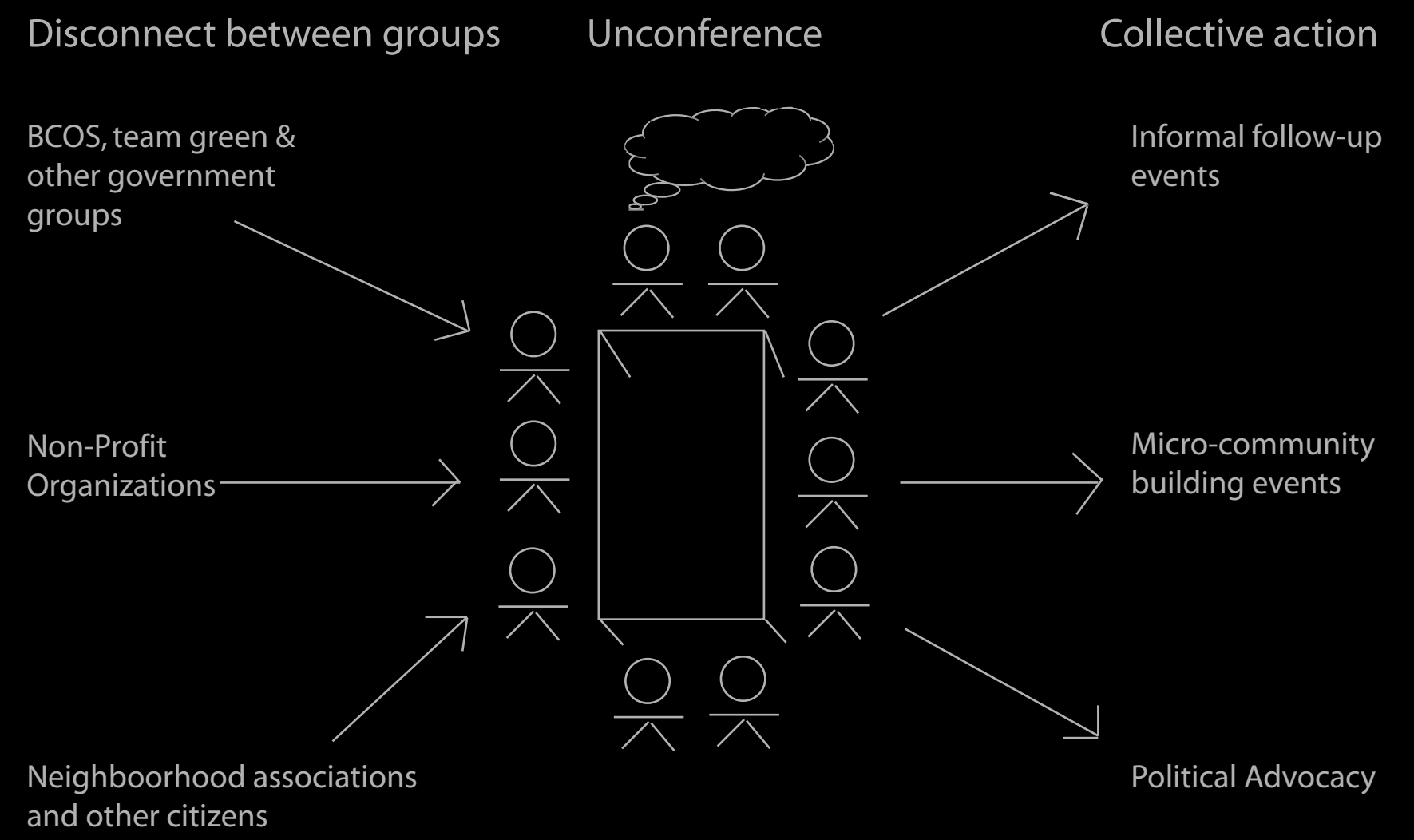

Julie Johnson
Natural Builder

Julie has been practicing the art of natural building since 1999. "All buildings implicitly tell a story about our relationship with the environment ," says Julie. With this phylosphy in mind she has helped construct her own straw bale house as well as natural buiding projects with Habitat for Humanity. Straw bale construction is a low-cost technique for building highly insulating walls. Next, Julie plans to explore cob techniques.
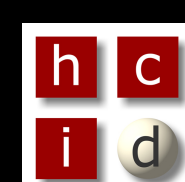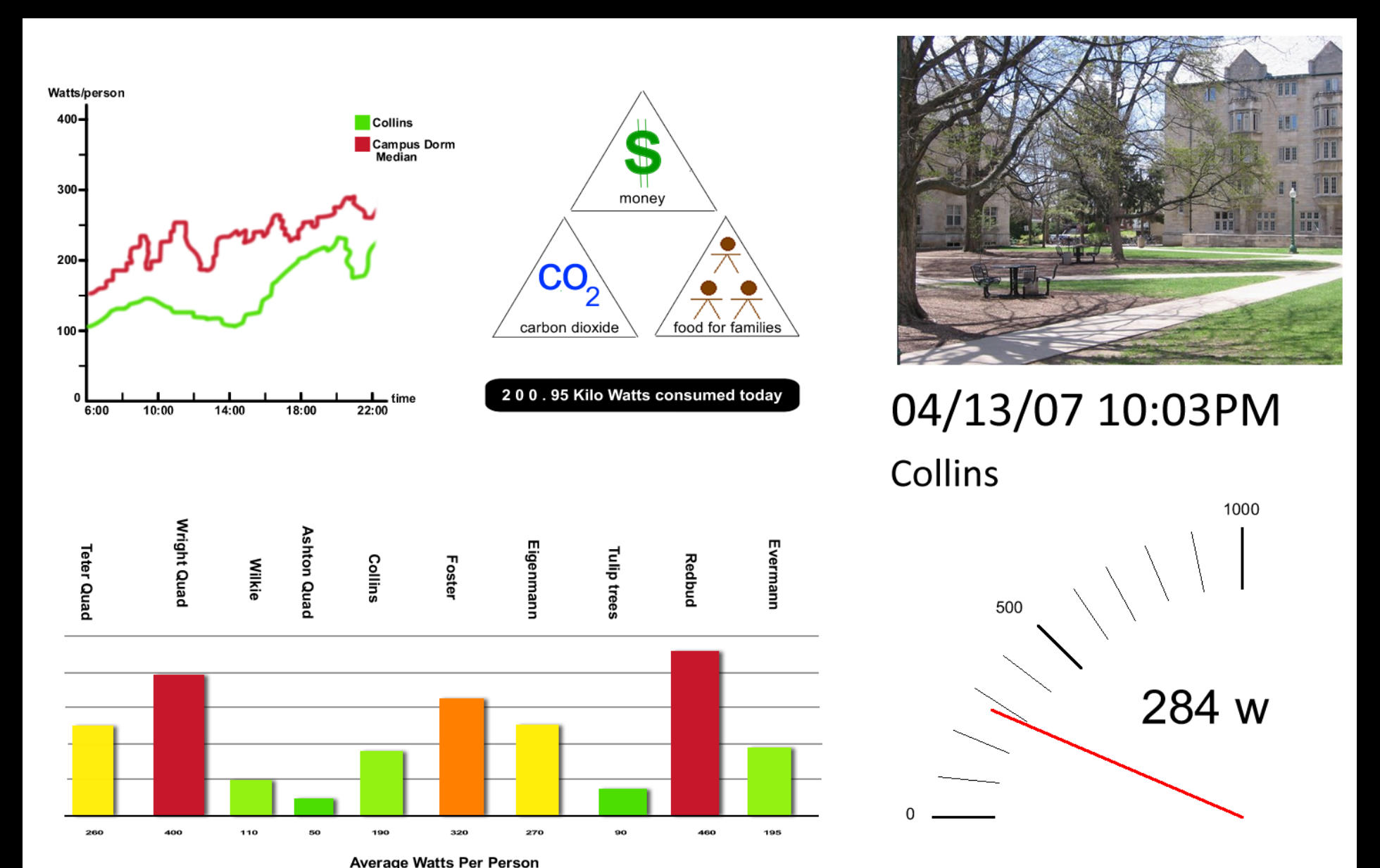
Actionable Initiatives

A cornerstone of achieving a more sustainable city requires responsible government leadership. Strategic implementation of initiatives supporting environmental stewardship, social equity, and local economy are paramount to our vision.

Collective Knowledge

A online conversation platform facilitates discussion centered upon topics of sustainability among Bloomington organizations and citizens. This social web space highlights local events, celebrates successful initiatives, and calls community-wide attention to unsustainable practices.

Sustainable Bloomington

Home   About   Sustainability 101   Lifestyle   Community   Find

Designing our future

Sustainability is achieved when the everyday needs of the current generation can be met without harming the future generations' ability to meet their needs. Sustainability has many definitions; however its core principles revolve around a balanced growing economy, environmental protection, and social responsibility, which collectively address the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of development. Living more sustainably begins with awarenes on the city, community, and individual levels. The goal of this website is to publicly present in depth information regarding sustainability in order to craft and pursue a common vision of a sustainable Bloomington. Read more abo

Mindful Consumption

The mindful dashboard displays real-time energy usage and environmental impacts of the building in which it is installed. This pervasive installation highlights the effects of excessive resource consumption, while weaving awareness of energy efficient practices into the fabric of daily life.

04/13/07 10:03PM
Collins

284 w

Will Odom • Dave Roedl • Sindhia Thirumaran
Human-Computer Interaction Design
School of Informatics, Indiana University