Sustainable Communities Summit Genesee – Finger Lakes Region

Organization & Contact Information
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Project Description
Audubon International is a not-for-profit environmental education organization dedicated to fostering more sustainable human and natural communities. In 2003, Audubon International launched the first in a series of Sustainable Community Summits. Six years later, with the assistance of the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute and the Rochester Institute of Technology, community leaders from the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region of New York State gathered for a full day set of panels, lessons, advice, and leadership on making our communities more sustainable. On June 3, 2009, Audubon International hosted the 2009 Sustainable Communities Summit Genesee – Finger Lakes Region event. The following topics were discussed:

1. Session 1: Planning
   a. Community Options
   b. Creating a Plan
   c. Engaging the Community
2. Session II: Action
   a. Track A: Economic Development: Greening Businesses; Innovative Partnerships: Rochester City School District and RIT; Regional Solutions: Green Networks
   b. Track B: Local Government Initiatives: Stormwater Redevelopment; Brownfields; Build Environment: Housing, In-fill and Mixed Use Development; Infrastructure: Transportation
3. Results – Measure Success
   a. Affordability and Incentives,
   b. Emerging Technologies/Research and Development

Project Status
The summit was a success! A total of 85 community leaders, local government and businesses came together to discuss the urgent need of sustainability practices. The best approach is designed to be an inclusive and consensus-based approach that proactively engages all parts of a community.