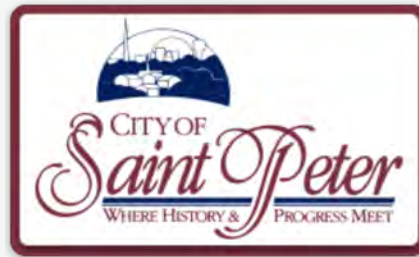


Recharge Minnesota Participant Case Study



Recharge Minnesota is a program that supports and publicly recognizes top companies, schools, civic leaders, and others who take specific steps to encourage greater electric vehicle (EV) adoption, consistent with statewide clean air goals. Participating organizations pledge to take action on programs that include installing EV charging stations at the workplace, promoting electric vehicles with employees and the public, and reviewing their own fleet of vehicles for opportunities to convert to electric or plug-in hybrid vehicles.

The City of Saint Peter's EV Program Highlights:



Offers four Level 2 dual-port charging stations and two DC Fast chargers for their community.



Owens and operates a fleet of five electric Polaris off road vehicles.



Provides electricity to approximately 4,400 residents and businesses through a non-profit.

Read the City of Saint Peter's profile for a complete overview on their EV initiatives.

RECHARGE | MN PROFILE

CITY OF SAINT PETER

Located about an hour's drive southwest of the Twin Cities, the City of Saint Peter, Minnesota has a population of just over 11,400 and a vibrant, historic downtown filled with small-town charm. It's an ideal destination for a day trip, and its downtown electric vehicle (EV) charging stations are making Saint Peter more accessible than ever to people from around the region.



City of Saint Peter's Welcome Sign

Above all, the decision to install four Level 2 charging stations and two Level 3 DC Fast Chargers in 2020 was a practical one.

"We care about sustainability, but we really wanted to help our downtown businesses," says City Administrator Todd Prafke. "That was the motivating force. When EV drivers stop and charge their cars, they can take that time to see what our retail businesses have to offer."

Highway 169 intersects downtown Saint Peter, which enables travelers to discover the community every day. The chargers are an incentive for visitors to stop and stay, and to return to Saint Peter in the future. Traffic patterns led the city to put stations on both sides of the highway, so drivers can charge both coming and going.



City of Saint Peter's Charging Stations

The city credits its wholesale power provider, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA), for supporting their EV infrastructure initiatives. Saint Peter is one of the participating communities in SMMPA's growing EV network, which provides EV drivers with charging options in the region. ZEF Energy, Minnesota's largest independently owned and operated DC Fast Charging Network, has provided technical assistance.

Saint Peter operates a non-profit electric utility that provides electricity to approximately 4,400 residences and businesses, and the needs of those customers are a priority. Businesses that are interested in installing EV chargers receive guidance and support early in the planning process.

"We work hand in hand with our businesses," says Todd. "Our electric superintendent goes out and visits with customers personally, sometimes reducing the need for them to hire an engineering firm. We know what works with our distribution system so we can say to them, 'here are some options, pick and choose what will work best for you.'"



The Polaris Ranger EV

Saint Peter owns and operates a fleet of five Polaris Ranger EVs for its parks department. The decision to purchase them was an experiment that has paid off.

Saint Peter is looking ahead, aiming to secure its place as a charging destination point as the EV transition unfolds.

Learn more about the City of Saint Peter at saintpetermn.gov

