

The Massachusetts Chapter of the American Planning Association  
Tufts University Department of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning  
Tufts Student Planning and Policy Association  
present

## **How to Bring Sustainable Practices to Your Community: *What We Can Learn from the Eco-municipalities of Sweden***

*A workshop for planners, practitioners, students, and community activists*

Tuesday, May 18, 2004

9:00 am – 3:30pm

3:30pm Book-signing

Rabb Room, Lincoln-Filene Center, Tufts University, Medford, MA

Workshop fee - \$135

Many cities and towns are now working on project-oriented or single-issue approaches to sustainable development, such as green building, climate change initiatives, curbing sprawl, or developing sustainability indicators. Few communities in the U.S., however, have integrated sustainable planning and practices systematically and comprehensively.

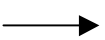
This workshop will introduce the experiences of some of the 60+ Swedish *eco-municipalities*—cities and towns, with populations ranging from 300 to over 500,000, that have officially adopted and implemented sustainability objectives for their entire municipal government, planning policies, and wider communities. Key to their success is a shared framework of sustainability principles – the Natural Step framework – also the basis for the sustainability objectives of the American Planning Association’s Policy Guide *Planning for Sustainability*. Interactive exercises will demonstrate how to use these objectives in a democratic planning process similar to that used by the Swedish eco-municipalities, a key step to successful municipal sustainable development adoption and integration into ongoing planning and municipal practices. Participants will also learn about the evolution of the Swedish eco-municipality movement and why these municipalities are particularly appropriate models for those in the U.S.

### **Workshop Presenters**

**Sarah James** is a practicing city and town planning consultant who has worked with communities in the U.S. for two decades, using a participatory planning approach with strong similarities to the eco-municipality model. She co-authored the American Planning Association’s *Planning for Sustainability* policy guide, based upon the sustainability principles adopted by the Swedish eco-municipalities – the Natural Step framework.

**Torbjörn Lahti** is a Swedish planner and economist who helped develop Sweden’s first eco-municipality, the town of Övertorneå, in the 1980s. He has been instrumental in the development of the Swedish eco-municipality movement and formation of the national association of eco-municipalities in Sweden. He is presently leading Sustainable Robertsfors, an international sustainable community demonstration project in Sweden.

**Sarah James and Torbjörn Lahti** are the co-authors of *The Natural Step for Communities: How Cities and Towns Can Change to Sustainable Practices*, New Society Publishers, April, 2004.

Over 

## Directions to Tufts University Campus

**From the North:** If you are approaching on Routes 1, 95, 128 or 93, take Route 93 south to Exit 32, Medford Square. From the exit ramp, take the first right off the traffic circle, which is Route 60 west. At the second set of lights, bear left on Main Street and take an immediate right on to Route 16 west.

Continue on Route 16 for approximately one and a quarter miles. An athletic field will appear on your right. Bear left through the next traffic circle and proceed up the hill on Powder House Boulevard. At the third traffic light turn left onto Packard Avenue. You are now on the Tufts campus.

**South or Boston:** If you are coming from the south, take Route 3 north to Route 93 north. If coming from Boston, take Route 93 north. If coming from the airport, follow signs to Route 93 via the Sumner Tunnel. Take Route 93 north to Exit 31. Follow the exit ramp to Route 16 west and refer to directions in the first paragraph.

**Subway or Boston:** If you are coming by subway, or "T", take the Red Line to the Davis Square Station. Exit the Davis Square Station on the College Avenue side. You may take the #94 or #96 bus or walk 15 minutes along College Avenue to the Tufts campus. If you board the bus, ask the driver to stop across from the Memorial Steps at Tufts University, just before the intersection of College and Boston Avenues. If you walk, turn right out of the subway station and follow College Avenue around a traffic circle. The Tufts Campus will be on your left.

Davis Square Shuttle Service: The Department of Public & Environmental Safety operates a shuttle service from Davis Square (in Somerville near the [MBTA red line stop](#)) to Tufts. For more information and schedules visit the [shuttle information page](#) accessed through the web site below.

**For directions from other locations,** go to:

> <http://www.tufts.edu/source/mapmedford.html#subway>

A map of Tufts Campus visitor parking areas is available at:

[http://publicsafety.tufts.edu/adminsvc/parking/medford-somerville/parking\\_2002\\_08.gif](http://publicsafety.tufts.edu/adminsvc/parking/medford-somerville/parking_2002_08.gif)

**Lunch:** On your own. The Tufts Cafeteria offers excellent, affordable lunches and salad bar.

## To register for the Workshop:

Tufts students should contact Jonathan Grosshans at 617-417-6244 or by email at [Jonathan.Grosshans@tufts.edu](mailto:Jonathan.Grosshans@tufts.edu) to register. All others: Send the following completed form, plus registration fee, to: Peter Lowitt, DEC, 43 Buena Vista, Devens, MA 01432, Fax 978-772-7577. Peter can also be reached at [peterlowitt@devensec.com](mailto:peterlowitt@devensec.com).

-----**Registration Form** (Tear here)-----

Yes, I will attend the Eco-municipality Workshop on Tuesday, May 18, 2004 at Tufts University:

*PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title & Agency/Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address ( street, town/city, state, zip code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fax

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email address

Check enclosed (\$135 made payable to APA – MA Chapter.

Member of APA – MA Chapter

Send registration form and payment to: Peter Lowitt, DEC, 43 Buena Vista, Devens, MA 01432