

DEMOCRACY

ORGANIZATION

How Växjö is governed – seminar

Presentation of the work in the Municipal Council, the Executive Board, the Municipal Committees and the Municipal Companies.

POLITICAL COOPERATION



The Växjö spirit – seminar about how to reach political consensus. The Växjö spirit is about good cooperation between the political parties, a generous way of associating within and outside the political life, good communications between political parties and civil servants, being open-minded and about marketing the municipality in a positive way. The Växjö

spirit is also about a political interest in international issues and encouraging civil servants to work in international projects.

EQUALITY



Equality issues – seminar and study visits

The City of Växjö has won a reputation as a frontrunner regarding equality issues. Conferences, projects and working hour solutions have served as models to other municipalities. Växjö offers seminars about local equality work and about the Equality programme, a guiding document for

political decisions and social planning. Study visits can be made at organisations and companies with good examples of equality work.

BUSINESS SECTOR

Dynamic Växjö – seminar about the economic development policy in Växjö. The region is home to one of Sweden's best business climates with several successful clusters, such as Kingdom of Crystal, Kingdom of Aluminium, Kingdom of Furniture, InternetCity and Heavy vehicles. Possibilities for study visits at several companies.



Videum Science Park – study visit at the region's fastest growing knowledge environment. More than 100 companies and organisations are now located in a creative environment on the Växjö University Campus – one of Sweden's most expansive campus areas. At Videum Science Park research and entrepreneurship meet, so each has the opportunity to benefit from the other's knowledge and experience.



Växjö – The Greenest City in Europe

In 1342 Växjö received their city rights from King Magnus. The city has a long lasting tradition as a school and residential city as well as a diocese. Up until the beginning of the 1990's Växjö was also a garrison city. Today, Växjö is an expansive city with close to 80 000 inhabitants, a varied trade and industry and a growing university.

Växjö has been described by the international media as "The Greenest City in Europe". It is the 30% reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases, per capita, that has echoed around the world. But Växjö is green in many other respects too, for example, there are many fine parks and green areas to be enjoyed in the city. The Greenest City in Europe is the sum of all environmental projects, both private and public, carried out within the municipality of Växjö. Our ambition for the future is that we shall make it even easier and more attractive for visitors, inhabitants and companies to live with a minimal effect on the environment.

Some well-known profiles from Växjö are the scientist Carl Linnaeus, the Swedish Royal Courts Songstress Christina Nilsson, the writer Elin Wägner and the Nobel Prize winner in literature Pär Lagerkvist, track and field star Carolina Klüft, tennis player Mats Wilander, the musicians The Ark and the winner of the Eurovision Song Contest Charlotte Perrelli.



Welcome to Växjö – The Greenest City in Europe!

VÄXJÖ CERTIFICATE

Växjö Certificate for environment

Available in Växjö is a 3–4 days training course, where you as decision-maker, civil servant, businessman or other actor within the field of climate and bioenergy can refresh and enlarge your knowledge by obtaining a fundamental base for bioenergy and climate thinking. This course is combining distance training with hands-on Technical visits (seminars and study trips) in Växjö in the field of climate thinking. Two alternative programs are available: 1) Renewable energy production 2) Rational use of energy & energy efficiency. The Certificate is issued by the University of Växjö, City of Växjö and the Energy Agency for Southeast Sweden.



Växjö is an exciting combination of idyllic small town, university town and centre of entertainment – a strong regional centre in the middle of the south of Sweden.

Business life is rich and diverse – 8 000 companies in a dynamic mixture of sizes and industries. Major international companies collaborate with smaller entrepreneurs.



Växjö
kommun
The Greenest City in Europe

For more information about
Technical visits and current price list,
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Technical Visits Menu

Växjö, Sweden

Welcome to study the Greenest City in Europe.
We offer the following technical seminars
and study trips.



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kommun
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SUSTAINABLE CITY DEVELOPMENT

Växjö – winner of the Sustainable Energy Europe Award 2007



Winner of Baltic Cities Award 2007, in the category Sustainable Energy Management.

FOSSIL FUEL FREE VÄXJÖ



Fossil Fuel Free Växjö – seminar about the comprehensive work to reduce the use of fossil fuels for energy / heating and transport. Växjö aims at becoming free of fossil fuels and has since 1993 reduced its CO2 emissions, per capita, by 30 % until 2006. The goal is 50 % until 2010.

Energy – study visit in a private home heated with a pellets combustor or in a private home with solar panels for heating / hot water.

Energy advice – seminar and study visit at the energy advisor's office, EnergiCentrumEtt. Energy exhibition with different energy solutions.



Bioenergy – seminar about the whole bio-energy chain from forestry, biofuel production, heat generation and distribution to handling of wood ashes.

Bioenergy plant – study visit at the full-scale Sandvik CHP plant and / or at small-scale district heating bioenergy plant outside central Växjö.

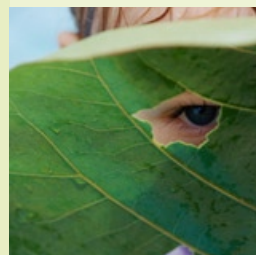
District heating / district cooling (absorption) – seminar and study visit

District heating was introduced in Växjö at the start of the 1970s. Nowadays major parts of Växjö are supplied with district heating from the Sandvik combined heat and power plant. By producing cooling from heat via a new technique called absorption cooling, the demand for electricity is decreased.

Combustion / bioenergy technology – seminar about environmental and technical aspects on biofuel combustion and handling. Presentations by representatives from the Bioenergy Research Centre, Växjö University.

The bioenergy cluster – seminar by the consortium of bioenergy companies in the region that develop and promote bioenergy, nationally and internationally and support research.

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES



Strategic environmental issues – seminar about strategy, methods and results of the local environmental and Agenda 21 work for sustainable development.

ECOBUDGET

Environmental Management System ecoBUDGET – seminar about the system and the Växjö experiences. ecoBUDGET is developed especially for local governments, in order to plan, monitor and report the consumption of natural resources within the municipal territory.



FORESTRY



Forestry, biofuels and nature conservation – field excursion showing forestry, combined with discussions on long term productivity, biofuel production, biodiversity and nature conservation.

CITY PLANNING

City planning – seminar about the "dense city", comprehensive plan, wooden buildings, the city and the lakes.



Low-energy housing – seminar and / or study visit
The municipal housing company Hyresbostäder plans to build passive houses in wooden construction during 2008. The buildings will not have any heating system and the energy consumption will therefore be significant lower compared to conventional buildings.



The modern wooden city of Välle Broar – seminar and / or study visit Välle Broar, the modern wooden city, is an investment meant to develop the construction of energy efficient high-rise wooden buildings.



CITY PLANNING

Växjö's local optic fibre network – seminar and study visit

A modern optic fibre network covering all Växjö districts and many locations around the City of Växjö. An active focus on IT has made Växjö one of the country's leading municipalities in terms of new infrastructure and benefited commerce and private individuals in the region.

WATER MANAGEMENT



Växjö water – seminar and / or study visit about restoration of eutroficated lakes (sludge dredging, vegetation removal, fishing for biological restoration), fish migration restoration, storm water treatment, wastewater treatment plants and the induced filtering water supply project.

WASTE MANAGEMENT



Häringetorp – study visit at the municipal waste treatment plant. You will experience a waste dump with collection of methane gas and local treatment of leachate water.

Norremark – study visit at the municipal recycling centre. You will see collection of bulky waste from households for recycling and composting of garden waste.

SEWAGE MANAGEMENT



Sundet – seminar and study visit at the sewage treatment plant. Out of the sludge, biogas is produced and used for heating and electrical energy at the plant, and as vehicle fuel.

Sustainable Energy Systems in Advanced Cities
SESAC is part of the broader CONCERTO initiative with the aim of accelerating innovation in renewable energy solutions, advance energy efficiency and systems for poly-generation linked together with concepts for eco-buildings. www.concerto-sesac.eu

SESAC is co-funded by the European Commission and a part of the 6th Framework Programme.

EDUCATION



SCHOOL AND CHILD CARE

The School and Child Care Services consist of preschools, nine-year compulsory schools, school libraries, culture school, youth recreation centres and schools for children with special needs. There are several interesting projects running; for example a sound environment project within the pre-schools, a gender project and a considerable extension of school libraries, which has given very good results regarding reading, linguistic development and the process of learning.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFIED SCHOOLS

Environmental certified schools – study visit at schools certified with the Eco-School Green Flag. Eco-Schools is a program for schools and pre-schools that aim to raise students awareness of sustainable environmental development issues. Schools that successfully fulfil their goals and get their reports approved by The Keep Sweden Tidy Foundation are awarded with the Eco-School Green Flag. www.keeperswedentidy.org



UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOL

Växjö municipal upper secondary schools aim at providing "education for all". Consequently, there are educational choices provided for all students, including students with disabilities and students of various ethnicities. The primary target group for upper secondary schools is 16–20 year olds, but there are also educational programs at all levels of education for adult learners.



- Study visits** to different schools and **seminars** about
- Internationalisation
 - Cooperation with the local community, industry and university
 - Audio recorded textbooks
 - Handicraft program – focus on furniture design
 - Upper secondary schooling for mentally retarded students
 - Municipal adult education – for adult learners at all levels of education, ranging from non-Swedish speaking illiterate learners to upper secondary level learners
 - Special needs school for mentally retarded adults
 - Advanced vocational education and training
 - Specialised programs for students with neuropsychiatric disabilities