



# **Energy Conservation Assistance Program Partnership with Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District**

Recommendation

Neely Law, Community Specialist and Matt Meyers, Division Manager  
Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination

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# Agenda

1. Overview of Climate Action Planning and Goals
2. How the Energy Conservation Assistance Program supports Implementation
3. Background on Energy Conservation Assistance Program
4. Next Steps: Moving to a sustained program



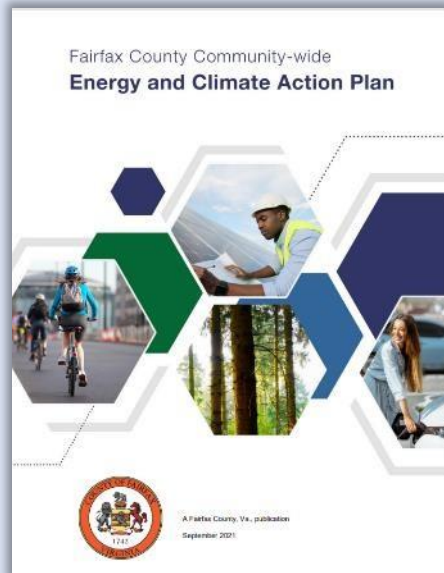
# Climate Action Plans in Fairfax County

We are addressing both the cause and the effects of climate change.

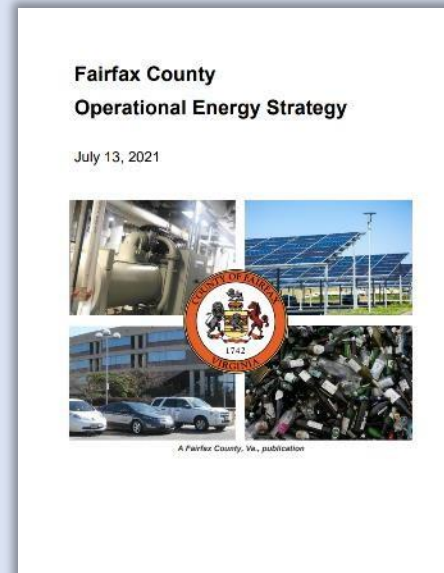


**Addressing the Cause:**  
by doing our part  
in the global effort to reduce emissions

CECAP  
(Community-wide)

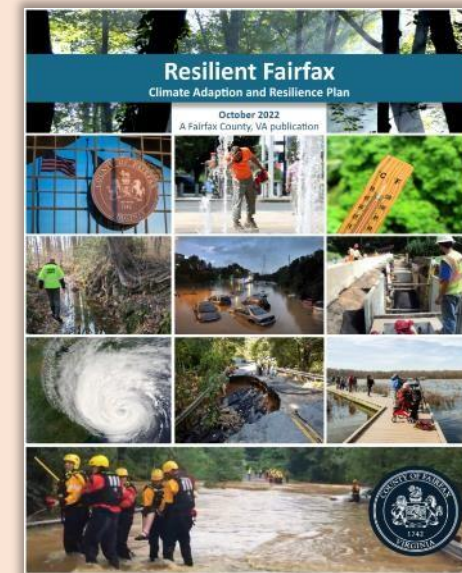


Operational Energy Strategy  
(Government operations only)



**Addressing the Effects:**  
building resilience to the  
impacts we experience locally

Resilient Fairfax  
(Government and community)





# Climate Champions – Nonprofit Pilot

- Partnering with Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions (FACS)
- Remove barriers to take climate action
- Identify resources for implementation
  - Grants
  - Federal Rebates and Tax Credits
  - Incentives (Energy Conservation Assistance Program)
- 10 Places of Worship commit to, or complete an energy audit by December 2023

## FACS Solar Sanctuary Program



Level 1

Energy  
Efficiency &  
Outreach



Level 2

Renewable  
Energy  
installations



Level 3

Battery  
storage &  
Resilience  
Hubs



# Energy Conservation Assistance Program (Existing)

- A cost-share program since 2015 and partnership between the OEEC and NVSWCD
- Projects improve water quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and conserve energy and water.
- Homeowner Associations (HOAs) and Places of Worship
- Funded through Environmental Improvement Program Funds
  - Program started in FY2015
  - Annual funds through FY2022 ranged from \$15,000 to \$75,000
- Grant Reimbursement:
  - Energy Audit: 50% up to \$750
  - Energy Efficiency Projects: 50% up to \$5,000



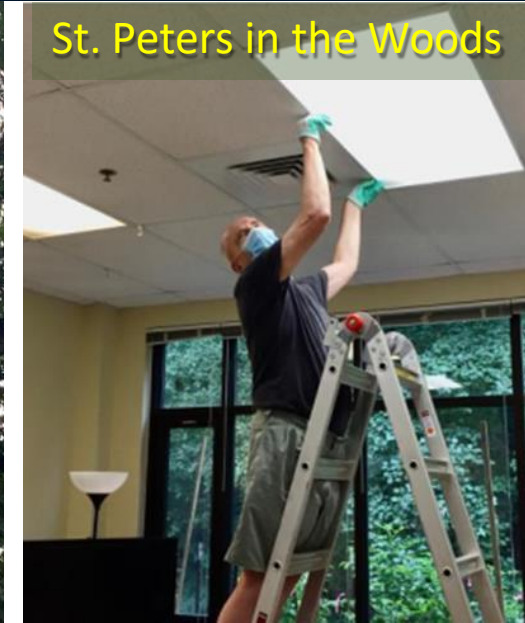
# Example Projects

*To date, energy efficiency projects include appliance upgrades, HVAC, LED and energy efficient lighting, weatherstripping, replacement windows and energy audits.*

*Nearly \$47,000 in assistance has supported over \$400,000 in energy efficiency upgrades.*



Westwood Baptist



St. Peters in the Woods



AUUC



Peace Lutheran



# Next Steps: Energy Conservation Assistance Program



- Make the Energy Conservation Assistance Program a sustained grant program
- Funds included in FY2024 budget
- NVSWCD and OEEC work in partnership
  - Memorandum of Understanding
  - Funding Agreement
- Refine Energy Conservation Assistance Program
  - Broaden eligibility to community-based organizations, non-profit organizations to include HOAs and places of worship
  - Revise reimbursement amounts and expand eligible projects
  - Additional incentives for communities more vulnerable to climate impacts
- Targeted outreach and engagement



# Schedule: Energy Conservation Assistance Program



- July 2023:
  - Draft MOU and funding agreement
- September 2023:
  - Request NVSWCD Board approve MOU and funding agreement
  - Update program webpage
- October 2023:
  - Launch updated program
- FY2025 evaluate program and opportunities to expand to businesses





# Recommended Next Steps: Energy Conservation Assistance Program



- Request the Board of Supervisors to support and help promote the Energy Conservation Assistance Program
- Authorize the Director of the Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination to enter into an agreement via the MOU with NVSWCD