



Informational Matrix of Fairfax County Government Environmental Initiatives

PART 1: Environmental Vision	
Service Area	Vision
Land Use	The county will continue to refine and implement land use policies and regulations that accommodate anticipated growth and change in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable and equitable manner while revitalizing older commercial centers, protecting existing stable neighborhoods, supporting sustainability and supporting a high quality of life. The development priority will be mixed use, pedestrian and bicycle-friendly transit-oriented development in activity centers. Policies and regulations will result, throughout the county, in the development and enhancement of vibrant and vital pedestrian and bicycle-friendly places where people want to live, work, shop, play, learn and thrive in a healthy environment, ensuring the protection, enhancement and restoration of natural resources, and the provision, in building and site designs, for the efficient use of resources.
Transportation	A dependable, safe, efficient, accessible, and multi-modal transportation network is necessary to support the travel needs of Fairfax County residents now and into the future. The county will continue to develop policies and strategies that reduce the dependence on single-occupancy vehicle trips through smart development, efficient use of the transportation system, and by expanding the county's bicycle, pedestrian and transit infrastructure. The county will pursue transportation strategies in support of regional attainment of air quality standards.
Water	Fairfax County considers the protection, restoration and enhancement of environmental quality through the sustainable management of its water resources to be one of its highest priorities. Through its policies, regulations, and outreach to the community, the county will implement the best available technology, including advanced and innovative practices to protect and restore streams, wetlands and associated aquatic resources, promote water conservation and ensure the most effective stormwater management, advanced wastewater treatment, and the safest, most reliable drinking water supply for future generations.
Waste Management	Fairfax County will use integrated waste management principles to ensure future waste management system capacity and sustainability. The county will promote policies and practices that maximize resource conservation and pollution prevention. The objective is an increase in waste reuse, diversion and recycling. Furthermore, the county will strive to decrease the amount of material disposed of; reduce greenhouse gas emissions by managing landfill gas; encourage the development of renewable energy and alternative fuels for buildings and vehicles; and preserve open space, green space, and wildlife habitats.



Informational Matrix of Fairfax County Government Environmental Initiatives

PART 1: Environmental Vision	
Service Area	Vision
Parks and Ecological Resources	<p>Parks, trails, and green space provide habitat and other ecological resources that promote the physical and mental well-being of residents through supporting healthy lifestyles and allowing for interaction with our natural environment. A comprehensive county trails system, such as the Cross-County and W&OD Trails, can provide means for environmentally responsible transportation. Ecological resources that include the soil, water, air, plants, animals, ecosystems and the services they provide are considered natural capital and green infrastructure. The public or ecosystem services provided by this green infrastructure are often more cost-effective than the engineered alternatives and thus are managed as any other infrastructure or capital asset through deliberate inventory, planning, maintenance, enhancement, and restoration to ensure healthy, high functioning, and resilient ecosystems and environment. Maintaining healthy, natural ecosystems is a priority of Fairfax County.</p>
Climate and Energy	<p>The county will continue its leadership and commitment to promote and encourage energy efficiency and conservation efforts and renewable energy initiatives by employees, employers and residents. The county will work with local authorities, businesses, and residents to encourage sustainable reductions of the county's geographical emissions that will contribute to achieving the targets as identified by the Cool Counties Climate Stabilization Declaration and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. The county also will continue to support attainment of air quality through regional planning and action.</p>
Environmental Stewardship	<p>An informed community works together with Fairfax County and its partners to care for and responsibly manage our treasured natural resources. In partnership, Fairfax County will continue to coordinate and promote education and outreach programs that encourage personal stewardship and promote initiatives at a countywide level.</p>



Informational Matrix of Fairfax County Government Environmental Initiatives

PART 2: Environmental Vision Service Areas			
SERVICE AREA: LAND USE (Environmental Vision, pp. 3-8)			
Focus Area	Goals	County Government Expectations/Targets	Initiatives
Zoning and Planning	Establish rights and restrictions on use and development of parcels of land in Fairfax County.	Ensure that proposals for development and redevelopment that require zoning approval will be pursued in an environmentally sensitive manner consistent with county environmental policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoning Ordinance • Comprehensive Plan
Transit-Oriented Mixed-Use Development (TOD)	Locate mixed uses (employment, multifamily housing, etc.) in activity centers with transportation options, especially rail transit.	Use clustering and mixed-use development when appropriate to utilize space efficiently and provide perpetual open space. Promote walkable and bikeable communities using mixed-use development and village-style neighborhoods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Plan amendments • Tysons Urban Center • Embark Richmond Highway Plan
Revitalization	Facilitate strategic redevelopment and investment opportunities within the older and transforming commercial activity centers of the county.	Pursue opportunities to revitalize the county's older commercial activity centers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial Revitalization Districts (CRD) • Commercial Revitalization Areas (CRA) • Transit Station Areas (TSA) • Tysons Urban Center • Community Development Authority/Tax Increment Financing (CDA/TIF)
Green Buildings	Adopt green building policies for private sector development.	Ensure that zoning proposals for nonresidential or multifamily residential development incorporate green building practices sufficient to attain a LEED-NC, LEED-CS or equivalent certification incorporating multiple green building concepts, where applicable, and encourage an emphasis on energy efficiency and conservation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Building Policy • Green building priority plan review • County incentives for solar installations
Noise, Light and Visual Pollution	Minimize disruptions from noise, light and visual pollution on the environment and quality of life.	<p>Locate noise-sensitive uses away from high levels of transportation-generated noise and/or provide measures to reduce noise impacts and protect sensitive land uses from stationary noise sources.</p> <p>Design and install lighting fixtures to minimize adverse light impacts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noise Ordinance • Outdoor Lighting Ordinance • Blight Abatement Program



Informational Matrix of Fairfax County Government Environmental Initiatives

PART 2: Environmental Vision Service Areas			
SERVICE AREA: TRANSPORTATION (Environmental Vision, pp. 9-12)			
Focus Area	Goals	County Government Expectations/Targets	Initiatives
Multimodal Transportation Initiatives	Ensure transportation network connects communities internally and regionally through multimodal transportation options.	Reduce dependence on single-occupancy vehicle trips in order to reduce congestion, improve air and water quality, improve public health and create more livable communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairfax Connector • Free Student Bus Pass Program • Bicycle Program • Capital Bikeshare • Employer Services Program • RideSources Program • Community Residential Program • Park-and-Ride lots • Regional planning



Informational Matrix of Fairfax County Government Environmental Initiatives

PART 2: Environmental Vision Service Areas			
SERVICE AREA: WATER (Environmental Vision, pp. 13-18)			
Focus Area	Goals	County Government Expectations/Targets	Initiatives
Stormwater Management	Promote effective capture and treatment of stormwater runoff at the source to improve water quality in county watersheds and Chesapeake Bay.	Meet/exceed County's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watershed Management Plans • Stream Cleanup Pilot Program • Stormwater Capital Projects • Stream monitoring and assessment
Manage Water Resources to Support Healthy Ecosystems	Recognize stormwater and reuse water as valuable assets to ensure future adequate water supply and protect/improve ecology and water quality of aquatic bodies.	Define opportunities and develop strategies to expand the use of stormwater and treated wastewater (reuse water) for irrigation or allowable applications and needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wastewater reuse in county operations • Participation in regional water supply planning initiatives
Tree Planting to Improve Water Quality	Incorporate tree planting in county stormwater management practices to assist with compliance of water quality requirements.	Extend the county tree canopy coverage to protect water resources and natural ecosystems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree Action Plan • Partnership with FCPS • Community outreach and engagement
Wastewater and Stormwater Education and Outreach	Provide audience-specific education, outreach and awareness on local watershed health and water pollution prevention.	Meet/exceed MS4 permit educational requirements as well as public involvement and environmental stewardship educational commitments of the Wastewater Management Program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sewer Science Lab • Stream Critter Cube Lab • Noman M. Cole Jr. Pollution Control Plant tours



Informational Matrix of Fairfax County Government Environmental Initiatives

PART 2: Environmental Vision Service Areas			
SERVICE AREA: WASTE MANAGEMENT (Environmental Vision, pp. 19-21)			
Focus Area	Goals	County Government Expectations/Targets	Initiatives
Maximize Resource Conservation & Pollution Prevention	Decrease the amount of waste material that will need to be disposed to ensure future waste management system capacity.	Increase waste reuse and recycling of County resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent recycling collection sites for residential hazardous waste, e-waste • Recycling, waste drop-off events
Education and Outreach	Enhance educational efforts with schools, residents to promote recycling, resource conservation, and waste prevention.	Promote policies that make recycling as convenient as waste disposal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site visits at local businesses • Educational toolkits
Support Green Initiatives	Divert material from waste stream.	Define opportunities and develop strategies to expand organics management (including food waste) and construction and demolition debris recycling.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purple Can Club • Waste-to-energy • Landfill gas • Wastewater reuse



Informational Matrix of Fairfax County Government Environmental Initiatives

PART 2: Environmental Vision Service Areas			
SERVICE AREA: PARKS AND ECOLOGICAL RESOURCES (Environmental Vision, pp. 23-25)			
Focus Area	Goals	County Government Expectations/Targets	Initiatives
Trails	Create a comprehensive network of trails that are environmentally responsible, equitable, and accessible.	Increase number of residents with walkable access (1/4-mile and 1/2-mile walk) to park or facility entrances, or trailheads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trail Improvement Volunteer Program
Natural Capital & Green Infrastructure	Preserve, protect, maintain, enhance, and restore healthy native trees and ecosystems, and the services they provide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve Fairfax County urban forest to promote ecosystem services. Implement best practices for linking greenery (trees, shrubs) and health outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural landscaping Pollinator meadows Sully Woods Stewardship Education Center
Education and Citizen Science	Educate communities about environmental stewardship and provide opportunities for citizen science.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide interpretive opportunities that enhance awareness of natural resources. Educate future generations to protect and conserve urban forest resources. Provide, develop and evaluate strong youth and school education programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invasive Management Area Program FCPA classroom learning programs Guided school tours of parks, nature centers Educational events at Park facilities Envirothon Scout programs



Informational Matrix of Fairfax County Government Environmental Initiatives

PART 2: Environmental Vision Service Areas			
SERVICE AREA: CLIMATE AND ENERGY (Environmental Vision, pp. 27-29)			
Focus Area	Goals	County Government Expectations/Targets	Initiatives
Energy Use and Efficiency	Reduce electricity and natural gas use in existing county facilities and operations.	Reduce kBtu by 20% from 2019 to 2029, equivalent to a reduction of about 2% per year over the 10-year period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lighting retrofits LED Streetlight Conversion Program Energy Service Company (ESCO) partnership
Green Buildings	Ensure that new construction and major renovations of county facilities are energy- and water-efficient.	Achieve LEED Silver on all new facility construction, additions and renovations with an occupied area greater than 10,000 square feet.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Development Policy for Capital Projects
Innovative Energy Solutions	Reduce fossil fuel consumption through the application of innovative concepts and technologies.	Implement a rooftop solar pilot project at the Springfield Warehouse capable of generating electricity equivalent to the warehouse's expected annual electricity consumption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)



Informational Matrix of Fairfax County Government Environmental Initiatives

PART 2: Environmental Vision Service Areas			
SERVICE AREA: CLIMATE AND ENERGY (Environmental Vision, pp. 27-29)			
Focus Area	Goals	County Government Expectations/Targets	Initiatives
Electric Vehicles	Minimize energy used in the transportation of county staff and goods and the delivery of services.	By 2025, ensure that Level 2 charging infrastructure is installed at up to 20 major government facilities and that by 2030 5% of government passenger vehicle purchases are electric or plug-in hybrid.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming Electric Vehicle charging RFP • Hybrid and electric vehicle fleet
Awareness and Engagement	Foster a culture of efficiency and conservation in the county workplace.	Hold at least four FEEE employee events per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairfax Employees for Environmental Excellence (FEEE) • Employee Composting Pilot Program
Community-Wide Energy and Climate Action	Reduce countywide GHG emissions, educate community members on climate mitigation actions, and provide equitable climate action solutions for residents and businesses.	Targets TBD.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community-Wide Energy and Climate Action Plan • Energy Masters • Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Program (C-PACE)



Informational Matrix of Fairfax County Government Environmental Initiatives

PART 2: Environmental Vision Service Areas			
SERVICE AREA: ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP (Environmental Vision, pp. 31-33)			
Focus Area	Goals	County Government Expectations/Targets	Initiatives
Community Stewardship	Engage adults and youth in volunteer opportunities and other hands-on activities by promoting initiatives at countywide level.	Work with internal and partner agencies to administer or support environmental stewardship programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stream monitoring • Storm drain marking • Stream clean-ups • Tree planting • Boards, Authorities and Commissions
Energy Action Fairfax	Educate county residents and businesses on energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives.	Administer environmental and energy outreach and education programs for Fairfax County community members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Business Partners • Solarize Fairfax County • Thermal Camera Loan Program • LED Lightbulb Exchanges
Environmental Improvement Program	Support Board-adopted environmental and energy targets, policies and goals.	Provide resources for environmental and energy action-oriented opportunities following a project selection process.	<p>The Environmental Improvement Program provides county funds, through a formal selection process, to internal and partner organizations, such as FCPA and NVSWCD. The program funds a variety of environmental stewardship initiatives, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invasive Management Area Program (FCPA) • Conservation Assistance Program (NVSWCD) • Spring Outreach Program (NVSWCD) • Watch the Green Grow Education and Outreach Program (FCPA)