

Dept. of Facilities and Environmental Services	Albemarle County
Environmental Quarterly Report	Q3-FY19

This report includes environmental program updates for January, February, and March 2019.

Local Climate Action Planning and Energy Management:

- The Climate Action Plan development continues. Community engagement efforts included a February 14 announcement of coordination with the City and UVA and a very well-attended Open House event on March 18. Emission sector teams have begun meeting regularly. Staff have been assisting the City with a regional vulnerability analysis.
- County funding for Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP) supported Home Energy Check-Ups (HECUs) for 42 County residents and \$1,292 in Energy Smart Rebates.
- The Crozet Library roof-top solar installation is operating since the beginning of the calendar year. Between early February (when data tracking began) and early April, the system has produced an average of 75 kWh of energy per day, approximately two and a half times the usage of an average US home.

Drainage Infrastructure Management:

- Following initial work in a pilot watershed utilizing a contractor under a cooperative UVA contract, staff issued an Invitation For Bids (IFB) for video assessment services. Bid opening was March 21; six bids were received. Staff are evaluating the bids.
- Sent letters to 328 property owners within second bundle of watersheds requesting permission to video assess infrastructure on their property.
- Contracted with engineering firm to review video assessment data from pilot watershed and develop repair and maintenance plan and cost estimate. This information will be used to inform the cost estimates for various program levels of service.
- Conducted new inspections of 158 private and public stormwater management facilities to ensure proper operation and maintenance by the owners.

Water Quality Protection:

- Major construction has been completed for two stream restoration projects – Chapel Hills and RiverRun. Remaining work, including vegetation planting, is expected to be completed in the spring of 2019.
- Several stormwater facility retrofit projects (Minor Hill, Rio Hill Basin, and Berkmar Basin) are in various stages of planning, design, and easement acquisition.
- Stavros Calos participated on a team that presented a workshop on *BMP Retrofits on Private Property* at the Virginia Lakes and Watersheds Association annual conference on March 4.
- In January, staff sent a survey to the property owners in the Chris Greene Lake watershed and received over 170 responses, a 27% response rate. Most respondents wanted to receive updates about County efforts to improve lake water quality.

- Staff are preparing a Request For Proposals (RFP) for assistance from consultants to determine whether current management strategies at the Chris Greene Lake should be adjusted.

Environmental Compliance:

- The well water systems at the Greenwood Community Center, Mint Springs Valley Park, Beaver Creek Lake Park, Chris Green Lake Park, Ivy Creek Natural Area, Simpson Park, and Walnut Creek Park successfully met Department of Health (DOH) water quality testing standards for bacteria.
- ACPD Regional Firearms Training Facility and the Yancey School Community Center waterworks system successfully met DOH water quality testing standards for quarterly bacteria tests and monthly metered usage.

Safe Chemical Waivers

- Approved March 11, 2019 request from Environmental Services staff to manage invasive vegetation at stormwater management facilities
 - Sites: Berkmar Basin, Birnam Basin, Colonial Basin, Church Road Basin, Branchlands Basins, Woodbrook Lagoon, Crozet Wetlands, Monticello/Hillcrest Dam, Key West Dam
 - Chemicals used: Aquaneat, Habitat, Alligare
 - Active ingredients: Glyphosate, Imazapyr, Triclopyr
 - Duration: 2-6 times during the 2019 growing season

Solid Waste and Recycling:

- Division staff continue to support the Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee (SWAAC). The Committee's semi-annual report, covering activities from July – December 2018, will be included on the May 15th Board meeting agenda. The meeting agenda includes time for discussion.
- The Committee has been engaging in community outreach through new education videos. These videos are hosted on the [County's YouTube site](#).

Abbreviations

BMP – Best Management Practice (aka, stormwater management facility)
 DCR - Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
 DEQ – Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
 DMME - Virginia Department of Mines, Mineral, and Energy
 DOH – Virginia Department of Health
 kWh – kilowatt-hours
 LEAP – Local Energy Alliance Program
 MS4 – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
 TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load (used to denote the process to clean up impaired waters)
 TMSWCD – Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District