

Albemarle County Environmental Stewardship Strategic Plan

Fiscal Years 2013 through 2020

Vision: To enable the Albemarle County community to reap the health, economic and environmental benefits of sound energy-based decisions by recognizing the Local Climate Action Planning Process Report of 2011 as a valid document to build upon a multi-year program.

Mission: To continue to demonstrate leadership in energy reductions at the local level; to build on existing synergies by continued collaboration with all community partners; to integrate the role of energy conservation and carbon emissions in projects and planning; to equip the community at all levels to make informed decisions about impacts of energy efficiencies.

Goal 1: Reduce energy demand in all County owned buildings and promote energy conservation throughout the County.

Objective 1.1: Build upon our current energy conservation program with additional goals. Beginning in January, 2013 pursue an Energy Management and Conservation Program for all County owned facilities that will reduce energy consumption by an additional 10% by December 2017 for a total energy reduction of 40% since the baseline year 2005.

Objective 1.2: Promote the dissemination of energy efficiency information for homes and businesses within the County. Continue to utilize local organizations such as LEAP to reach all aspects of the community. Support Governor McDonnell's 2010 voluntary Virginia Energy Plan to reduce Virginia's electricity demand by 10% by 2022 through conservation and efficiency.

Objective 1.3: Encourage the use of green building standards and practices for retrofitting existing buildings and new construction by working with the building and business communities in offering choices of design for better efficiency.

Goal 2: Improve travel efficiencies to reduce energy consumption and emissions.

Objective 2.1: Reduce fuel consumption used in County owned vehicles by 20% by fiscal year 2017; by fiscal year 2020 have a fleet of vehicles where 25% operate on alternative fuel and the balance has an average fuel rating of 28 mpg.

Objective 2.2: Continually analyze and adjust the County's fleet of vehicles to an appropriate level necessary to conduct the business of the County. Purchase vehicles that have multi-use ability. Reduce to the extent possible the use of private owned vehicles in conducting County business. The goal is to reduce the County fleet 25% from the 2010 baseline by fiscal year 2017.

Objective 2.3: Encourage all employers within the County to consider incentives for their employees to reduce fuel consumption. The County will continue to research and work with the City, UVA and local transportation services to identify and compile options for the community; encourage HOV travel; select local goods and services whenever economically feasible to reduce transport-related costs and enhance the local economy; and the use of telecommunication technology to reduce travel.

Goal 3: Promote and pursue the reduction of waste that goes to landfill.

Objective 3.1: Decrease the volume of materials generated by the County and sent to landfill by 2% each year for 10 years by adopting the "reduce, reuse and recycle" practice; adopt environmentally preferable purchasing policies as allowed by the Virginia Public Procurement Act.

Objective 3.2: Increase awareness of and opportunities for business and residents to recycle their used goods.

Objective 3.3: Communicate awareness of cost savings opportunities associated with renovation and rehabilitation of existing buildings versus new construction.