



Maryland  
Green Registry  
**MEMBER**

The Maryland Green Registry promotes and recognizes sustainable practices at organizations of all types and sizes. Members agree to share at least five environmental practices and one measurable result while striving to continually improve their environmental performance.

# Frederick County Government



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[www.FrederickCountyMD.gov](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov)

[www.SustainableFrederickCounty.org](http://www.SustainableFrederickCounty.org)

County Government

Member since May 2011

## Management And Leadership

### Environmental Policy Statement

*Frederick County Climate Emergency Resolution 20-22*

<https://frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/328669/20-22-Climate-Emergency>

*Sustainable Frederick County: A New Framework For Sustainability*

<https://frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/298543/A-New-Framework-for-Sustainability-2017>

*Frederick County Government set goals through its Livable Frederick Comprehensive Plan, which won a 2019 award from the Maryland Chapter of the American Planning Association for its public participation. This plan includes goals to address climate change, improve public transportation, reduce greenhouse gases, increase energy efficiency and renewables in County operations, protect and restore water quality and green infrastructure, and to quantify impacts in yearly reporting. <https://www.livablefrederick.org/home>*

### Environmental Team

*Our Sustainability Commission <https://frederickcountymd.gov/7609/Frederick-County-Sustainability-Commissi>*

- *Is a 13 member citizen-based commission that informs the County Executive on sustainability issues, reviews proposals for our Creek ReLeaf*

*reforestation initiative, conducts public outreach and education, gives input on regional planning efforts, and recommends climate actions.*

- *Holds monthly public meetings*
- *Is convened by the Office of Sustainability & Environmental Resources*

#### *Our Monocacy and Catoctin Watershed Alliance*

<https://frederickcountymd.gov/7610/Monocacy-and-Catoctin-Watershed-Alliance>

- *Is a mutual, collaborative, non-advocacy effort among individuals and organizations desiring to work together to improve the health of the Monocacy and Catoctin watersheds.*
- *Meets quarterly*
- *Is convened by the Office of Sustainability & Environmental Resources*

#### *Our internal Climate and Energy Team*

- *Is comprised of County Division and Department heads with decision making authority*
- *Supports Maryland Smart Energy Communities goals of the Maryland Energy Administration*
- *Developed the Comprehensive Energy Plan for county operations and provides yearly updates on implementation*
- *Develops plans for reducing greenhouse gases, implementing alternative vehicles and EV charging, and reduces the consumption of nonrenewable energy in County operations*
- *Is convened by the Office of Sustainability & Environmental Resources*

#### *Our Climate Emergency Mobilization Workgroup*

<https://frederickcountymd.gov/8113/Climate-Change-Workgroup-Information>

- *Is a joint Frederick County - Frederick City work group authorized by the County Council, the Mayor, and Board of Alderman through the Climate Emergency Resolutions adopted in 2020.*
- *The workgroup holds monthly meetings that are open to the public*
- *Recommendations of the workgroup will be made in September 2021*
- *Recommendations will be used for Climate Action Planning in Frederick County.*



#### **Annual Environmental Goals**

*Please review our Framework for Sustainability at*

<https://frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/298543/A-New-Framework-for-Sustainability-2017>

Please review our Annual Reports on our Water Quality programs here:  
<https://frederickcountymd.gov/8121/Annual-Reports>

The County Council has pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 50% by 2030 and 100% by 2050 in Frederick County Climate Emergency Resolution 20-22

<https://frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/328669/20-22-Climate-Emergency>. To implement this goal, the County is partnering to conduct an internal operational Greenhouse Gas Emissions inventory with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. GHG reductions will be included in the yearly Comprehensive Energy Plan updates going forward. Community-wide emissions are tracked regularly and are part of a regional commitment to the Global Covenant of Mayors. Frederick County community emissions reduced 37% between 2005 and 2018.

**Environmentally Preferable Products and Services**

We produce compost and mulch for public purchase. We provide programs to the public in the areas of recycling and waste reduction, sustainability, energy and emissions reductions, watershed management, and environmental education. We practice Environmentally Preferable Purchasing for a number of materials including cleaning supplies.

**Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects**

Our Green Homes Challenge guides, rewards, and recognizes households for saving energy, adopting green lifestyle practices, and using renewable energy. <https://frederickgreenchallenge.org>.

## Waste

**Recycling**

All County buildings have blue bins for collection of materials from the public and employees. Our CORP program – County Office Recycling Program – offers single stream recycling. Frederick County’s residential single stream recycling program is the largest by area in the state of Maryland.

## Energy

### Energy Efficiency

*We're guided by a Comprehensive Energy Plan, first completed in Fall 2010 and revised in 2020 and 2021. <https://frederickcountymd.gov/8190/2021-Frederick-County-Comprehensive-Ener>.*

- *We have completed energy assessments on 25 buildings.*
- *We have had major retrofit investments including lighting, roofs converted to TPO (thermoplastic olefin), green roof installation at a Nature Center, and mechanical equipment upgrades.*
- *LED lighting upgrades for interior lighting and traffic signals have been completed; more interior lighting and exterior lighting projects are in progress.*
- *Variable Frequency Drives were installed at the Ballenger-McKinney Wastewater Treatment Plant.*
- *Retro-commissioning and improvements to controls systems in progress.*

### Renewable Energy

*We participate in the Maryland Smart Energy Communities goal to reduce 20% of building electricity usage using renewables. The County has met 17% and should reach 20% with the installation of a solar canopy at the Bourne Building.*

- *Geothermal HVAC installation at the Catoctin Creek Nature Center*
- *Solar photovoltaic project at capped landfill powering 20% of building electricity usage for general government and 9 electric bus charging stations; our electric buses are powered by the sun.*
- *Solar PV project at Ballenger-McKinney WWTP is built and will soon be on line. Project includes construction of a 3,528 module PV Array, with a 1 Mega Watt (MW) generation capacity adjacent to the WWTP. Will generate approximately 1.85 million kWh per year. Project also includes an on-site Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) providing some additional (limited) back-up power beyond the plant's two-line electric utility service. The electricity generated by the solar array supplies approximately 17% of the plant's annual electrical usage. Plant runs 24/7.*
- *Solar hot water at our Adult Detention Center is installed.*
- *\$450K solar canopy project planned at Bourne Building to power 18% of building electricity plus 4 EV chargers; these electric vehicles will be powered by the sun as well.*

## Transportation

### **Employee Commute**

- *Telecommuting policy adopted December 1, 2010*
- *Remote desktop available to employees to work off site*
- *Employee Commute Survey sent to employees Spring 2010*
- *Most employees have worked remotely since the start of the pandemic*
- *Permits system went online at the beginning of the pandemic, allowing for complete remote access.*

### **Efficient Business Travel**

- *Established policies that prohibit employees to leave the County in a vehicle that gets less than 24 mpg without at least four employees in the car.*
- *Established an anti-idling policy*
- *Mandated 4 ten-hour workday schedules for highway crews in the summer*
- *Set up teleconferencing services*
- *Encourage carpooling*
- *Encourage webinars encouraged for continuing education*
- *Employees have been using Microsoft Teams and other teleconferencing software since the start of the pandemic.*
- *Public Meetings are now held on Cisco WebEx*
- *County's TransIt Division has multiple modes of transportation to alleviate traditional commutes.*

### **Efficient Fleet Vehicles**

*Our goal is a 10% reduction in fuel consumption. We have achieved a 7-8% reduction off our baseline on a quarterly basis due to behavioral and policy changes. Coupled with energy savings, we saved more than \$1 million in 5 years. We also purchased hybrids and "right size" vehicles to the job. There are no longer vehicles going home with employees in most cases. County has 9 electric buses, two hybrids, and 5 hybrid electric plug-in sedans. The County just pre-purchased two electric trucks. 9 bus charging stations and two dual-head charging stations with one single head level 1 charger. Plans in place for 4 level 2 chargers at solar canopy.*

## Water

### **Water Conservation**

- *Dual flush toilets installed*
- *Waterless urinals*
- *Native plant landscaping implemented*
- *Bottled water ban (procurement policy)*

### **Stormwater Management**

*Frederick County created the Drainage Assessment and Response Team (DART) program to address climate change impacts to stormwater, notably an increase in flood frequency, duration and intensity. The program is designed to address risks from increased flooding to people and property, to provide assistance to residents, and to protect infrastructure. This program is a partnership between the Office of the County Executive, Division of Emergency Management, Division of Public Works, and other divisions.*

*We are directing our \$10 Million per year stormwater to the DART effort by aligning our regulatory requirements with voluntary efforts. This includes about \$7 Million in environmental restoration projects that include stream restoration, stormwater management facility retrofits, and our award-winning Creek ReLeaf public/private reforestation program. Restoration amounts to a goal of about 1,000 acres of untreated urban impervious area every 5 years, or 200 acres per year.*

## Green Building

### **LEED Silver**

*Our Brunswick Library is a LEED-New Construction registered project. Certification at the Silver level is expected soon.*

## Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities

### **LEED Silver for Cities and Communities**

*Frederick County Government achieved LEED Silver status for communities in 2019.*

### **Best Urban BMP in the Bay Award**

*Frederick County Government earned a BUBBA award in 2020 for its Creek ReLeaf Program.*

### **Green PLANT Award**

*Frederick County Government won the Green PLANT (People Loving and Nurturing Trees Award) in 2021, the highest level of award from the Maryland DNR, for its sustained reforestation program with dedicated funding and staff.*

### **Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Climate and Energy Award**

*Frederick County Government received this award in 2015 for its Green Homes Challenge*

***Profile Updated April 2021***



*Help build a greener, more sustainable Maryland through voluntary practices that reduce environmental impacts and save money.*

*Learn more at [green.maryland.gov](http://green.maryland.gov)*

