

Loudoun County 2019 General Plan

Interim Final Version Only

Final Version pending edits and format design per Board of Supervisors Resolution
CPRV-2016-0001, Adoption of Loudoun County 2019 Comprehensive Plan

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Chapter 3 – Natural, Environmental, and Heritage Resources

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Sustainability

SUS Policy 8: Promote sustainability efforts throughout the County.

Strategy

- 8.1. Support sustainability practices within the Loudoun County Government.

Actions

- A. Update and implement the County Energy Strategy (CES) to account for rapid growth in population and high energy demand uses, technological changes allowing improved energy storage, changing renewable energy markets, and the impacts of climate change.
- B. Continue to evaluate the energy demands of government buildings as well as transportation needs and develop plans for energy efficiency.
- C. Encourage benchmarking the energy use of existing and planned County buildings to establish a baseline for energy demand estimates.
- D. Use the data from benchmarking the energy use to set policy and regulations in the County.
- E. Whenever feasible, build County-constructed facilities to LEED Silver, or equivalent, standards.
- F. Continue to evaluate all sustainability efforts and improve efforts as new options and technologies become available.
- G. Continue to monitor the efforts of MWCOG.
- H. Support Loudoun Water in the expansion of the reclaimed water network.
- I. Incorporate natural, environmental, and heritage resources and BMPs into County Energy Strategy.
- J. Prioritize government purchase and use of goods and services that have reduced impacts to human and environmental health.
- K. Prioritize the use of Loudoun farm products in government purchase of food.
- L. Develop a Sustainability Plan for the County that provides the framework to balance economic development, social well-being, and environmental health.
- M. Consider providing electric car charging stations at newly constructed County-constructed facilities.

Strategy

8.2. Support energy efficient practices for all in Loudoun County.

Actions

- A. Evaluate the energy demands of residential and non-residential buildings, including data centers as well as transportation needs and develop plans for energy efficiency.
- B. Research and support opportunities for micro-grid energy and district energy systems.
- C. Encourage the use of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) and research and support residential PACE program.
- D. Prioritize public investment in energy efficient, clean products and infrastructure.

Strategy

8.3. Support sustainable economic practices within Loudoun County to strengthen economic growth and innovation.

Actions

- A. Create partnerships with universities and private sector companies to foster growth of a sustainable economy that supports workers and students in the advanced technology and science industries.
- B. Promote the production and access to sustainable, healthy local food.
- C. Support and expand community gardens throughout the County.

SUS Policy 9: Encourage sustainable development practices, including long-term water conservation, green building principles, sustainable site design, renewable energy, preservation and adaptive re-use of historic structures, and integrated energy management planning.

Strategy

9.1. Promote water conservation through innovative, cost-effective reuse systems, domestic water saving devices, and low impact development techniques, which integrate hydrologically functional designs with methods for preventing pollution and educational programs.

Actions

- A. Educate and encourage the harvesting of rainwater for non-potable use, such as landscape irrigation.

B. Establish incentives for sustainable development.

Strategy

- 9.2. Promote the use of salvaged, recycled, or locally produced materials whenever possible.

Strategy

- 9.3. Evaluate the establishment of Eco-districts within the County.

Strategy

- 9.4. Promote green building standards and green building.

Strategy

- 9.5. Support renewable energy.

Actions

- A. Adopt solar zoning and permitting best practices for accessory use solar development.
- B. Become certified as a “solar-ready” community under the Department of Energy’s SolSmart program.
- C. Support solar farms with locational criteria to be identified.

Reference Maps

Natural and Environmental Resources (Map #2018-141)

River and Stream Corridor Resources (Map #2018-142)

Watersheds (Map #2018-143)

Historic Districts (Map #2018-144)

Airport Impact Overlay District (Map #2018-145)

African American Historic Communities (Map #2018-201)

Impaired Streams (Map #2018-203)

Limestone Overlay District (Map #2018-204)

Countywide Prime Agricultural Soils Map (Map #2019-262)