



Sustainable Maryland Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable Maryland Certification Report of Rockville, a Sustainable Maryland silver certified applicant.

Rockville was certified on November 08, 2024 with 700 points. Listed below is information regarding Rockville's Sustainable Maryland efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Rockville was approved for in 2024 appears below. Note: Standards for the actions below may have changed and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Additionally, points associated with actions prior to 2013 certifications may not be accurate.

Community Action

Community-Based Public Art

5 Points

Program Summary: Over the past year, the City of Rockville has commissioned and installed two new public artworks which include a mural at City Hall and a mural at the Rockville Senior Center. These murals came out of a desire to create more murals within the city's public art collection and to do more temporary and community-based artworks. The city surveyed community members and various user groups and also assembled an Artist Nomination Committee to review applications and proposals from artists. Katie Giganti's design was selected for the mural at the Senior Center and Shawn James of Mural Masters Inc was selected for the mural outside of City Hall. While the projects are different in terms of specific themes and style, both murals seek to reflect the character and spirit of the surrounding community. City staff also worked closely with Rockville's Cultural Arts Commission and engaged elected officials in the process. To initiate these projects, the city released a Request for Qualifications in late 2022 and artists submitted examples of their past work, their resumes, and a short statement. Three artists were selected for each project and a paid a stipend to complete a more detailed rendering and site-specific design. Giganti and James were selected as the final artists for their respective projects. The city provided technical assistance, logistical and marketing support, as well as payment (\$12,500 per artist) for the design and implementation of the works.

PDF: [CALL FOR ARTIST_GENERATOR SCREENMURAL](#)

PDF: [CALL FOR ARTISTS_SENIOR CENTER MURAL](#)

IMAGE: [GENERATOR SCREEN MURAL BY SHAWN JAMES](#)

IMAGE: [SENIOR CENTER MURAL BY KATIE GIGANTI](#)

IMAGE: [SHAWN JAMES_SOCIAL MEDIA POST](#)

IMAGE: [KATIE GIGANTI_SOCIAL MEDIA POST](#)

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Community Action

40 Points

Program Summary: Rockville has a variety of innovative programs to engage with the community: 1. Volunteer Program: inspires and mobilizes people from all walks of life to volunteer for a stronger, healthier, and more productive and engaged community. 2. Holiday Drive: distributes gift cards and books to Rockville families. 3. Environment & Sustainability Newsletter: Provides environmental news, volunteer opportunities, events, programs updates, and tips and resources to promote environmental action. 4. Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative to develop policies and training to make Rockville a more inclusive, aware, and just City.

PDF: [ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER 2024](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM-FINAL REPORT FY2022](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE HOLIDAY DRIVE 2022 TO 2023](#)

PDF: [SOCIAL JUSTICE RESOLUTION 2021](#)

PDF: [JEDI PROGRAM DESCRIPTION 2024](#)

PDF: [ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER EXAMPLES.PDF](#)

MD Green Schools

30 Points

Program Summary: Founded in 1999, the Maryland Green Schools Program (MDGS) is a sustainable school program that is nationally recognized as having a significant impact on students and schools. The program aligns with the goals of the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement and supports Maryland State Department of Education graduation requirements and standards. Between 2022-2024, six "Green Schools" were certified within Rockville or serving Rockville residents: Earle B Woods Middle School (2024), Fallsmead (2023), Jones Lane Elementary (2022), Lakewood Elementary (2024), Richard Montgomery High (2022), Ritchie Park Elementary School (2023), and Rock Terrace School (2022). Additionally, three Maryland Certified Green Centers are located in Rockville or serving Rockville residents: Lathrop E. Smith Environmental Education Center (2023), Meadowside Nature Center (2023) and the School Energy and Recycling Team (SERT) of Montgomery County Public Schools (2024). Please see attachments for green school and green center documentation.

PDF: [GREEN CENTERS - MARYLAND ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION.PDF](#)

WORD: [MARYLAND GREEN SCHOOLS IN ROCKVILLE.DOCX](#)

Green Team Action Plan

10 Points

Program Summary: Since original certification in 2012, the Green Team continues to enhance existing SMC actions items and advance new action items. The Green Team originally issued the community Sustainability Survey in 2012 that identified the “Top Ten” actions rated as a high priority for Rockville’s sustainable future: 1. 85% - ensure clean and reliable drinking water 2. 70% - increase waste reduction, reuse and recycling 3. 68% - increase green building practices used in new construction and retrofits 4. 64% - provide high quality parks, facilities and recreation programs 5. 61% - improve stormwater management and community watershed stewardship 6. 61% - reduce energy consumed by homes, businesses and Rockville government 7. 59% - promote compact, walkable and mixed use neighborhoods 8. 57% - increase use of renewable energy by homes, businesses and Rockville government 9. 57% - promote alternative transportation options 10. 51% - provide access to healthy, locally grown foods While a separate SMC sustainability survey has not been issued since 2012, the City conducts an annual budget survey to assess respondents priorities. As shown on page 6 of the attached survey results document, over 20% of respondents stated that sustainability and climate resiliency is a priority that requires the most attention from elected official and city administration. The Green Team updated the attached 2024 plan to include enhancements to existing initiatives (e.g. education and outreach, watershed plans, solar co-op, etc.) and include several new innovative actions (Flood Mitigation Assistance Program, Flood Resiliency Master Plan, bike and pedestrian programs.) to promote continued certification in the SMC program.

PDF: [2012 SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY](#)

PDF: [FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET SURVEY](#)

PDF: [GREEN TEAM MISSION](#)

PDF: [GREEN TEAM ACTION PLAN 2024](#)

Green Team

10 Points

Program Summary: Rockville’s Environmental Commission continues to serve as the core of the Green Team, with support from community partners. The Commission is a nine-member body of Rockville residents with backgrounds in science, the environment and education. Members serve without compensation for terms of three years from the date of appointment and may be appointed to succeeding terms. The Commission continues to reach out to residents, municipal staff, and other organizations to participate and/or serve as advisors for individual SMC action items. For example, over the last several years they have hosted booths at public events (Farmers Market, Hometown Holidays), supported implementation of the Climate Action Plan, and posted information on their website for outreach purposes and to recruit new volunteers (<https://www.rockvillemd.gov/106/Environment-Commission>). The Commission invites additional volunteers to participate in any of the three designated committees that serve the Commission (Energy, Watersheds, and Climate Action). Since certification in 2012, the Team continues to implement existing SMC actions items (e.g. watershed stewardship volunteering, education and outreach, watershed plans, etc.) as well as advance new action items (e.g., solar co-op, electric vehicles, Climate Action Plan, community wildlife habitat certification, etc.) in support of the City’s recertification.

PDF: [ROCKVILLE GREEN TEAM WORK PLAN](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION WEBSITE, SCHEDULE AND MEMBERS](#)

WORD: [2023 MEETING SCHEDULE](#)

PDF: [SMC AND GREEN TEAM ESTABLISHMENT RESOLUTION](#)

PDF: [AGENDAS AND MINUTES](#)

Community Based Food System

Backyard Chicken Ordinance

5 Points

Program Summary: Backyard Chickens: In 2015, the Rockville Mayor and Council approved revisions to the Animal Control ordinance (Section 3-24) to allow up to five female chickens for personal use at a single-family home; only in their backyards and only if coops and cages are located at least five feet from the property line and at least 40 feet from the home on the lot. This ordinance is still in effect and residents must obtain a permit before keeping chickens at home and notify their neighbors. The ordinance language, permit application and information are included in the attached guide. Additional information on the program is attached. Currently in 2024, there are 19 permits issued.

PDF: [BACKYARD CHICKENS WEBSITE.PDF](#)

PDF: [BACKYARD CHICKENS PACKET.PDF](#)

PDF: [HENS 2024.PDF](#)

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Community Based Food

5 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville holds a farmers market from May through November every Saturday from 9 am to 1 pm. The markets offers a variety of farm-fresh fruits an vegetables, bedding plants, cut flowers, preserves, honey, herbs, baked goods, and more. As part of Eat Fresh Rockville and Maryland Market Money Program, the market provides a weekly match of up to \$20 (while funds last/subject to change) for customers who utilize their federal nutrition benefits at the market during the 2023 season. Customers can use their SNAP/EBT, and Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)-Women, Infant, and Child (WIC) checks to purchase locally grown fruit, vegetables, meat, cheese and dairy at the market. This program is in its 12th year and removes economic barriers for food-insecure shoppers by increasing access to fresh produce and increasing purchasing power. Last fiscal year, the City of Rockville distributed \$50,000 worth of produce/food to local families as part of the Eat Fresh Rockville Program. The program aims to fight hunger while investing directly in farmers and strengthening the local food system.

PDF: [FARMERS MARKET EAT FRESH PROGRAM BROCHURE](#)

IMAGE: [STEP BY STEP DIRECTIONS FOR THE EAT FRESH PROGRAM](#)

IMAGE: [CITY OF ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET WEB PAGE](#)

IMAGE: [ROCKVILLE REPORTS FARM FRESH ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

Establish Local Farmers Market

10 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville hosts its weekly farmers' market every Saturday from mid-May to the end of November in a public lot on the corner of Maryland 28 and Monroe. Operating for more than 27 years and managed by the City Recreation and Parks department, the market attracts vendors from all across Maryland as well as from Virginia, DC and Pennsylvania. While offering the standard locally grown fruits and vegetables and a variety of organically raised meats, the market is home to several stalls offering bakery fresh goods, local vineyard wines, freshly roasted coffee as well as plants and other goods. The adopted FY24 budget increased funding for the Farmers Market Eat Fresh Program to \$40,000 through the City operating budget. The City accepts EBT cards and the City will match up to \$10 of EBT benefits in \$1 Market tokens. Rockville estimates an annual attendance of approximately 55,000-58,000. Rockville coordinates its own promotion and advertising for the farmers' market using Facebook and other social media outlets as well as through its monthly newsletter (see Rockville Reports newsletter), brochures and Channel 11 local news station). The Rockville Farmers Market website is available at: <http://rockvillemd.gov/index.aspx?NID=664>

PDF: [PROMOTIONS IN ROCKVILLE REPORTS](#)

PDF: [PARTICIPATING VENDORS](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET WEBSITE 2024](#)

PDF: [EAT HEALTHY AND FRESH](#)

PDF: [FY 2024 BUDGET](#)

Community Garden

15 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville has operated a community garden plot program at Woottons Mill Park (located on Hurley Avenue just west of I-270) for over 40 years. The City's Recreation and Parks Department manages this community garden program; including advertisement, plot registrations, payments, and park maintenance. The Parks Maintenance Division is responsible for mulching, mowing, and overall landscape management throughout the year. These maintenance activities are folded into the City's overall parks and open space maintenance budget, which is funded by the general fund. Additional management details are included in the supporting documentation. The Woottons Mill Park contains 176 plots and typically hosts around 110-120 gardeners at a time. Plots are 25'x25' and are available for \$75 for Rockville residents and \$85 for non-residents. The community garden website is available at: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/653/Garden-Plots>.

IMAGE: [ROCKVILLE REPORTS COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOTS ARTICLE](#)

PDF: [COMMUNITY GARDENS REGISTRATION PACKET WOOTTON MILL PARK](#)

IMAGE: [CITY OF ROCKVILLE WEBSITE COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOTS](#)

Energy

Municipal Electric Vehicles

10 Points

Program Summary: In support of the City of Rockville's Climate Action Plan (Items 5 "Convert the City fleet to cleaner and more efficient fuel sources" and 7 "Establish a new Capital Improvement Project to expand electric vehicle charging infrastructure on City property to serve employees, fleet and the community), the Mayor and Council adopted Resolution 02-22 to transition the city's on-road fleet to cleaner, more efficient vehicles. Since the adoption of the resolution, all leased vehicles up for replacement are substituted with electric models with the exception of police vehicles or those used in snow/ice operations that must be available 24-hours per day. The total number of vehicles currently leased in 2023 was 118 out of 187, and by the end of FY 2024, the total number of leased vehicles will be 177 out of 187. Of the 187 vehicles scheduled for the lease program, approximately 70 are currently suitable for electrification (37%). Other vehicles that are purchased by the City, including heavy-duty vehicles, dump trucks and refuse trucks currently do not have electrified models available on the market that suits the vehicle's duty cycle. When those purchases are made, the Fleet Manager investigates available options and includes an explanation in the staff report as to feasibility of the conversion to an electrified model. The city will continue electric vehicle replacements for Phase 1 Light Duty - FY 2024 and FY 2025 leases, install EV charging stations to serve the fleet, and monitor bus and heavy-duty opportunities and charging infrastructure needs. The city will continue to monitor opportunities to move towards the goal of electrifying more of the total fleet as more options become available.

PDF: [COR_MUNICIPAL_ELECTRICAL_VEHICLES_2024.PDF](#)

PDF: [COR_MUNICIPAL_ELECTRICAL_VEHICLES_2024-RR.PDF](#)

PDF: [COR_MUNICIPAL_ELECTRICAL_VEHICLES_CAP_DASH_2024.PDF](#)

PDF: [COR_MUNICIPAL_ELECTRICAL_VEHICLES_RES02-22_CAP_2024.PDF](#)

PDF: [EV PHOTOS.PDF](#)

Renewable Energy

5 Points

Program Summary: As part of the Maryland Smart Energy Communities (MSEC) program, the Mayor and Council adopted a Resolution 12-13 establishing 20 percent renewable energy generation goal for city facilities. The existing geothermal system at Thomas Farm Community Center contributes to this renewable energy goal. The MSEC renewable energy goal translates to a generation capacity target of approximately 3,200 MWh per year. The City's geothermal system at Thomas Farm Community Center accounts for 461 MWh, approximately one-seventh of this goal. Information on on-site renewable energy is provided in the attached screenshot of the public Climate Action Plan Progress Dashboard which was shared with Mayor and Council and published widely to the public. The city has worked with a variety of consultants to evaluate solar feasibility at other facilities and plan for future installations. In 2023, the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) awarded Solar Canopy and Dual Use Technology grants to Rockville to install solar canopies over parking lots at the Rothgeb Maintenance Facility (\$250,000) and 6 Taft Court (\$144,000). The city is exploring developing a Power Purchase Agreement to install solar at both locations, using a Montgomery County Public Schools cooperative contract. The SPPA is a financial arrangement where a third-party finances, installs, owns, operates and maintains a solar system on the city's property and the city purchases the system's electricity for a predetermined period. Using a SPPA, the City avoids upfront capital costs, is guaranteed system performance, and establishes a known electricity rate during the term of the agreement. The City currently purchases the maximum economically feasible of renewable energy credits to offset government electricity use, currently 40% but in previous years the City has purchased 100%.

PDF: [COR RENEWABLE ENERGY](#)

PDF: [THOMAS FARM GEOTHERMAL WELLS SITE PLAN](#)

PDF: [RENEWABLE ENERGY PUBLISHED DASHBOARD 2024](#)

PDF: [COR_RENEWABLE_ENERGY_RECS_CERT_2023](#)

PDF: [COR_RENEWABLE_ENERGY_RECS_MASTERAGREEMENT_2023](#)

Maryland Smart Energy Community Program

15 Points

Program Summary: In 2013, Rockville's Mayor and Council adopted a resolution to become a Maryland Smart Energy Community and adopted energy efficiency and renewable energy goals and developed an Energy Action Plan for city facilities. In 2022, the Mayor and Council adopted a transportation petroleum goal as part of a Clean Fleet Resolution:

- Energy Efficiency Goal: Reduce per-square foot electricity consumption of City-owned buildings by 15 percent within five years of the baseline year of 2010 (e.g., 15 percent reduction by FY 2015).
- Renewable Energy Goal: Reduce conventional centralized electricity generation serving City buildings by meeting 20 percent of those buildings' electricity demand with distributed, renewable energy generation by 2022 (e.g., 20 percent renewable energy by FY 2022).
- Transportation Petroleum Goal: The City adopted a Transportation Petroleum Goal as part of a Clean Fleet Resolution in January 2022, establishing a goal to reduce gasoline and diesel consumption of the City's on-road fleet vehicles by 20% between FY 2023 and FY 2028 using a petroleum consumption baseline of FY 2019 to reflect pre-pandemic fuel consumption conditions. Wherever feasible, leased light duty-vehicles are slated to be replaced with electric models for models that can meet the duty cycle. Since 2013, the City has implemented several energy projects at various sites with a combination of funds from the City, MSEC grants, and Pepco rebates to support these goals. Most recently, the City was awarded a MSEC 2023 grant (attached) for continued MSEC project implementation. Rockville's growing population creates an increased demand for City services, consequently impacting operations, occupancy, and facility expansion. These forces create a challenge in meeting the energy reduction goals. The City continues to make a good faith effort to implement project to support the energy efficiency, renewable energy, and petroleum reduction goals and uses the the Climate Action Plan to track projects and progress. The CAP dashboard is available at: <https://performance.envivio.com/dashboard/rockvillemd3023> . For additional information on projects, see actions M-01, M-02, M-04, M-06 and M-07.

PDF: [ADOPTED RESOLUTION 10-28-2013.PDF](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE ENERGY ACTION PLAN FINAL 12-19-13.PDF](#)

PDF: [MSEC_FY23_ROCKVILLE_AWARD_LETTER_BOTH.DOCX.PDF](#)

PDF: [FLEET RESOLUTION FINAL SIGNED.PDF](#)

Residential Electric Vehicles and Public Charging Stations

15 Points

Program Summary: In January of 2019, the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) approved a five-year electric vehicle charging infrastructure pilot program for the state's largest electric utilities to jump start the deployment of a public EV charging network across the state to reduce EV owner 'range anxiety' and lay the foundation for a competitive market. The local utility, Pepco, sought to install 33 DC (direct current) Fast Chargers and 217 Level-2 chargers at publicly owned sites across Montgomery County and Prince George's County. The public chargers are required to be located at property owned or occupied by a unit of state, county, or municipal government, and accessible for public use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In July 2019, the City of Rockville became one of the first jurisdictions to partner with Pepco to install the first set of chargers available to the public on City property. Pepco designated three parking spaces at the Thomas Farm Community Center (700 Falls Grove Road, Rockville) for the stations. Rockville continues to partner with Pepco for the installation of public charging stations at four additional sites: Mattie Stepanek Park, on-street parking at City Hall/Vinson Street, Falls Grove Drive/Prettyman Drive, and Twinbrook Station/Bouic Avenue. Additional chargers will be added to the inaugural Thomas Farm Community Center as well. In December of 2023, Pepco began construction of stations (9 ports) in the three right-of-way (ROW) locations. These public chargers will be integrated into Pepco's Public Charging Network and will be managed and maintained by Pepco. The next step in the City's partnership with Pepco is to complete plan review and permitting for EV chargers (5 ports) at Thomas Farm Community Center and Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park. Additionally, Rockville appropriated up to \$100,000 for consulting support to develop a Electrical Vehicle Readiness Plan. Rockville launched the planning process in 2022, worked with a consultant on stakeholder engagement and analysis, and is currently drafting the plan. The plan's community engagement page featuring community EV charging surveys, open house information sessions, and advertising for "Ask an EV Owner" are posted at: <https://engagerockville.com/evplan>. The draft plan is anticipated to be released for public comments in late 2024. The plan has been delayed by a year to allow time to coordinate with new federal, state, MWCOC, and County EV planning efforts. For example, staff resources were diverted to seek funding from the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) grant to expand community EV infrastructure. An EV Planning Presentation with background information on the plan, existing conditions and projections is attached.

PDF: [COR-ELECTRIC-VEHICLE-PUBLIC-CHARGING-STATIONS-RR-2024.PDF](#)

PDF: [COR-ELECTRIC-VEHICLE-PUBLIC-CHARGING-STATIONS-2024.PDF](#)

PDF: [COR-ELECTRIC-VEHICLE-PUBLIC-CHARGING-STATIONS-RR2-2024.PDF](#)

PDF: [EV READINESS PLAN PRESENTATION_12082022_FINAL_POST.PDF](#)

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Energy

25 Points

Program Summary: Please see attach summaries for the following three energy innovation projects: 1) Solar Co-op 2) Building Energy Benchmarking 3) LED Streetlights

PDF: [2. COR_INNOVATIVE_BEPS_2024.PDF](#)

PDF: [3 - LED STREETLIGHTS](#)

PDF: [1. SOLAR CO-OP SOLAR SWITCH 2024.PDF](#)

Residential Energy Efficiency

15 Points

Program Summary: Rockville partners with Montgomery County, local utilities, non-profits and other agencies to promote residential energy programs that educate the community about utility, state and federal programs and incentives to promote home energy efficiency. Rockville's location within the Pepco service area and Montgomery County provides a unique opportunity to join forces with other residential energy programs to leverage limited resources. As included in the attached summary, Rockville promotes Pepco's home energy savings incentive programs offered under the Maryland Empower Program through its website, online and printed monthly newsletters, and community events. Rockville also coordinates with Montgomery County on education and outreach. Montgomery County's Residential Energy Program Manager organizes a variety events and coordinates with the Montgomery County Climate Ambassadors and different Rockville community groups to help residents become more energy efficient and find renewable energy options (see attached). Rockville expanded this program to promote and provide incentives for energy audits and weatherization for low-to-moderate income homeowners, working closely with Rockville Housing Enterprises and other partners to apply for several grants to benefit LMI households in Rockville. Montgomery County also launched Electrify MC rebates and help desk which the City promoted this year. The next step is to prepare for grants and additional IRA rebates to reach our residents who are most in need first.

PDF: [MONTGOMERY COUNTY RESIDENTIAL ENERGY MANAGER](#)

PDF: [RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY SUMMARY 2024](#)

PDF: [MONTGOMERY ENERGY CONNECTION EVENTS IN ROCKVILLE FY24](#)

Municipal Energy Audits

10 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville operates a variety of facilities, parks, water and sewer utilities, street and traffic lights, and fleet that consume significant energy resources; costing between three to four percent of the City's operating budget. The Mayor and Council adopted Resolution #12-13 on October 18, 2013 declaring the City of Rockville's intent to take a leadership role in reducing electricity consumption and generating renewable energy, partner with the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA), and enroll as a Maryland Smart Energy Community (MSEC). As part of the MSEC program, the City adopted an energy policy for City buildings and operations that establishes a 15 percent electricity reduction goal and a 20 percent renewable energy generation goal. The City developed an electricity baseline and identified several potential cost-effective energy projects and practices to meet the energy efficiency and renewable energy goals. Each year, the City continues to plan and implement energy operating and CIP projects to reduce energy costs at various sites with a combination of funds from the City, MSEC grants, and Pepco utility rebates. The following attachments summarize our progress to date and budgeted projects between 2018-2023. Included in the summary documentation are screenshots of dashboards of our EnergyCap software used for energy tracking upgrades made as part of the EmPower program coordinated through Pepco's Energy Savings Program. They show the reduction in energy use after lighting upgrades performed as suggested in Pepco audits. Please note: additional energy audit reports for City Hall and the water treatment plant were labeled proprietary and confidential and could not be publicly uploaded.

PDF: [BUDGET CITY OF ROCKVILLE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN_REPORT YEAR 2023](#)

PDF: [COR MUNICIPAL ENERGY AUDITS UPDATED 2024](#)

Greenhouse Gas

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Greenhouse Gas

10 Points

Program Summary: Green Power Partner and Green Power Community: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Green Power Partnership is a voluntary program that encourages organizations to use green power as a way to reduce the environmental impacts associated with conventional electricity use. Since 2011, Rockville has been a Green Power Partner and has participated in the Green Power Community Challenge to support renewable energy development and carbon footprint reduction. Each year, Rockville purchases wind renewable energy certificates (RECs) for a portion of its municipal energy use. A REC is a market-based instrument that represents the rights to the environmental, social and other non-power attributes of renewable electricity generation. Rockville participates a Montgomery County led coalition of County agencies and municipalities to cooperatively purchase RECs. Since fiscal year 2015, the City increased its wind REC purchase to 100 percent of the electricity consumed by Rockville's municipal buildings, City utility systems and streetlights. In FY21, the City purchased RECs for 16.5 MWh, totaling \$14,685. This purchase is a small part of the City's overall budget for electricity consumed across all departments; which is generally more than \$2 million. Additionally, the City is a Green Power Community and promotes community green power use by businesses and residents. As of April 2021, EPA reported that the Rockville community collectively used more than 119 MWh of green power, 12.6% of the annual community's electricity consumption (<https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-communities>). EPA collects yearly reports from green power partners and green power suppliers to estimate community green power usage. EPA compiles data from the following sources in Rockville: 1) the City submits annual reports on municipal green power use to EPA; 2) for confidentiality purposes, a green power supplier reports aggregate green power use by Rockville customers to EPA; and 3) several individual green power partners (businesses, schools, non-profits, government agencies, etc.) report their green power usage to EPA, as illustrated in the attached green power summary. The majority of green power reported is from Green-e certified wind renewable energy certificates (RECs). While Rockville has numerous buildings with solar installations, these are not reported or factored in green power estimates at this time because the annual REC ownership can not be confirmed.

PDF: [GREEN POWER RETAIL 2023](#)

PDF: [PURCHASING RECS](#)

PDF: [PURCHASING CLEAN ENERGY](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE GREEN POWER ARTICLES](#)

PDF: [REC CERTIFICATE](#)

PDF: [GREEN POWER RESOLUTION](#)

Community Carbon Footprint

15 Points

Program Summary: The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) initiated a regional effort to prepare community carbon footprint/greenhouse gas inventories for member jurisdictions using ICLEI's ClearPath software. COG staff coordinated with local utilities and jurisdictions to obtain data. COG completes these greenhouse gas (GHG) community-scale inventories using consistent methodology for all 24 local government members, northern Virginia, and metropolitan Washington and provides individual jurisdiction fact sheets. COG provides this service to member jurisdictions that contribute to the Regional Environmental Fund. Rockville pays approximately \$10,878 in annual dues to this program which supports a variety of environmental programs. The attached carbon footprint fact sheet provides a general overview of Rockville's emissions in 2005, 2012, and 2020. Despite a 21% population increase between 2005 and 2020, Rockville's emissions decreased by 34% as a result of increased efficiencies and switching to cleaner fuel sources for electricity generation. The attached inputs and assumptions table provides an overview of the inputs for each year and data assumptions. The detailed emissions table provides source specific emission estimates. According to the 2020 greenhouse gas emission inventory, the community generated approximately 696,531 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e). The bulk of emissions is generated by commercial and residential building energy consumption (58 percent of emissions). Transportation and mobile sources generated 35 percent of emissions. This community inventory informs the strategies identified in the City's Climate Action Plan to mitigate ghg emissions. The data is made available to the public and further descriptions are included on Rockville's Climate Action Plan project page at: www.rockvillemd.gov/2329/Climate-Action-Plan Please note: COG reported all community data using the attached tables and did not provide the standard ICLEI scope reports.

PDF: [ROCKVILLE - GHG INVENTORY OUTPUTS.PDF](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE - GHG INVENTORY SUMMARY - 2005-2020.PDF](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE - GHG INVENTORY INPUTS.PDF](#)

Municipal Carbon Footprint

15 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville prepared a baseline greenhouse gas inventory for municipal facilities and operations for fiscal year 2016 (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016). This year was chosen because of available data and the ability to coordinate with a regional effort led by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments to develop community emissions inventories for calendar year 2015. The City joined ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability and utilized their ClearPath software to conduct the inventory. Municipal staff and the City's utility consultant contributed to the project. Annual membership dues (\$1,200) to ICLEI for training and access to the ClearPath program were the main costs. The City also coordinated with Montgomery County and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments for data collection, training, and technical assistance. Government data was sorted into buildings/facilities, street and traffic lights, water and wastewater system, and vehicle fleets. Data was unavailable for employee commute, solid waste, and process and fugitive emissions. The project required coordination with various departments, such as Facilities, Finance, Traffic and Transportation, Water and Sewer utilities, and Fleet Management to collect all necessary data. Summary reports are attached. Overall, City operations generated approximately 8,994 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e); which is approximately 1 percent of total community emissions. City buildings and facilities generated the most emissions (3,722), followed by water treatment and delivery systems (2,048), vehicle fleets (1,951), and streetlights & traffic signals (1,273). In 2019, the City contracted a utility consultant to audit electricity and natural gas bills and enter monthly City usage and cost data into the web-based EnergyCAP platform for data tracking and energy reporting. The EnergyCAP system includes a reporting feature for scope 1 and scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions using Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) values for Global Warming Potential. Attached are greenhouse gas emissions estimates for calendar year 2020 through YTD 2024 for all electricity and natural gas accounts for municipal facilities, parks, streetlights, traffic lights, water and wastewater utilities. According to the 2016 baseline, these accounts comprise approximately 80% of the total municipal carbon emissions; fuel consumption for fleet accounts for the remaining emissions. 2023 emissions from municipal electricity and natural gas consumption decreased approximately 18% from the baseline. Although a separate transportation greenhouse gas inventory has not been updated in Clearpath, attached is a summary of 2021-2023 fleet fuel. Fleet transportation fuel consumption remains relatively stable as the light duty fleet is replaced with electric vehicles. A significant reduction in gasoline and diesel consumption has not yet been realized. Many factors influence total fuel consumption, including the number of snow and ice events occurring per year and the use of diesel fuel consumption for heavy duty operations. One measure to assess total fuel consumption is Gasoline Gallon Equivalents (GGE), this metric can be used to determine the amount of energy produced by alternative fuels as they compare to the energy produced by one gallon of gasoline (114,100 BTUs). GGE includes fleet's use of gasoline, diesel and electricity. Using fuel energy equivalents provides a comparison tool for gauging the consumption of various fuels based on an energy equivalent basis.

PDF: [FY2016 EMISSION SECTOR REPORT](#)

PDF: [FY2016 EMISSION DETAILED REPORT](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE GHG EMISSIONS SUMMARY](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE CARBON FOOTPRINT 2016-2024.PDF](#)

PDF: [FLEET FUEL 2021-2023.PDF](#)

Climate Change Adaptation Element

5 Points

Program Summary: Climate Change was included in the most recently adopted Comprehensive Plan which was adopted in August, 2021. These elements were expanded and included a more in-depth vulnerability assessment and foundation for the resilience actions in the Climate Action Plan which was adopted January 20, 2022. Environmental Staff coordinated with Planning staff, the Environment Commission, and numerous information sources including NOAA, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, the Montgomery County Climate Action Plan, and Maryland's Climate Change Committee to develop the climate vulnerability element and resilience actions in the Climate Action Plan. Funding for consulting services was unavailable, so the project was implemented with existing in-house resources. Public involvement included several public meetings and a survey that received over 450 responses. These policies and elements guide the proposed projects in the city budget and work plan annually. The most recent progress on resilience strategies is found in the 2023 Annual Report, attached. Resilience actions in the Climate Action Plan have been 42% completed as of the end of 2023. Attached are excerpts from the Climate Action Plan: Climate Impacts, Resilience, and Equity Analysis, Resiliency Actions list, and action status from the 2023 Annual Report,

PDF: [CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2023 ANNUAL REPORT](#)

PDF: [CLIMATE ACTION PLAN RESOLUTION](#)

PDF: [CLIMATE ADAPTATION - RESILIENCY ACTIONS](#)

PDF: [CLIMATE ACTION PLAN EXCERPT ON RESILIENCY.PDF](#)

Climate Action Plan

20 Points

Program Summary: Rockville has a long history of climate commitments and has already reduced emissions 20% from 2005 levels. On August 2, 2021, the Mayor and Council of Rockville adopted a series of climate action goals and policies in the Environment Element of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan (available at <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/42158/>). Given that land use, transportation, and buildings play a significant role in greenhouse gas emissions and resiliency, the Comprehensive Plan sets the policy stage as the City focuses on a deeper analysis of specific policies, plans, projects, and programs and implementation measures in the Climate Action Plan (CAP). During the development of the CAP, the City of Rockville: 1) Coordinated with the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments to develop community greenhouse gas emissions inventories and estimated municipal emissions. 2) Reviewed national best practices to developed a list of current actions contributing to the CAP and a list of potential strategies and actions for future evaluation. 3) Incorporated climate mitigation and resiliency strategies into the Draft Environment Element of the 2040 Comprehensive Master Plan which is planned for adoption in the summer of 2021. Please see pages 121-142: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/40921/> 4) Created a project webpage to keep stakeholders engaged: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/2329/Climate-Action-Plan> 5) Conducted extensive CAP community outreach to boards and commissions, a community survey and an open house. 6) Allocated \$23,500 to work with a consultant on a cost-benefit analysis of potential actions. 7) Presented the Climate Action Plan to Mayor and Council which adopted the plan on January 10, 2022. (Plan and resolution attached) 8) Provided Climate Action Plan progress reports in 2023 and 2024 and created a progress dashboard in 2024 (<https://www.rockvillemd.gov/2429/Climate-Actions-and-Progress>). The dashboard summarizes progress towards implementing actions to reach emissions reduction targets (see first four pages of Annual Report for metrics highlights). 9) Planned to complete the next greenhouse gas inventory in 2025 by MWCOG for the year 2023, so GHG progress is not yet discernible. However, since adoption, Rockville has allocated more than \$4M annually in the City budget towards climate action plan-related projects, exclusive of alternative transportation projects. By the end of 2023, as the Annual Report describes, seven actions were completed/institutionalized, six actions were proceeding in phases, and all but one of the remainder are in progress, with one planned for upcoming action out of the 43 community and municipal actions.

PDF: [CAP COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS](#)

PDF: [CAP OPEN HOUSE 2020](#)

PDF: [CLIMATE ACTION PLAN](#)

PDF: [CAP ADOPTION RESOLUTION](#)

Health & Wellness

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Health & Wellness

20 Points

Program Summary: 1- Radon Ordinance/Testing Radon is an invisible, radioactive gas created during the natural breakdown of uranium in rocks and soils. It typically moves up through the ground and into homes and buildings through cracks and other holes in the foundation. Radon can build up in your home and create serious health risks. The City of Rockville is in an area with persistent radon levels. Due to these levels The City has adopted Ordinance 06-23 which requires that rental facilities that are at or below grade be tested for the presence of radon. Landlords must provide a recent test result within two years at the time of lease signing. The City also held a giveaway of free radon test kits in January of 2023. If residents could not get a free test kit from the city, staff directed them to contact the Maryland Department of Health to purchase a kit for \$3. 2 - Drug Take Back The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is promoted in the region by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COGS) and area partners, including law enforcement agencies, water and wastewater utilities, and health officials. This is a safe, free and anonymous opportunity to dispose of unused, unwanted or expired prescription drugs. National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day aims to provide a convenient and responsible means of disposal, keeping prescription drugs from potentially polluting our drinking water, while educating the public about the potential for abuse or theft of these medications. Twice a year, Rockville Police host take-back events to prevent drug abuse, accidental ingestion, and the contamination of area water supplies by properly disposing of unwanted medication. The drugs are accepted at the Rockville City Police Station parking lot. To make it quick and convenient, officers provide easy drive-up and drop-off access. The DEA destroys the medications. Rockville Police also coordinate with the Rockville Senior Center to offer a free and easy take-back at the Senior Center's lobby. This is held in conjunction with senior education programs for managing medications and other wellness programs. From October 2021 to April 2024, the police collected 33 trash bags containing 1,550 pounds of medication for safe disposal at 7 events. Note: These totals include prescriptions left in the Drug Drop Box detailed below. 3 - Prescription Drug Drop Box In 2022, Rockville opened a new prescription drug drop box where residents can safely dispose of unused, unwanted, or expired medication, with no questions asked. The drop box is available to the public 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in the front lobby of the Rockville City Police Station. Prescriptions left in the drop box are combined with those collected during the Drug Take Back events and delivered to the DEA. The number of bags mentioned above (33 bags, 1,550 pounds) includes prescriptions left in the drop box. For more information on the drop box, visit RockvilleReports.com/prescription-drug-drop-box-debuts-at-rockville-city-police-station. An additional benefit of safe drug disposal is preventing medicines from being poured down the drain or flushed down the toilet and entering streams and rivers used for drinking water. Regional water supply and wastewater officials applaud these efforts for keeping potential contaminants out of the water life cycle. In fact, Rockville's water utility participates in MWCOG's public education campaign to "protect your pipes". One element of the program is to promote the proper disposal of expired medication to prevent contamination of waterway and accidental ingestions.)

PDF: [RADON REMEDIATION](#)

IMAGE: [PROTECT YOUR PIPES DRUG TAKE BACK CAMPAIGN](#)

IMAGE: [ROCKVILLE REPORTS DRUG TAKE BACK ARTICLE](#)

IMAGE: [RADON INFORMATION CITY OF ROCKVILLE WEBSITE](#)

Workplace Wellness Program

15 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville's Employee Health and Wellness Program, LiveWell, has helped employees maintain or improve their health through health promotion programs, health education, screenings, and other services since 1987. Since its inception, the program has focused on identifying the health risks and needs of the employee population through health risk assessments and employee input surveys, and then developing programs to address the identified health priorities. Over the last 30 years, the program has offered health fairs, screenings, counseling, healthy lifestyle programs, exercise programs, and incentives to increase health awareness, provide education, and foster behavior change. The program is run by a full time Health and Wellness Program Manager in the Human Resources Department. The attached Virtual Health and Wellbeing Expo summary provides information on the vendors from our virtual health fair in April 2024. The attached Health Assessment info provides details of our most recent health assessment campaign in 2023. Currently, approximately 69% of the eligible population participates in at least one wellness activity or event per year. In 2018, the city started a contract with a new third party wellness vendor, WellRight, to provide a customized wellness portal for employees and their families. The portal includes opportunities to take a health assessment, choose from over 200 personal challenges, participate in quarterly City-wide individual or team challenges, watch educational videos, and view earned points to cash in for electronic gift cards. The program connects with fitness tracking devices, such as an Apple Watch or a FitBit so that it records physical activity easily. Through the portal, we offer employees and families an opportunity to participate in an annual physical and health assessment campaign to earn discounts on their health insurance (or other financial incentives if the employee does not participate with the city's insurance plans). In 2023, 52% of the eligible employee population participated in the health assessment and annual physical campaign. We had 55% engagement in the portal overall (including challenges, age/gender appropriate screenings, educational videos, etc), higher than the 52% industry average. The City's transition to a more comprehensive, strategic wellness program design has helped Rockville earn a spot on the "Washington Business Journal's" list of "Greater Washington's Healthiest Employer's" for many years. LiveWell is promoted through employee emails (weekly newsletters and event reminders) posters in City facilities, home mailings, the LiveWell page on the City's intranet, and the WellRight app/website portal, including text message reminders.

PDF: [WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL HEALTHIEST EMPLOYERS](#)

PDF: [RECOGNITION AS HEALTHIEST EMPLOYER 2015](#)

WORD: [LIVEWELL INFORMATION- NEW HIRE PACKET](#)

WORD: [EXAMPLE NEWSLETTER MARCH 2024](#)

IMAGE: [VIRTUAL HEALTH EXPO POSTER 2024](#)

PDF: [HEALTH ASSESSMENT CAMPAIGN HOME MAILING 2023](#)

Local Economies

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Local Economies

20 Points

Program Summary: 1. Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) is a public-private partnership formed by the City of Rockville to strengthen and broaden the city's economic base through business entrepreneurship, expansion, retention, and recruitment programs. The FY 2025 proposed budget provides a total of \$1.4 million to REDI which includes \$175,000 for the MOVE and Business Expansion Fund and \$150,000 for the Small Business Impact Fund, which has historically seen the majority of its applicants come from underrepresented communities. The \$1.4 million allocation to REDI also includes an additional \$48,630 for operating expenses and an additional \$50,000 for the life sciences branding project, which will help enhance the business attraction of Rockville as a destination in the life sciences business sector. REDI provides businesses with the necessary tools to get started in Rockville and guidance and support to business ventures in the city. REDI promotes local businesses in a variety of ways - events, networking, website, social media, monthly newsletters, blogs, etc. REDI services include, but are not limited to site selection assistance, fast track development coordination, data and demographic research, business funding and incentive connections, networking and referrals and workforce development. A full service list is available at: <http://rockvilleredi.org/about/redi-to-help/redi-business-assistance/> Among REDI's various programs and services, it maintains an online local business directory that helps identify potential customers, partners and/or vendors in the community. Approximately 9,500 businesses are located in Rockville, employing more than 72,500 people. Sample lists are attached. REDI's annual report summarizes programs and accomplishments in FY 2023. Additionally, the attached Economic Report is one of a series of documents developed as background material for updating the City of Rockville's Comprehensive Master Plan (CMP). The Report discusses the existing economic, labor and market conditions in Rockville and the region, and also discusses past and future trends, core strengths and future challenges and uncertainties that provide a framework for setting policies, goals and objectives in the 2040 master plan process. The Mayor and Council approved the Economic Development Element of the Comprehensive Master Plan in August 2021 to establish economic policies and actions through 2040 (<https://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/46399/City-of-Rockville-Comprehensive-Plan-Optimized?BidId=> REDI continues to play an active role in updating the Rockville Town Center Master Plan which is anticipated for introduction and adoption in FY 2025, furthering the city's commitment to strengthening neighborhood connections, providing a variety of land uses, encouraging business growth, and fostering welcoming public spaces. The master plan provides more detailed discussions on intensification on development and the value of transit access for office uses with the quarter mile proximity of the Metro and MARC transit stations. See <https://engagerockville.com/towncenter> for more information. 2. Economic Development Comprehensive Plan. The development of the economic development element was a collaborative effort that involved many departments throughout the city including Community Planning and Development Services, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the City Manager's office, the Finance Department and the City Attorney's office. Also heavily involved in the creation of this element was Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI), the City of Rockville's economic development arm. REDI is a quasi-public agency that handles all of the city's business attraction and retention, as well as economic development incentives. On the implementation side, the majority of the actions identified within the economic development element are being implemented by REDI. The economic development element, along with the rest of the Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan, was entirely developed in house without the use of any consultants, so there were no outside costs associated with its development. Over the last 3 years outcomes from the new element include the following: · 5.1 - Partner with REDI to expand support for commercial business development and recruitment, with a focus on supporting Rockville Town Center and neighborhood shopping areas. · 5.4 -

Establish performance standards to measure the effectiveness of business incentive programs that are funded and managed by the City and REDI. · 5.7 - Review the City's regulatory standards and practices for impact on business needs and City development goals. · 9.3 - Capitalize on the cluster of diverse restaurants and shops, with foods and goods from around the globe, through a coordinated marketing and positioning strategy and activities. · 10.2 - Improve the customer experience of parking in Town Center to make it competitive and attractive. Potential areas of action may include, among other options, coordinating among public- and privately-owned garages, adjusting the number of parking spaces required for new development, and adjusting parking fees and times. · 11.5 - Evaluate the potential for an industrial arts or "maker" district in the city, with potential locations in or near the city's existing industrial and commercial corridors, including Stonestreet Avenue, Southlawn Lane, East Gude Drive, and Lewis Avenue. Additional details on economic development outcomes are highlighted in the FY23 REDI Annual Report.

PDF: [LIFE SCIENCES REASONS TO LOVE ROCKVILLE](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT.PDF](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE COMPANIES](#)

PDF: [REDI ANNUAL REPORT FY23](#)

PDF: [ECONOMIC TRENDS REPORT 2016](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE GUIDE FOR BUSINESSES](#)

Organic Waste Composting

15 Points

Program Summary: Rockville launched a pilot residential food waste composting drop-off program in 2022, with a one-time set-up cost of \$6,000 and an ongoing cost of approximately \$17,500 for contracted collection and composting services. The program supports Action C-18 of the Climate Action Plan to reduce organic material disposed as refuse, and numerous requests received over the last five years from residents and the Environment Commission. The goal is to divert wasted food from disposal in incinerators and landfills and spur the development of more regional composting capacity to recycle organic food waste. To support equity, the drop-off stations are available to all Rockville residents and are located in different areas across the city. Unlike curbside collections that would only serve single-unit attached and detached homes, the drop-off station model is open to all Rockville residents that live in multi-unit or single-unit homes. For more information: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/2451/Food-Scraps-Compost-Drop-Off>

PDF: [FOOD WASTE COMPOSTING DROP.PDF](#)

Establish Local Business Directory

10 Points

Program Summary: The Rockville Chamber of Commerce maintains a local business directory at <https://www.rockvillechamber.org/> and a sample list from the directory is attached. The local businesses are also promoted through Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI), a public-private partnership formed by the City of Rockville. For example, REDI partnered with the Chamber to host a business expo (<https://rockvilleredi.org/greater-rockville-chamber-of-commerce-hosts-first-business-expo/>) The City of Rockville supports a variety of other Chamber initiatives to help foster an environment for businesses to succeed through leadership, advocacy and community partnerships. The Chamber's member-elected Board of Directors includes a City representative. The Chamber includes a Public Policy committee that interacts with the City and monitors and advises on legislative and regulatory issues on the local level to improve business conditions. The City of Rockville also provides the Rockville Chamber of Commerce/REDI an outside agency grant of \$25,000 to administer the Rockville Rewards Card as a way to promote the local economy and local spending initiatives.

PDF: [ROCKVILLE LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY](#)

Buy Local Campaign

15 Points

Program Summary: Rockville collaborates with the Rockville Chamber of Commerce to promote and maintain a buy local program to support local purchasing initiatives and a thriving local economy. The City of Rockville provided the Rockville Chamber of Commerce an outside agency grant of \$20,000 to administer the Rockville Rewards Card as a way to promote the local economy and local spending initiatives. Each year a new card is issued with program discounts. There are discounts and savings to local businesses, including restaurants, health & beauty, services, retail and many recreational activities. New businesses that are located in Rockville or are members of the Rockville Chamber of Commerce can sign up at any time, and are promoting right away. A list of businesses and discounts is attached. All proceeds from the card sales go directly to the nonprofit partnered with each business. The program is advertised through Rockville social media outlets, Chamber events, Rockville's monthly newsletter and the City's cable TV and YouTube programs. It is also possible to buy a rewards card at many participating businesses or through the website.

PDF: [PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES](#)

PDF: [PARTICIPATING NONPROFITS](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE REWARDS WEBSITE](#)

Natural Resources

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Natural Resources

35 Points

Program Summary: Rockville Flood Resiliency Program Rockville's Flood Resiliency Program was developed to support the resiliency goals of the Climate Action Plan (CAP) to prepare and protect the community from the impacts of climate change. The CAP outlines the following four-pronged approach to address future flood resiliency with the City of Rockville taking leadership roles in items #3 and #4 below: 1. Continue to partner with the FEMA, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and Montgomery County to update Federal flood risk maps to better align with current conditions (CAP Action C-21). 2. Advocate to the MDE and federal agencies (EPA and NOAA), when possible, to update data used to inform and regulate stormwater management facility and storm drain conveyance design standards and update standards according (CAP Action M-12). 3. Assess Rockville's risk of flooding and develop a Flood Resiliency Master Plan to reduce or mitigate flood impacts (CAP Action M-13). 4. Incorporate climate resilient building and infrastructure design features in new buildings and retrofits, including flood proofing education and incentives (CAP Action C-20). Please see attached write-up of the program as well as the budget for the Flood Resiliency Master Plan. Flood Mitigation Assistance Program: In FY2023, Rockville Launched as a pilot program to assist property owners in making improvements to protect their properties from flooding. Please see the attached write up for program details and attachments. Annual Spring Festival and Native Plant Sale: Please see the attached write up for details on Rockville's Spring Festival and Native Plant Sale events. Rockville Weed Warrior Program: Please see the attached write up for details on the Rockville Weed Warrior Program.

PDF: [FLOOD RESILIENCY MASTER PLAN BUDGET](#)

PDF: [FLOOD RESILIENCY PROGRAM OVERVIEW](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE WEED WARRIOR PROGRAM 2024](#)

PDF: [SPRING FESTIVAL AND NATIVE PLANT SALE 2024](#)

PDF: [INNOVATIVE PROJECTS - SPRING FESTIVAL AND NATIVE PLANT SALE 2024.PDF](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM](#)

Tree City USA

15 Points

Program Summary: Rockville has been named a Tree City USA for 34 consecutive years. The City maintains approximately 28,000 street trees and more than 300 acres of parkland designated as Forest Preserve. The 2040 Comprehensive Master Plan Update that was approved in August 2021 by the Mayor and Council includes a policy goal to continue to assess tree canopy coverage, the health and condition of city forests and landscaped areas, and maintain and enhance a robust urban tree canopy. Urban Tree Canopy Assessment using 2014 aerial images concluded that 50% of the City is currently covered by tree canopy. In 2024, the City planted 2000 native trees and shrubs from a \$199,930 Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant in a section of Redgate Park and Arboretum. The City Forester's Office is charged with preservation, protection, and management of Rockville's urban forest. The office maintains street trees on public right of ways and implements the City's Forest and Tree Preservation Ordinance. The ordinance, which was enacted in 1992, aims to encourage the preservation and enhancement of Rockville's urban forest; replaces tree cover in non-forest areas; establishes procedures, standards, and requirements for afforestation and reforestation; and meets Maryland's requirement to adopt the State's Forest Conservation Law. The City's forestry program is supported by a budget of more than \$1.5 million in fiscal year 2024 and is staffed by six full time employees. This is well in excess of the goal of \$2 per capita. The City has several initiatives to engage the community in tree planting and preservation. On April 17th, the Mayor and Council recognized Arbor Day with a tree planting event, proclamation, and acceptance of the PLANT 2020 Green Award and Tree City USA designation (attached). In FY2025, urban forestry plans on pruning all street trees throughout the city. They also plan to complete GIS maps of street trees. Beginning in 2019 in celebration of the City's 30th year as a Tree City USA, the City initiated an annual tree give away event. See the advertisement attached. Since 2019, the City has distributed 600 (gallon container or larger) trees for installation on private residential and HOA property. Due to the pandemic, a copy of the Arbor Day Tree City certificate was not available; however, Rockville is listed on the Tree Cities website: <https://www.arboday.org/programs/treecityusa/treecities.cfm?chosenState=Maryland>.

PDF: [TREE CANOPY ASSESSMENT](#)

PDF: [2023 TREE CITY USA CONGRATS LETTER](#)

PDF: [ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION 2024](#)

PDF: [ANNUAL TREE GIVEAWAY](#)

PDF: [TREE CITY USA SUMMARY](#)

IMAGE: [ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION-CITY EVENTS](#)

NWF Community Wildlife Habitat Certification

10 Points

Program Summary: In 2023, the City of Rockville was recertified as a National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat for the 8th year. Please see the attached write up and certificate for more details.

PDF: [COMMUNITY WILDLIFE HABITAT 2023](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE COMMUNITY WILDLIFE HABITAT CERTIFICATE](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE COMMUNITY WILDLIFE HABITAT CERTIFICATE](#)

Adopt a Pet Waste Ordinance

5 Points

Program Summary: Rockville has more than 4,000 cats, dogs and ferrets licensed in the city. Pet waste removal requirements are included in Chapter 3 of the Rockville City Code, Animal Control. While general pet waste removal requirements have been in the City Code for several years, the Mayor and Council adopted comprehensive amendments to this ordinance (attached Ord. 12-15) and a resolution establishing a new fine schedule (Resolution 7-15) on June 15, 2015. Section 3-21 (5) defines "animal nuisance" to include the failure to maintain sanitary conditions in enclosures or surroundings thereby causing unreasonable annoyance or discomfort to neighbors. Section 3-22 requires the removal and proper disposal of pet solid waste to protect public health, safety and welfare. Pet owners are required to immediately remove waste when deposited on any public walk, recreation area, public street or private property other than the owner's premise. When walking off property, pet owners must possess a viable means to pick up and remove pet waste. Section 3-38 designates the Neighborhood Services Division within the Police Department the authority to enforce the ordinance. Neighborhood Services administers pet license's, investigates complaints and issues notice of violations and fines in accordance with the Mayor and Council's adopted resolution establishing administrative and municipal infraction fines for Chapter 3 (attached). Violations of Sections 3-22 are municipal infractions with fines of \$25 for the first violation, \$50 for the second violation and \$100 for the third violation. This ordinance remains in effect as of June 2024.

PDF: [ADOPTED ORDINANCE \(12-15\)](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING ANIMAL CONTROL FINES \(7-15\)](#)

Develop a Pet Waste Program

5 Points

Program Summary: The City maintains 20 pet waste stations, including at two municipal dog parks and other locations, to help pet owners to clean up after their animals. Parks with pet waste (Mutt Mitt) stations are searchable on the website (see attached park list and map). Each station provides bags and a disposal container for pet waste, which is emptied routinely.

PDF: [ROCKVILLE REPORTS - PET WASTE REMINDER JANUARY 2024](#)

PDF: [DEVELOP A PET WASTE PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [PARKS WITH MUTT MITT STATIONS](#)

IMAGE: [SOCIAL MEDIA - PET WASTE REMINDER](#)

Implement a Pet Waste Education Program

5 Points

Program Summary: Proper disposal of pet waste is an important aspect of protecting health and preventing pollution in local watersheds. Rockville continues to implement a program to educate residents about the environmental and health hazards posed by pet waste, and to facilitate and motivate proper disposal of pet waste. The City aims for these efforts to decrease the amount of pet waste that enters streams and creeks, and to thereby decrease nutrients and bacteria in our waterways. Rockville Channel 11 promotes a pet waste public service announcement to be featured on the city's cable TV channel, social media and website: <https://youtu.be/2-booU8xoTg> The City has a brochure, "Doo the Right Thing, Scoop the Poop" (see attachment), to educate residents about risks to local waterways and human health posed by animal waste that is not picked up. The brochure also informs pet owners about how to properly dispose of pet waste. The brochure and pet waste bag holders (see photo) have been distributed by the City's Environmental Management Division at numerous civic and environmental events over the past three years, such as Hometown Holidays, Public Works Day, the spring native plant sale, and to neighborhoods upon request. The brochure is also available on the City's website. Articles reminding residents to pick up after their pets have also been included in Rockville Reports, the City's monthly newsletter (see attachments). The City maintains 20 pet waste stations, including at two municipal dog parks and other locations, to help pet owners to clean up after their animals. Parks with pet waste (Mutt Mitt) stations are searchable on the website (see attached park list and map). Each station provides bags and a disposal container for pet waste, which is emptied routinely. Lastly, the City posts signs in parks reminding pet owners to pick up their pet's waste. The signs notify pet owners that the City can assess a fine when pet waste is not properly disposed.

PDF: [ROCKVILLE PET WASTE BROCHURE](#)

PDF: [PET WASTE SIGN](#)

IMAGE: [PET WASTE BAG HOLDERS](#)

PDF: [ANIMAL CONTROL WEBSITE FEATURING PET WASTE VIDEO](#)

PDF: [PET WASTE ROCKVILLE REPORTS AND SOCIAL MEDIA REMINDERS](#)

Stormwater Management Program

15 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville continues to implement a comprehensive Stormwater Management (SWM) program designed to maintain Rockville's SWM infrastructure and improve local and regional water quality. The comprehensive program is essential to protect the City's investment in public infrastructure and to meet state and federal requirements to protect the Chesapeake Bay. In 2008 the City adopted a stormwater utility fee to fund stormwater activities, which are carried out by numerous City departments. The City spends approximately 5 million dollars annually to implement operational and capital improvement project (CIP) activities. Chapter 5 of the Water Resources Element of the Comprehensive Master Plan, adopted by the Mayor and Council on August 2, 2021, contains an overview of the City's SWM program. Key elements and functions include:

- Development review: Review, approval, inspection and enforcement of sediment and erosion control and stormwater management plans.
- CIP program: Design and oversee construction of SWM facilities and stream restoration CIP projects.
- Program management and policy making: Update city ordinances and regulations to comply with State and Federal requirements; develop standard operating procedures; program coordination; and annual report writing.
- Outreach, education and incentives: Administer volunteer and residential incentive programs; developed website and written communications; and coordinate outreach events.
- Storm drain maintenance: Inspect and maintain storm drain lines and structures; clean infrastructure; administer street sweeping contract; and implement public works maintenance facility pollution prevention plan.
- SWM facility inspection and enforcement: Inspect public SWM facilities and oversee cleaning and maintenance; inspection and enforcement of private SWM facilities.
- Water quality investigation, documentation and enforcement: Investigate all complaints, perform hot spot investigations, and enforce any violations of the stormwater section of the City code.
- Illicit discharge detecting and elimination (IDDE) and spill response: Perform IDDE activities, including stream walks, outfall assessments, dry weather flow tracking and spill containment and cleanup.
- Fats, oils and grease (FOG) program: Inspect and enforce FOG requirements designed to keep grease out of the sanitary sewer.
- Watershed study, planning and monitoring: Oversee design and implementation of watershed study and planning; design and administer watershed-monitoring protocols; record and manage data.

PDF: [FY 2024 SWM CIP BUDGET](#)

PDF: [FY 2024 SWM FUND SUMMARY](#)

PDF: [WATER RESOURCES ELEMENT 2021](#)

Stormwater Manager / Coordinator

15 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville established the Stormwater Manager position in 2008. As illustrated in the attached fY2021 budget, the position is still funded by the Stormwater Management Fund and held by Ms. Heather Gewandter. The Stormwater Manager has six direct reports and helps plan and coordinate activities of 16.9 additional staff. It is a matrix position with direct responsibility for: · Program strategic planning and budget development; · Watershed study and project prioritization; · City-wide monitoring (to assess the success of program); · Spill containment and cleanup; · Water Quality Protection Ordinance enforcement; · Public and private SWM facility inspection and maintenance/enforcement; · Erosion and sediment control inspection and enforcement; · Illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE); · Inter-jurisdictional coordination; · Outreach and volunteer coordination; and · Ordinance, regulation and policy development. The position is also responsible for planning, budgeting and coordination support for the following activities: · Storm drain line, structure and outfall inspection, maintenance and cleaning; · Development Review oversight; · CIP identification, prioritization, community outreach/involvement and monitoring; and · Standard operating procedure development for all activities listed above.

PDF: [STORMWATER MANAGER POSITION DESCRIPTION](#)

PDF: [FISCAL YEAR 2024 FTE BY FUND](#)

PDF: [STORMWATER MANAGER / COORDINATOR DOCUMENTATION](#)

PDF: [FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET POSITION LIST WITH SW MANAGER](#)

Stormwater Fee Structure

20 Points

Program Summary: The Mayor and Council adopted legislation in April 2008 establishing a Stormwater Utility Fee, based on impervious area, to fund stormwater management programs. A copy of the ordinance is attached. Please refer to page 43/46 Division 3, Stormwater Management Utility Fee. In July 2009, the first Stormwater Utility Fee was billed via the Montgomery County tax bill. The Stormwater Utility Fee is a charge for service assessed for all property owners, including homeowners, businesses, houses of worship, governments and schools. This fee is structured to recover costs for the services the City must provide to protect public safety, property and the environment, and to share these costs among all property owners fairly and equitably. The City's Stormwater Utility Fee is based on the amount of impervious area for each property. Impervious surfaces, such as roofs, driveways and parking lots, produce more runoff from rainstorms than vegetated areas produce. Stormwater runoff typically flows through the City's public stormwater treatment facilities and/or storm drain pipes into streams. These are part of the City's stormwater management system. The cost to manage this system is being distributed to all property owners based on this fee. While the stormwater impact of any one property may seem small, the cumulative effect of impervious areas greatly affects stormwater runoff quality and rate of stream erosion. A summary of the stormwater fund and utility fee is included in the attached budget. The FY2021 fee was \$132.00 per equivalent residential unit and the FY2022 proposed fee is \$132.00. The fee is advertised in annual budget and utility fee public information materials (website, Mayor and Council meetings, monthly newsletter (see attached Rockville Reports article). The stormwater utility fee supports Rockville's Stormwater Management Capital Improvement Program which provides funding to study, design and construct stormwater management facilities, stream restoration projects and stormwater conveyance projects. The projects are designed to restore, protect and maintain the physical, chemical and biological integrity of City streams, as well as protect private property and eliminate downstream impacts. The attached summary provides an overview of three projects completed in the last three years and nutrient and sediment reduction estimates.

PDF: [CHAPTER 19, SEE ARTICLE VI, PA](#)

PDF: [FISCAL YEAR 2024 SWM UTILITY IMPERVIOUS COVER MAP](#)

Provide Incentives for Watershed Stewardship on Private Lands

15 Points

Program Summary: In 2023, the city launched the Stormwater Incentive Program, a comprehensive program with a total budget of \$300,000 that allocates funds for the RainScapes Program, Flood Mitigation Assistance Program, and a new competitive water quality grants program. The city also partnered with the Chesapeake Bay Trust (Trust) for program administrative assistance. By implementing this innovative and broader funding strategy and leveraging the expertise of the Trust to manage and administer these incentive programs, the city is better able to meet the growing demand for environmentally friendly landscape incentives on private property. The city also collaborated with community volunteers to promote environmentally friendly landscapes and management of non-native invasive species. Highlights include: · The RainScapes Program expanded to include rain gardens and green roofs as eligible practices, increase the maximum rebate amount to \$5,000 per property, and increase rebate rates for individual practices. In 2023, the RainScapes Program issued \$32,733 in rebates to support 25 tree canopy, rain barrel, conservation landscaping, and permeable pavement projects at 23 properties. · Two grant applications were selected to receive a total of \$36,154 in grant funds as part of the new competitive water quality grant partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Trust. The projects will receive funding to implement projects aimed at engaging faith-based communities located in the city in reducing stormwater pollution and promoting sustainable practices on private property. · From 2021 to 2023, the city has distributed over 700 native trees at the annual Fall Tree Giveaway, gave away over 1,000 wildflower seed packets at community events, hosted the annual native plant sale at Croydon Creek Nature Center, and hosted 4 Climate Solutions virtual education sessions on organic lawn care, native plants and trees attended by 178 people. The 2024 tree giveaway opened for registrations on in September 2024 and all 200 trees were reserved within 8 hours of opening. The tree pick up will take place on September 28, 2024. · The city achieved Community Wildlife Habitat Recertification through the National Wildlife Foundation for the 9th year that included 10 homes newly certified as Wildlife Habitats in 2023. Twelve homes certified as Wildlife Habitats so far in 2024 and the city's next recertification application will be completed on December 31, 2024. RainScapes Program information and link to the Chesapeake Bay Trust program website can be found at <http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rainscapes>. RainScapes rebate data from 2022 and 2023 can be found at <https://performance.envisio.com/dashboard/rockvillemd3023/Activity-221190-Activity-221190-Outcome-37993> Attached documents include RainScapes program expansion article, tree giveaway and Climate Solutions Speaker Series promotions in the Environment and Sustainability Email Newsletter. Recordings of Climate Solutions Speaker sessions can be viewed at <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLm5vcRtCmhtOw1LB2bmmIqra6ypmNRUWH>

PDF: [RAINSCAPES REBATES - CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST PARTNERSHIP - ROCKVILLE REPORTS ONLINE](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE TREE GIVEAWAY NEWSLETTER 2023](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS SPEAKER SESSIONS](#)

Provide Voluntary Opportunities for Citizen Engagement in Watershed Stewardship

10 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville provides several watershed stewardship engagement opportunities for community members who want to play an active role in protecting and improving watershed quality. Coordination and leadership for these opportunities is provided by city staff in the Public Works Department, Recreation and Parks Department, the Rockville Environment Commission, volunteer event leaders, and local community groups. Opportunities are promoted via the city website, the Rockville Reports newsletter (paper and digital), city email newsletters, flyers, posters and social media and special promotions for Earth Month and Climate Action Plan. Volunteer Opportunities The City maintains a centralized Volunteer Rockville portal to help local citizens and students connect with opportunities and easily provide student-service learning hours. Opportunities include stream cleanups, non-native invasive removal workdays, trail cleanups, · Adopt A Stream: This program engages community groups such as homeowners' associations, scout troops, businesses, and places of worship in taking ownership of local stream and holding litter cleanups at least twice a year. From FY22 to FY24, 829 volunteers participated in 71 cleanups and collected 502 bags of trash. · Weed Warrior Workdays: Weed Warrior Workdays, started in FY20, provide an opportunity for residents to take part in improving the biodiversity, and therefore health, of the watersheds in City's parks by removing non-native invasive plants. From FY22 to FY24, over 2,000 volunteers have participated in bimonthly workdays. · Plog Rockville Pledge: The Plog Rockville Pledge encourages community members to clean up litter while they walk, jog, or run in the City of Rockville and report back on their efforts. Free plogging bags were provided to the first 50 residents to sign the pledge. The pledge can be found at <https://arcg.is/1G5u410> Youth Camps and Programs Croydon Creek Nature Center hosts youth camps and programs focused on streams, watershed, wildlife habitat and other nature-based sustainability topics. Since FY22, 41 youth participants in the camp received presentations on storm drains, stormwater, pollution prevention, and stream monitoring and habitat assessments from City staff as well as outside organizations. Croydon Creek Nature Center also stream health exhibit that includes a large-scale watershed model. Other Engagement Opportunities Other opportunities for citizen engagement are provided by outside organizations including the Alice Ferguson Foundation, Montgomery County, Rockville Science Center, and WSSC. · Rockville Science Day: The Rockville Science Center sponsors Rockville Science Day every year with the support of the City of Rockville and Montgomery College. The event has over 90 exhibitors from the community, local businesses, and academic institutions. There are science activities for the whole family including chemistry, rocket launch, robotics, water conservation, environment, birds and reptiles. The event typically has more than 4,000 visitors. · Montgomery County Community Service Month: In support of the Montgomery County Community Service Month, the City hosts and provides supplies for several stream cleanups every October including two City hosted cleanups at Twinbrook Park and Maryvale Park. From 2021 to 2023, 395 volunteers cleaned up 30 stream segments and collected 269 bags of trash. The City provided promotional support, student service-learning hours, trash bags, gloves, and trash collection. · Incentive programs include the RainScapes Rebate Program, the Outreach and Restoration Grant Program administered through the Chesapeake Bay Trust and the annual fall tree giveaway. For details, see the submission for Provide Incentives for Watershed Stewardship on Private Lands. Links · City of Rockville Volunteer Portal: <https://cityofrockville.galaxydigital.com/> · Croydon Creek Nature Center: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/380/Croydon-Creek-Nature-Center> · Weed Warrior Program Webpage: www.rockvillemd.gov/weedwarriors · Adopt A Stream Program Webpage: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/636/Adopt-a-Stream> Attachments Samples of promotional articles and photos are also attached. A link to the City volunteer opportunities, including Adopt A Stream and Weed Warrior Workdays, is available at <https://cityofrockville.galaxydigital.com/> A link to the Croydon Creek Nature Center and volunteer and education activities is available at: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/380/Croydon-Creek-Nature-Center>

PDF: [VOLUNTEER ROCKVILLE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT WEBPAGE](#)

PDF: [ADOPT A STREAM POSTER 2024](#)

PDF: [ROCKVILLE WEED WARRIOR POSTER 2024](#)

PDF: [PHOTOS - WATERSHED ENGAGEMENT AT CROYDON CREEK NATURE CENTER](#)

Facilitate Engagement in Existing Watershed Stewardship Opportunities

20 Points

Program Summary: Rockville facilitates engagement in several existing watershed stewardship programs with outside organizations, including the Alice Ferguson Foundation, Montgomery County, Rockville Science Center, and WSSC. The City organizes an Earth Month promos and calendar to help promote various events in April and uses the Environment & Sustainability Newsletter to share existing opportunities. Included among these are the following: 1) Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup: In support of the Alice Ferguson Foundations' Trash Free Potomac Watershed initiative, the City coordinates stream cleanups every April including three City hosted cleanups at Twinbrook Park, Maryvale Park and the Hayes Forest Preserve. The City hosts three public stream cleanups and provides promotional support, trash bags, gloves, trash collection for several community stream cleanups. From 2022 to 2024, 419 volunteers cleaned up 38 stream segments and collected 266 bags of trash during the annual cleanup. 2) Rockville Science Day: The Rockville Science Center sponsors Rockville Science Day every year with the support of the City of Rockville and Montgomery College. The event has over 90 exhibitors from the community, local businesses, and academic institutions. There are science activities for the whole family including chemistry, rocket launch, robotics, water conservation, environment, birds and reptiles. The event typically has more than 4,000 visitors. 3) Montgomery County Community Service Month: In support of the Montgomery County Community Service Month, the City hosts and provides supplies for several stream cleanups every October including at least two City hosted cleanups at Twinbrook Park and Maryvale Park. From 2021 to 2023, 395 volunteers cleaned up 30 stream segments and collected 269 bags of trash during this service month. The City provided promotional support, student service-learning hours, trash bags, gloves, and trash collection.

PDF: [EARTH MONTH, ROCKVILLE SCIENCE DAY, POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED CLEANUP IN ROCKVILLE REPORTS 2024](#)

PDF: [ANNUAL POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED CLEANUP IN SPRING REC GUIDE 2024](#)

PDF: [EARTH MONTH EVENTS IN EMAIL NEWSLETTER 2023](#)

PDF: [COMMUNITY SERVICE STREAM CLEANUPS 2021](#)

Implement Watershed Stewardship / Pollution Prevention Outreach Program(s)

10 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville implements a comprehensive Watershed Stewardship/Pollution Prevention Outreach Program that uses a multi-media approach to inform residents and businesses about pollution prevention. Tips are included in Rockville Reports, the City's monthly newsletter sent to all residences and available to all businesses, and on social media. Information is also aired on Rockville Chanel 11, the City's cable TV station. The City has educational pamphlets that are handed out at community events and information sessions and are available at City facilities or by request. The Watershed Committee also has also coordinated with community blogs, listserves and other distribution opportunities. We conduct outreach on commercial pollution prevention, proper disposal of fats, oils and grease (FOG's), proper disposal of pet waste, proper use of fertilizers and pesticides (lawn care), green your background techniques for sustainable lawns, techniques for sustainable car washing and maintenance, pool drainage, and the proper use of de-icers. Also included are details on the City's Pollution Hotline for reporting pollution and illegal dumping with examples of problems which should be reported. The attached NPDES MS4 appendix MCM 3# includes a summary of all stormwater pollution prevention education, outreach and enforcement activities for fiscal year 2022 and 2023. The permit has been administratively extended until a new permit is released, therefore, we are still regulated under permit no. 13-IM-5500

PDF: [COMMERCIAL INSPECTION BOOKLET](#)

WORD: [MS4 APPENDIX MCM 3-IDDE](#)

PDF: [DE-ICE YOUR STEPS, DRIVEWAYS AND SIDEWALKS](#)

IMAGE: [CITY OF ROCKVILLE WEBSITE-POLLUTION PREVENTION](#)

PDF: [MS4 PROGRESS REPORT NPDES GENERAL PERMIT](#)

PDF: [MUNICIPAL MS4 REPORT FY2022](#)

Create a Watershed Plan

20 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville periodically assesses the health of its three watersheds: Cabin John Creek, Watts Branch and Rock Creek. In general, teams involving various Rockville staff and consultants have contributed to the watershed assessment and management plans. With an emphasis on “stakeholder” involvement, City staff have also developed partnerships with interested residents, civic and homeowners’ associations and watershed groups to contribute to the watershed planning process. These assessments inform the City and its residents on the health of the streams, and opportunities for stormwater management facility retrofits. They also identify problem spots, such as areas that are severely eroded and in need of repair and restoration. Finally, they document the successes of Rockville’s stormwater program efforts and indicate the amount of work still required to achieve the City’s goals. These plans make recommendations for activities that will improve water quality and manage stream erosion. These activities can range from Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects, like stream restoration and stormwater management (see attached FY24 CIP), to enforcement and outreach programs. Rockville completed two rounds of watershed studies. The most recent studies were completed as follows: Cabin John 2011, Watts Branch 2013, Rock Creek 2015. Rockville also performed a Green Streets Study in 2017. Rockville is in various stages of implementing recommendations from these studies through the CIP (attached FY 2024 CIP). Until the City is through that project backlog, it opted to perform smaller, in-house assessment; reevaluating projects identified in the studies given advances in technology, and investigating projects identified via other infrastructure inspections activities and property owner complaints. Within the last three years, the City updated the Water Resource Element (WRE) (see attached Element) of its Comprehensive Master Plan. The WRE Describes the City’s current program and highlights long-term. Programmatic goals for the future. All of the City’s watershed studies and management plans are available at: <http://www.rockvillemd.gov/570/Streams-Watersheds> In FY23, the City stormwater team started development of a Flood Resiliency Master Plan which will evaluate current system capacity and flood impacts; identify flood hazard areas; forecast potential impacts; develop a stakeholder-informed project prioritization tool based on risk tolerance; develop feasibility level designs; and recommend high-priority projects. In conjunction with this project, the operating budget includes a Flood Mitigation Assistance Program to provide direct payments to property owners as well as outreach and education on floodproofing and flood insurance. These programs align with the goals included in the Climate Action Plan-Resiliency.

PDF: [STORMWATER PROGRAM CIP](#)

PDF: [STREAMS AND WATERSHEDS WEBSITE](#)

PDF: [WATER RESOURCES ELEMENT 2021](#)

PDF: [FLOOD RESILIENCY](#)

Planning & Land Use

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Planning & Land Use

15 Points

Program Summary: 1) Recreation and Parks Strategic Plan: The City of Rockville Recreation and Parks Department developed this plan in 2020 to serve as a roadmap for addressing community needs for the next five years. Plan development involved a consultant and extensive community input. The plan details the current state of the system while identifying focus areas based on a comprehensive assessment of the community's vision and their priorities. The Plan was written to inform the overall direction for the Department and is viewed in tandem with other existing plans and guidance such as the City's 2040 Comprehensive Master Plan, Neighborhood Plans, Senior Citizen Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis, Arts and Culture Study, ADA Audit and Transition Plan, King Farm Task Force Report, the Swim and Fitness Center Facility Audit and Recommendations for Enhancements and the forthcoming RedGate Master Plan. The individual program areas' plans provide specific observations, considerations and tactical recommendations at a more granular level of detail than this document. The plan is available at:

<https://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/41331/Recreation-and-Parks-Strategic-Plan>

One of the key products of the plan was the creation of a Redgate Master Plan (see below). 2) Redgate Park Master Plan and CIP: RedGate Park is an approximately 130-acre site located in the City of Rockville at the intersection of Norbeck and Avery Roads. Formerly a golf course, the site is currently enjoyed by the community for events and predominantly passive uses. Since early 2021, the city has been leading a planning process for the development of a master plan that could be implemented in phases over time. The master plan process has been informed by public input, analysis of existing park conditions, and guidance by Mayor and Council. The city contracted with a consultant to help prepare design concepts that will assist the Mayor and Council in the next steps for RedGate Park.

Information on the process, existing conditions and ROI is available at

<https://www.rockvillemd.gov/2311/RedGate-Park-Arboretum-Master-Plan>. The 2022 Master

Plan is attached. This master plan led to the Redgate Capital Improvement Program (CIP) (attached). The Redgate CIP funds the design and construction of the infrastructure and amenities in the park.

PDF: [REDGATE MASTER PLAN.PDF](#)

PDF: [REDGATE CIP.PDF](#)

Participation in DHCD Sustainable Communities

20 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville and several other municipalities in Montgomery County joined with the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs to develop a joint application to the State of Maryland that would qualify portions of the county as a Sustainable Community. Municipalities in the County were invited to join in the County-wide request for designation rather than submitting applications individually, and the Mayor and Council approved Rockville's participation on December 12, 2011. In the development of the joint application, the City shared information with the County regarding Rockville's resources, policies and programs; including but not limited to: historic resources, zoning ordinance and promotion of mixed use development around transit, cultural events, water treatment and distribution system, carbon reduction measures, stormwater management program, affordable housing programs, parks and public amenities, Rockville Town Center redevelopment experience, Rockville Pike Plan for redevelopment, transportation policies, governance and extensive public participation opportunities, and City-wide sustainability strategy. While an official designation letter was not sent to all jurisdictions included in the Montgomery County's joint application, the attached DHCD website and map recognizes the portions of Rockville's developed core that are officially designated in the Sustainable Communities program. Maryland approved the application for designation renewal in 2024. Attached is the application and report on accomplishments over the past five years.

PDF: [APPLICATION](#)

PDF: [TARGETED AREA STRATEGIES](#)

PDF: [SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES APPROVAL ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

PDF: [SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES MAP 2018](#)

PDF: [2024 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES RENEWAL.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES MAP 2024.PNG](#)

Historic Preservation

Historic Area Zoning Ordinance

10 Points

Program Summary: In June of 1965, the Mayor and Council of Rockville endorsed the creation of the Rockville Historic District Commission. One year later, an ordinance established a seven member commission to recommend historic districts. Three years later, in January 1971, the Mayor and Council authorized the preparation of an ordinance to formally recognize and designate the recommended districts and structures. The Historic Zoning Ordinance safeguards the heritage of the city by preserving sites, structures or areas which reflect elements of cultural, social, economic, political, archaeological or architectural history. This ordinance establishes the Historic District Commission (HDC) who determines if the property meets the adopted city historic designation criteria and initiates filing of a sectional map amendment to place the property in the historic zone and includes a written recommendation explaining its findings as to why Mayor and Council should rezone the property. The Historic Resources Management Plan (HRMP) outlines how Rockville's historic buildings and areas are managed. The current plan was written in 1986, when resources had to be at least 50 years old to be considered historic. The Historic Resources Management Plan addresses the management of the city's historic resources through the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan. The current plan is over 30 years old and overdue for an update. To complete this update an Historic Preservation Work Plan (see attachment) was prepared to guide staff's activities over the next decade and subsequently updating the HRMP.

PDF: [HISTORIC PRESERVATION WORKPLAN 2023-2033](#)

PDF: [HISTORIC RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN](#)

PDF: [COMBINED HISTORIC ORDINANCES.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION](#)

PDF: [CODE REFERENCING HISTORIC PRESERVATION](#)

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Historic Preservation

5 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville participates in Montgomery County's Property Tax Credit program for historic resources designated by the city. Montgomery County provides a property tax credit equal to 25 percent of qualified costs expended on exterior maintenance of properties designated historic by the Mayor and Council of Rockville. Owners of qualifying properties must spend a minimum of \$1,000 in a calendar year. The tax credit is then applied against the following year's property taxes. Rockville's Historic District Commission (HDC) reviews the tax credit applications, certifies that project work is eligible for tax credits and forwards recommendations to the County Department of Finance for approval. Any unused portion of this tax credit may be carried forward for up to five years. Other tax credit programs include Maryland's Sustainable Communities Tax Credit Program, the Maryland tax credit projects and federal 20 percent income tax credit. Maryland's Sustainable Communities Tax Credit Program provides Maryland income tax credits equal to 20 percent of qualified costs expended in the interior and exterior rehabilitation of certified historic structures. Commercial (income-producing) properties may receive an additional 5 percent tax credit if the rehabilitation results in LEED (environmental) Gold certification. Income-producing structures that are neither designated nor eligible for designation, may qualify for a 10 percent state income tax credit if certain requirements are met. State tax credit projects must be pre-approved by the Maryland Historical Trust to be eligible. Costs for projects that are remodeling (i.e., replacement of kitchens and bathrooms that are in good repair and that are replaced only for aesthetic reasons) do not qualify. Qualifying properties include those listed in the National Register of Historic Places, or those locally designated properties that the Maryland Historical Trust deems eligible for listing in the National Register. This program is administered by the Maryland Historical Trust. The Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program offers Federal income tax credits for 20 percent of approved costs, for the rehabilitation of income-producing properties that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Information about federal tax credits is available from the National Park Service and Maryland Historical Trust. Tax credit incentives encourages private sector investment in the rehabilitation and re-use of historic buildings. It also creates jobs and is a cost-effective community revitalization program.

PDF: [APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION TAX CREDIT](#)

Establish National Register Historic District

10 Points

Program Summary: There are certain properties in the City of Rockville are designated as local historic districts in order to preserve their historic character and relevance to Rockville's heritage. Historic designation is a recognition of the importance of a property's structure or landscape to the Rockville community and can provide financial benefits to the owner. Designation also places a higher standard on the maintenance, alteration, or removal of structures than other properties in the city not deemed of historical significance. In recommending the establishment of a Historic District, the Historic District Commission (HDC) considers the historic significance of either multi-site historic districts or single-site historic districts. Multi-site districts have more than one property that contributes to the overall character or history that is to be preserved, such as the West Montgomery Avenue Historic District. Single-site districts contain one building and its accessories, if present. One example is the Rockville Civic Center, which includes the mansion, grounds and structures located on approximately 65 acres of land situated between Baltimore Road, (Md. Route 28) and Avery Road. A copy of the National Register nomination form for the Civic Center is available at: <https://rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1039>

IMAGE: [MAP OF HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND NATIONAL REGISTER SITES.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [HISTORIC DISTRICT CRITERIA AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE](#)

PDF: [HISTORIC REVIEW PROCESS DIAGRAM](#)

IMAGE: [HISTORIC DESIGNATION PROCESS](#)

PDF: [INVENTORY OF HISTORIC DISTRICTS](#)

PDF: [CONTRACT WITH THE STATE AND FEDERAL GOVT TO CONDUCT HISTORIC PRESERVATION](#)

Transportation

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

15 Points

Program Summary: Rockville has a Bikeway Master Plan adopted in 2017, Vision Zero Action Plan adopted in 2020, and a Pedestrian Master Plan adopted in 2023. All of these plans have been publicly approved and our annual budget includes funding to implement these plans. We also collaborate with the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee, the Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee, and the Rockville Transportation and Mobility Commission not only to develop recommendations and policies in the plans, but also to guide the plan implementation. Significant projects that have been implemented as a result of these plans. Bikeway Master Plan - Maryland Avenue bike lane - N. Washington Street bike lane - E. Middle Lane bike lane - S. Stonestreet Avenue climbing lane - Baltimore Road shared use path Vision Zero -New pedestrian master plan -Updated roadway standards -Five completed intersection safety audits and associated improvements constructed -Thirteen ongoing intersection safety audits and planned improvements -Update vehicle fleet policy -Added LPIs to 14 intersections Pedestrian Master Plan - Updated pedestrian crosswalk guidelines - Ongoing policy update for comprehensive review policy - 1 new sidewalk planned for construction in September - 4 sidewalks under design - 12 sidewalk gaps under feasibility study Public Engagement: All plans included - Community meetings, virtual and/or in-person - Planning Commission review and approval process: 3 public meetings with Planning Commission and opportunity for public comments and review - Mayor and Council review and approval process - public meetings and opportunity for public comments - The Vision Zero Plan and the Bikeway Master Plan also included updates and participation with the Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Traffic and Transportation Commission. -The Pedestrian Master Plan included updates and participation with the Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee, the Traffic and Mobility Commission, and the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee.

PDF: [ROCKVILLE REPORTS PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN AND VISION ZERO](#)

PDF: [CITY OF ROCKVILLE BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN PROGRAMS](#)

Bicycle-Friendly Community

10 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville was re-awarded a bronze level certification by the League of American Bicyclists. We continue to expand the city's bicycle program and infrastructure and will seek another certification (hopefully silver) in 2026 (certification lasts 4 years). Most recent report card available in Supporting Documentation section.

PDF: [BICYCLE_FRIENDLY_COMMUNITY_CERTIFICATION_CITY_OF_ROCKVILLE](#)

WORD: [BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN FEEDBACK RESPONSE](#)

Complete Streets Policy and Program

10 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville regularly plans and carries out transportation projects to improve safety for people driving, walking, rolling, bicycling, and using transit. The city adopted a Complete Streets Policy in 2009, Vision Zero Plan in 2018, Pedestrian Master Plan in 2023 and is implementing various safety projects to improve the transportation network for walking, bicycling, and driving. These include new sidewalks, new crossings, and intersection improvements such as pedestrian refuge islands and curb extensions. More information is available on the various plans and projects at: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/2393/Vision-Zero-Projects>

PDF: [COMPLETE STREETS POLICY](#)

PDF: [PROGRAM WEBSITE](#)

PDF: [RR_COMPLETESTREETS_12.28.23.PDF](#)

Safe Routes to School Program

10 Points

Program Summary: The City of Rockville supports Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) within City limits that want to participate in Walk to School Day and Bike to School Day by providing flyers and giveaways for participating students. Additionally, we support the MCPS's Safe Routes to School Coordinator to encourage in-school on-bike riding lessons. Montgomery County Public Schools program information available: <https://ww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/saferoutes/>

PDF: [MCPS_SRTS_WEBSITE.PDF](#)

WORD: [CITY OF ROCKVILLE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL FEEDBACK RESPONSE_2023](#)

Innovative Demonstration Projects - Transportation

10 Points

Program Summary: Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, fair mobility for all. First implemented in Sweden in the 1990s, it has proven successful in reducing fatal and severe injury crashes across Europe – and is now gaining momentum in major American cities. Vision Zero is a multidisciplinary approach, bringing together diverse stakeholders through cross-disciplinary collaboration among local traffic planners, engineers, and policymakers to address this complex problem. Vision Zero acknowledges that many factors contribute to safe mobility, including roadway design, speeds, behaviors, technology, and policies, and sets clear goals to achieve the shared goal of zero fatalities and severe injuries. The City of Rockville developed and released the 2020 Vision Zero Action Plan to expand on the work completed during the 2018-2019 Two-Year Action Plan by implementing recommendations from completed studies, advancing on-going initiatives, and completing open action items. Work on the plan began in the early 2020. It is part of the long-range strategic plan to further guide the county towards elimination of traffic fatalities by 2030. As of 2023, 58% of Vision Zero actions were complete and the remainder are on-schedule or ongoing. The FY 2023 capital budget included new appropriations totaling \$7.7 million to support bicycle, pedestrian, and safety projects. The city also continues to seek external funding to leverage city resources and extend the city's ability to carry out multimodal safety projects. In FY 24, the city received over \$750,000 in grant funds from five different sources, including the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All program. The grants cover a variety of projects including complete streets studies, bicycle lanes designs, new pedestrian crossing guidelines, and intersection safety audits for both city- and state-maintained intersections. Also, Capital Bikeshare stations in Rockville began offering e-bikes among their fleets in Rockville. <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/2312/Vision-Zero> <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/38801/Vision-Zero-Action-Plan>

PDF: [TRANSPORTATION INNOVATIVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS: VISION ZERO](#)