



**Frederick County
Government
Frederick, Maryland**

News Release

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Executive Gardner Re-Energizes Frederick County Sustainability Efforts

FREDERICK, MD – Executive Jan Gardner today announced plans to re-energize Frederick County’s sustainability efforts. The county’s [Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources](#) will return to its original mission to reduce energy costs and protect resources to preserve the quality of life for future generations.

“We need to build a sustainable foundation for our region’s prosperity, health and vitality to ensure the county’s bright future,” said Executive Gardner. “We can make Frederick County a leader to save green by going green.”

The Office of Sustainability helped to develop a Comprehensive Energy Plan that has saved taxpayers more than \$585,000 annually through innovative initiatives. Examples include upgrading traffic lights and county government office lights to LEDs, conserving fuel in Fleet Services, improving the efficiency of the air-conditioning systems at several county facilities, installing a heat-reflecting roof on the Emmitsburg Community Center, and investing in hybrid and electric buses.

Beginning July 1, the Office of Sustainability will report directly to the County Executive so that staff can better coordinate efforts across several county divisions. The office’s goals are to refresh and implement the county’s Framework for Sustainability, which outlines strategies for the county to incorporate sustainable practices within county government operations; to accelerate steps to conserve and reduce energy consumption; and to work toward the environmental goals identified through the Livable Frederick planning process. The office will continue to execute stormwater permit requirements and ensure compliance with regulations.

Executive Gardner also re-vitalized the charge of the 13-member Frederick County Sustainability Commission. Commission members will be asked to provide input on policies and legislation that could affect Frederick County. The commission also will help to develop metrics to track the effectiveness of sustainability efforts throughout the community.

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