



City of Harrisonburg Environmental Performance Standards Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

January 31, 2024 5:10-7:00 p.m.

City Hall (Room 11)

Members in attendance: Vice Mayor Laura Dent, City Council Representative; Andy Kohen, School Board Representative; David Powell (Virtual); Doug Hendren; Ferwerdin Barzanji; Joy Loving (Virtual); Rob Alexander, Mike Hott

Staff in attendance: Tom Hartman, Keith Thomas, Shayna Carter, Brittany Clem-Hott

Others in attendance: Zach Nyce, Manager of Engineering; HEC

Call to Order

Keith Thomas called the meeting to order noting the Committee needed to nominate and select a Chair and Vice-Chair.

Approval of Virtual Participation

Keith Thomas advised the Committee that Joy Loving requested to participate in the meeting virtually as allowed in the Bylaws and in accordance with § 2.2-3708.2 Appendix A of the Code of Virginia. Joy Loving noted a sickness prevented her from physically attending tonight's EPSAC meeting. Andy Kohen motioned to approve Joy Loving's virtual participation. Doug Hendren seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Per § 2.2-3708.2 Appendix A of the Code of Virginia, Joy Loving may make motions, vote, join in closed meetings, and otherwise participate fully as if he or she was physically present.

Keith Thomas advised the Committee that David Powell requested to participate in the meeting virtually as allowed in the Bylaws and in accordance with § 2.2-3708.2 Appendix A of the Code of Virginia. David Powell noted a work conflict requiring him to be in Florida, prevented him from physically attending tonight's EPSAC meeting. Rob Alexander motioned to approve David Powell's virtual participation. Doug Hendren seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Per § 2.2-3708.2 Appendix A of the Code of Virginia, David Powell may make motions, vote, join in closed meetings, and otherwise participate fully as if he or she was physically present.

Election of Officers

Keith Thomas noted that the previous Chair and Vice-Chair's term had expired and neither decided to reapply to the Committee so the Committee would need to select new members. Doug Hendren nominated Rob Alexander as Chair. Laura Dent seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Andy Kohen moved to table the Vice-Chair nomination. Doug Hendren seconded. The motion to table passed unanimously.

Review and Adopt Meeting Summary

Andy Kohen noted a typo in the previous meeting summary in the virtual participation section that incorrectly listed Joy Loving instead of Deirdre Longacher Smeltzer. Andy Kohen moved to approve the October 25, 2023 EPSAC Meeting Summary with the aforementioned edit. Doug Hendren seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

There were no public comments received by the required date and time and no comments given by those in attendance.

Focus Area Updates

Keith Thomas noted that the Focus Area 1 meetings would be starting soon. He advised he was waiting on Dr. McGinnis to provide him with dates he was available to meet with the group to review the GHG model.

Keith Thomas presented an overview of the outreach plan staff developed for the public input portion of the Stormwater Improvement Plan (SWIP) update. He asked if there were any comments or additional considerations the Committee would like staff to include. Joy Loving asked why County residents and businesses were not included in the audiences. Keith Thomas noted that County residents and businesses could participate in the public survey and meetings, however, the primary audiences were Harrisonburg residents and businesses as they are the ones who fund the stormwater program and most of our watersheds originates within the City. Laura Dent asked for clarification over the timeframe the outreach plan would occur. Keith Thomas noted the timeframe for the public survey and first public meeting tentatively would be in February or March. He noted the second public meeting would likely occur sometime in the fall. Andy Kohen asked how many languages the materials were being translated. He then noted that the school division translated materials in seven or eight different languages and would like to see a similar effort here. Keith Thomas noted that the plan was for all materials that will be written or posted would be translated into Spanish and Arabic. He advised that staff could look into adding more languages. Tom Hartman noted that our SWIP scope of work was limited in available funding, but that staff would evaluate if additional translation services could be added in. Joy Loving reminded the group it is important to work with organizations who work within the community and to include the faith community.

Updates from Sustainability & Environmental Manager

Keith Thomas then presented an update on various grant opportunities. He mentioned that staff were planning to present the EECBG project idea of solar at Turner Pavilion to City Council in February and that the application was due at the end of April. He then gave an update on the Elective Pay and reviewed some of the information in the proposed guidelines. Keith Thomas advised that the final guidelines had not been published so some of the details were subject to change. Keith Thomas provided an update on the CPRG opportunity. He noted that the City itself, is an eligible entity to apply for implementation funds, however we are ineligible to create a Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP). Implementation projects will only be funded if they are on a PCAP. Because of this, DEQ has been working with localities in their creation of a PCAP so that we can have potential applications. The City participated in several calls with other localities and DEQ staff regarding the development of their Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP). Staff submitted several projects to DEQ, based on the guidelines they provided, to be included in their list of potential projects. Staff are waiting on DEQ to provide their draft list to see if there are other localities that we could potentially partner with on an implementation grant. Implementation grant awards will be given between \$2 million and \$500 million. Projects must be shovel ready. DEQ has advised that EPA is most interested in projects that have a more regional partnership. Additionally, the NOFO states the implementation grant is designed to “incentivize eligible applicants to apply for funding together as a coalition to implement GHG reduction measures regionally, across multiple municipalities, state boundaries, or even state and tribal boundaries.” DEQ has until March 1 to submit their PCAP. Implementation Grants will then be due on April 1. Finally, Keith Thomas noted that the City was

unsuccessful in our Clean Energy to Communities – In-Depth Technical Partnerships (C2C) grant application. He noted staff attempted to get portions of our original scope through two different grants and were also not successful in those efforts. Staff will continue to explore other opportunities to implement the general scope of our proposed project to look at how does Harrisonburg reach its goals for net-zero GHG emission while building an equitable and inclusive city-wide energy system by 2050.

Keith Thomas noted that the City recently achieved the Silver Designation for SolSmart and noted a recent press release about the event.

Keith Thomas advised that staff issued an RFP for creating the solar implementation plan to evaluate adding solar at city facilities, including schools. He noted that staff selected SunTribe solar who is currently completing Phase 1 of the project which is a desktop analysis of our facilities.

Keith Thomas gave an update on the Municipal Building Audits noting that 6 buildings were completed and shared recommendations from the report. Rob Alexander asked who would implement the recommendations. Keith Thomas noted that it would be the department who managed the facility that would need to request funds to implement the recommendations.

Keith Thomas noted that the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance Update Project was getting ready to restart. Refer to attachment regarding memo included in recent City Council meeting about the project.

Keith Thomas advised that staff submitted several budget requests related to sustainability projects including GHG inventory and modeling work, energy audits, a feasibility study to evaluate in-line generation capacity at Dry River, an E-Bike voucher program, and solar at Turner Pavilion. He noted that the draft budget would be published later in the spring.

Shayna Carter presented the EATs program. See attachment.

GHG Inventory & Modeling Update

Keith Thomas shared that Dr. McGinnis has completed his initial model which will be reviewed in our first Focus Area 1 meeting. Keith Thomas also mentioned that he shared the Q&A document from Dr. McGinnis regarding the 2022 GHG Report.

Other Committee Topics

Laura Dent asked at what point could Council forbid new fossil fuel infrastructure. Doug Hendren added that he wanted to know what potential there was to use building codes to prohibit fossil fuel uses. Keith Thomas noted that the High Performance Building Act only applied to municipal buildings and did not create an emissions standard. Keith Thomas also noted that localities currently do not have any authority to regulate commercial and residential energy efficiency or set building performance standards as that's all done through the Uniform Statewide Building Code at the state level.

Next Meeting Dates

2024 Dates

- April 3, 2024
- July 31, 2024
- October 30, 2024



CITY OF HARRISONBURG COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

409 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HARRISONBURG, VA 22801
OFFICE (540) 432-7700 • FAX (540) 432-7777

To: Ande Banks, City Manager
From: Thanh Dang, Deputy Director of Community Development
Date: January 23, 2024
Re: Updated on Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances Update Project

Summary:

Presentation to re-introduce the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances Update Project

Background:

Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances affect how our City is built, where people reside, and where businesses operate, now and in the future. The Zoning Ordinance regulates the development of buildings, activities, and land uses. Zoning determines what use you can have on a property such as a house or business. It determines how tall a building can be and where on the property it can be located. The Subdivision Ordinance regulates the division of land, from creating two lots from one parcel to subdividing a large piece of land to create a new neighborhood. Among other things, subdivision regulations establish the length and width of lots, blocks, and streets, and provide for the establishment of easements and public rights-of-way.

The existing Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances were last thoroughly evaluated and comprehensively re-written in 1997 and 1996, respectively. In the ensuing time, many changes, both major and minor, have been made to the text of the ordinances, including the addition of districts and overlays to the Zoning Ordinance. The existing ordinances contain outdated requirements, internal inconsistencies, and regulations that can be difficult for community members to comprehend. Additionally, new planning and zoning philosophies combined with new techniques and principles for implementing adopted plans offer ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of City planning and zoning. A significant overhaul of the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances is needed.

In July 2020, the City contracted with [Kendig Keast Collaborative](#) to partner with city staff to update the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances.

Key Issues:

The Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances Update project that began in mid-2020 has been stalled for some time. Recently, the core project team (Thanh Dang, Deputy Director of Community Development; Evan Winkler, Zoning Administrator; Adam Fletcher, Director of Community Development; and Wesley Russ, Deputy City Attorney) has had the opportunity to internally regroup and outline a path forward.

Project Schedule

TASKS	TARGET DATES
1. Project kick off including presentations to City Council, Planning Commission, and Ordinance Advisory Committee	July 2020 (Completed)
2. Host stakeholder meetings	October 2020 (Completed)
3. Begin writing draft of Module/Part 1 of the Ordinances	December 2020 (Completed)
4. Begin writing draft of Module/Part 2 of the Ordinances	June 2021
5. Begin writing draft of Module/Part 3 of the Ordinances	2021
6. Commence public comment period for Module/Part 1, including open house event	July 2021 (Completed)
7. Kick off Re-start Ordinances Update Project, including a presentation to City Council	January 2024
8. Reconvene Ordinance Advisory Committee and Staff Technical Team	March 2024
9. Commence public comment period for Module/Part 2, including open house event and Ordinance Advisory Committee and Staff Technical Team meetings	April 2024
10. Commence public comment period for Module/Part 3, including open house event and Ordinance Advisory Committee and Staff Technical Team meetings	July 2024
11. Commence public comment period for Modules/Parts 1, 2, and 3, including open house event and Ordinance Advisory Committee and Staff Technical Team meetings	October 2024
12. Present ordinances at public hearings at Planning Commission and City Council for adoption	January 2025
13. Implement new Zoning Ordinance	Spring 2025

Modules

Work on the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances is divided into three “Modules,” or three parts, that have and will be presented to the public.

- Module 1 includes zoning districts, use regulations, and development standards.
- Module 2 includes building design standards; parking, loading, and stacking regulations; landscaping, buffering, and tree preservation; sign regulations; floodplain management regulations; and the subdivision regulations.

- Module 3 includes administrative, enforcement, and development review procedures.

Stakeholder Meetings

In October 2020, the project consultants (KKC) hosted eight stakeholder group meetings. Each group consisted of 8-10 community members and met with KKC for about one hour. These meetings provided KKC the opportunity to talk with and hear from a cross-section of the community on current issues, opportunities, needs, and priorities as they relate to how the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances govern the City’s physical and economic development.

The groups were organized into the following categories:

- Developers, Engineers, Attorneys, Architects, Builders (two groups)
- Residential Developers and Real Estate
- Business Owners, Commercial Property Managers, and other associated business groups
- People who live in Harrisonburg (two groups)
- Providers of Social Services
- Environmental Groups

Ordinance Advisory Committee

As suggested by the consultant, the Ordinance Advisory Committee (OAC) should have 10-12 community members, who have policy and technical background working with zoning and subdivision ordinances. The OAC meets with City staff and the consultant team during the project to represent the broader community, review draft ordinances, serve as a sounding board for new ideas and solutions, and to provide constructive input.

On September 22, 2020, after receiving suggestions from City Council members, city staff presented to City Council a list of 13 individuals who had agreed to serve on the OAC if they were appointed by City Council. That same day, City Council appointed all 13 members to the OAC. Since that time, one person resigned because they moved out of the area and two individuals were added to the OAC for a total of 14 OAC members.

The current OAC members are:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| • Richard Baugh | • Charles Hendricks |
| • Nathan Blackwell | • Barry Kelley |
| • Gil Colman | • Matthew Phillippi |
| • Nadia Dames | • Sal Romero |
| • Laura Dent | • Henry Way |
| • Brent Finnegan | • Kathy Whitten |
| • Deb Fitzgerald | • Dave Wiens |

OAC members together have experience as current and past Planning Commissioners, City Council members, Board of Zoning Appeals members, and School Board members; engineers; architects; real estate agents; business owners; and experience with community organizations.

In December 2023, staff began communicating with OAC members to inquire of their interest and availability to participate. Aside from Sal Romero, who noted that he is no longer available to participate, all other members are interested and available to continue serving on the OAC.

The OAC is expected to meet at least three more times over the next 12 months.

Staff Technical Team

A staff technical team (STT) has been formed with staff representatives from the:

- Department of Community Development
- City Attorney’s Office
- Department of Public Works
- Department of Public Utilities
- Fire Department
- Police Department
- Department of Economic Development
- Department of Public Transportation
- Harrisonburg Electric Commission

The STT works with the core project team and the consultant team during the project to review draft ordinances, serve as a sounding board for new ideas and solutions, and to provide constructive input.

For more information on the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances Update Project, please visit: <http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/zoning-subdivision-ordinances-update>.

Environmental Impact:

N/A

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Prior Actions:

N/A

Alternatives:

N/A

Community Engagement:

N/A

Recommendation:

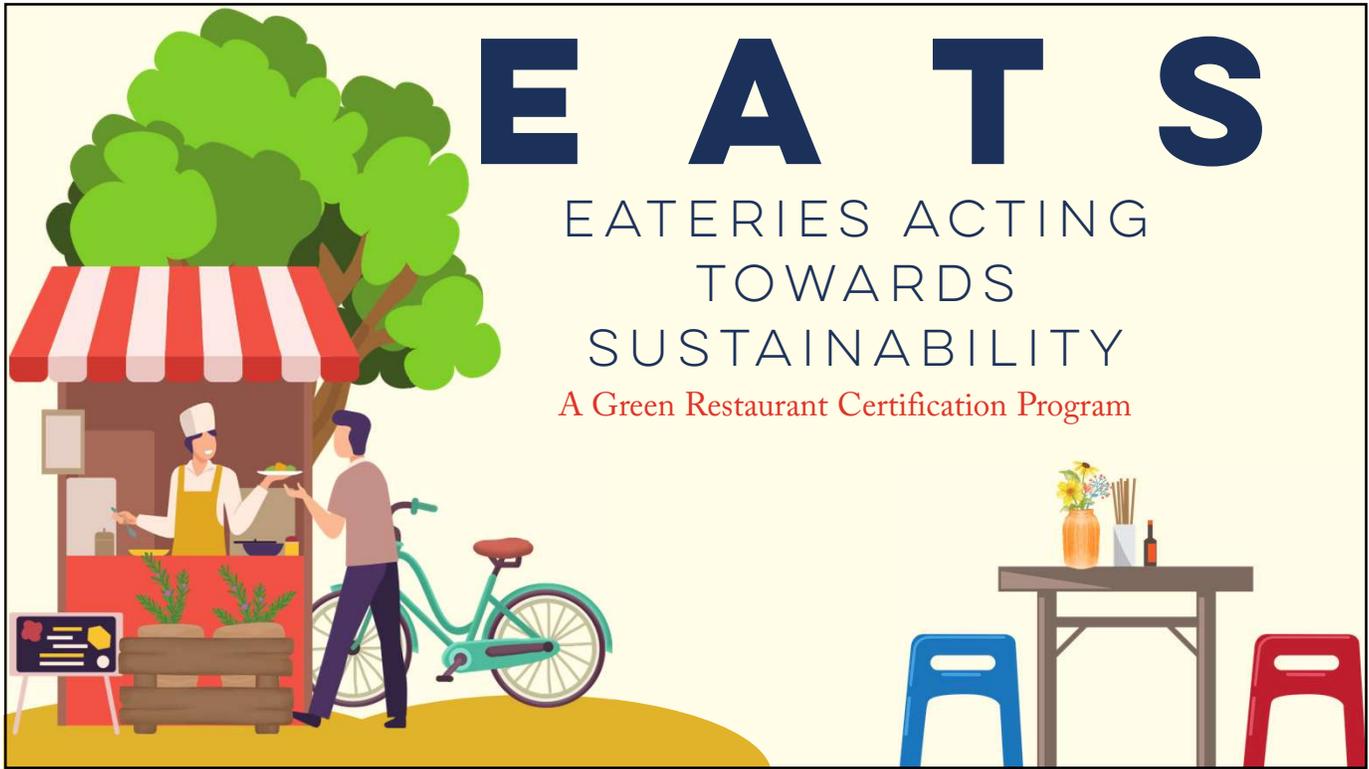
N/A

Attachments:

N/A

Review:

N/A



E A T S

EATERIES ACTING TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY

A Green Restaurant Certification Program

1



WHERE THIS IDEA CAME FROM



Certification Checklists

GRCP CHECKLISTS



2

INTRODUCTION

EATS program aims to recognize food service businesses that are taking steps to reduce waste. Three certification levels are available, and program guidelines provide information on how to qualify for each level.

A voluntary certification program is available for those in the food service industry who wish to participate, aiming to acknowledge the hard work of these establishments instead of imposing stricter regulations on business owners.



Vision

The program aims to promote sustainability by educating restaurants on cost-effective ways to reduce waste and encouraging practical sustainability efforts for Harrisonburg residents and businesses.

Mission

This program will address multiple focus areas within the City's Environmental Action Plan. Through the sustainable efforts listed in the certification, restaurants will accomplish several strategies mentioned in Focus Area 5.

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The City's Green certification program sets itself apart from others by offering a simple and easy participation process. The steps and actions required are straightforward, yet they can have significant positive effects on our city, the environment, and business operations.

These levels are designed to ensure that all food service businesses in the City of Harrisonburg have the opportunity to be recognized as environmentally friendly without complicated rules or costly requirements.

LEVEL 1
SPROUT LEVEL

LEVEL 2
BLOOM LEVEL

LEVEL 3
HARVEST LEVEL



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Benefits of CERTIFICATION

ACCORDING TO FORBES MAGAZINE..

Generation Z shoppers prefer to buy sustainable brands, and they are most willing to spend 10 percent more on sustainable products.

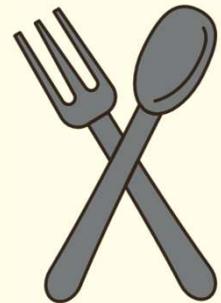
Millennials are the most likely to make purchase decisions based on values and principles (personal, social, and environmental).

CONSUMERS ARE FOUR TIMES MORE LIKELY TO SUPPORT A PURPOSE-DRIVEN COMPANY THAT'S ENVIRONMENTALLY AND SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE OVER BRANDS THAT ARE NOT.

"Unveiling The 2020 Zeno Strength of Purpose" ZENO GROUP

5

Let your customers know that you care! By showing the community that you are concerned about sustainability, you may be opening yourself up to a whole new customer base. One way to demonstrate your commitment to sustainability is by implementing eco-friendly practices into your business operations. This can include reducing waste, and sourcing materials from sustainable suppliers, and buying products and ingredients from local vendors. By prioritizing sustainability in your business, you not only attract environmentally conscious customers, but you also contribute to a better future for our planet.



EARNING CERTIFICATION THROUGH EATS SERVES AS A SYMBOL TO THE COMMUNITY OF YOUR DEDICATION TO SUSTAINABILITY.

INCREASED
COMMUNITY
PRESENCE

EXPANDED
CUSTOMER
BASE &
MARKETING
OPPORTUNITIES

CREATE
STRONGER
RELATIONSHIPS
WITH
CUSTOMERS

SAVINGS
FROM
ENERGY &
WASTE
REDUCTIONS

CREATE
STRONGER
RELATIONSHIPS
WITH OTHER
BUSINESSES

6

MARKETING AND ADVERTISING FOR EATS MEMBERS

The completed tier level of each business will also be recognized on the websites and social media pages of the City of Harrisonburg Public Works, Harrisonburg Tourism, Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance, Harrisonburg-Rockingham Chamber of Commerce and other media partnerships as they develop!

HARRISONBURG DOWNTOWN RENAISSANCE
Special feature on Taste of Downtown

HARRISONBURG TOURISM
Special blog post for green restaurants
Filter option on dining website for restaurants in the EATS program

HARRISONBURG PUBLIC WORKS
Highlight in our Environmental and Sustainability Newsletter
Featured on posters at the Blacks Run Clean Up Day Green Scene
Press releases

HARRISONBURG-ROCKINGHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Highlighted in both chamber of commerce newsletters

7



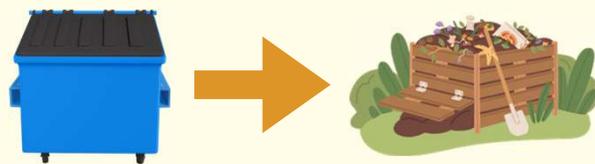
WASTE REDUCTION AT WORK

GRILLED CHEESE MANIA RECENTLY SIGNED UP FOR COMPOST PICK UP WITH BLACKBEAR.

THEY WERE PAYING ROUGHLY \$160 ONCE A WEEK FOR TRASH PICK UP.

THEY NOTICED THAT THEY WERE COMPOSTING A LOT MORE THAN THEY WERE THROWING AWAY IN THEIR DUMPSTER.

THEY WERE ABLE TO DECREASE THEIR TRASH PICK-UP TO TWICE A MONTH



8

GETTING CERTIFIED

If you are interested in starting the certification process, please contact the Public Works Department to schedule a sit-down meeting to discuss the steps that your business needs to take to achieve the Level One Certification.

When you have met the set of requirements for a specific level, contact Public Works to schedule a review and certification walk-through. Upon completion of a specific level, the City will provide materials that can be used to display your certification (e.g., static clings for your entry/doors and paper certification)



TOPICS OF CONCERN FOR EATS

WASTE REDUCTION

When you transform something old into something new, it benefits the environment in a number of ways.

Some of these benefits are materials and natural resources aren't wasted, energy is saved during the manufacturing process and there's less waste going to landfills. Not to mention, it helps keep wildlife safe.

FOCUS AREA 5

FOOD WASTE DIVERSION

When surplus food ends up in a landfill, it emits millions of pounds of methane and CO2, and wastes resources like water, land, and labor. This has consequences for our planet, which has consequences for its people.

FOCUS AREA 5

FOOD POLICY

Keeping ingredient shopping local (less than 100 miles) is a great way to minimize the waste your restaurant's kitchen produces. Climate change and food security are deeply intertwined, which is why we need to address both.

FOCUS AREA 3

ENERGY REDUCTIONS

Restaurants are extremely energy intensive, using about five to seven times more energy per square foot than other commercial buildings, such as office buildings and retail stores. High-volume, quick-service restaurants may even use up to 10 times more energy per square foot than other commercial buildings.

FOCUS AREA 1

LAND USE

Introducing green spaces provides opportunities for promoting positive social and environmental outcomes and an efficient use of resources.

FOCUS AREA 2

1

LEVEL ONE: SPROUT

Your sustainability efforts are just taking off! You've sowed the seeds and now with some extra love and care you will watch your sustainability efforts grow!



PREREQUISITE: ASK FIRST

The "Ask First" policy is pretty straight-forward: before your staff gives out a glass of water, straws (including in mixed drinks), to-go packaging (e.g., coffee in a to-go cup instead of a mug), plastic cutlery, bags to carry food out, and even plastic sauce cups, ASK FIRST. Are they taking their food straight home? Have they brought their own containers? It will take some practice to train ourselves and our patrons to recognize these trash items as products of convenience.

PREREQUISITE: WATER USE AND FOGS POLICY

Ensure your business handles fats, oils and grease in a legal and environmentally sensitive manner and prevents harmful downstream impacts. Water flowing into storm drains is carried untreated directly to our waterways. Keeping pollution out of storm drains is crucial to maintaining our water resources.

+ 10 ADDITIONAL POINTS IN ANY CATEGORY OF YOUR CHOOSING

11

EXAMPLES OF ASK FIRST



12



13

FATS, OILS, AND GREASE FOR THE FOOD AND RESTAURANT INDUSTRIES

FOGs

DO'S

- "DRY-WIPE" POTS, PANS, AND DISHWARE PRIOR TO DISHWASHING
- SCRAPE FOOD WASTE INTO TRASH
- RECYCLE USED COOKING OIL
- INSTALL SCREEN ON ALL KITCHEN DRAINS
- WASH FLOOR MATS IN A UTILITY SINK

DON'TS

- POUR COOKING RESIDUE OR WASH GREASY POTS IN THE SINK BEFORE YOU DRY-WIPE
- DON'T PUT FOOD WASTE DOWN THE DRAIN
- DON'T POUR COOKING OIL DOWN THE DRAIN
- DON'T REMOVE SCREENS FROM DRAINS
- DON'T WASH FLOOR MATS OUTSIDE

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2

LEVEL TWO: BLOOM

You're starting to see your hard work pay off! Things are growing and others can really see the time and dedication you put into your sustainability.



CONTINUATION OF ALL PRACTICES IN LEVEL ONE

PREREQUISITE: PHASE OUT SINGLE USE PLASTIC

Explore sustainable alternatives to plastic straws, plates, utensils, bags, and condiment packets you use with your current suppliers/vendors (e.g., reusable, compostable, and biodegradable.) This can apply to dine in or take out materials. Select alternatives that work for your business model, operations, and economics.

STAFF WILL NEED TO SEE FIVE (5) SINGLE USE ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN SWITCHED TO A REUSABLE, RECYCLABLE OR COMPOSTABLE MATERIAL



20 ADDITIONAL POINTS IN ANY CATEGORY OF YOUR CHOOSING

15

EXAMPLES OF SINGLE USE ITEMS YOU CAN REPLACE

STRAWS



NAPKINS

PLASTIC CUPS & LIDS



PLASTIC CONTAINERS
USED DURING FOOD
PREP

FOILS PANS

PLASTIC BAGS



PLASTIC STIRRERS

PORTION CUPS/CONDIMENT
CUPS

PLASTIC UTENSILS



CONDIMENT PACKETS

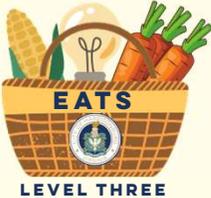
AND
MORE!

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3

LEVEL THREE: HARVEST

Now you can reap your rewards! You have worked hard and you can enjoy the fruits of your labor. Feel free to share your sustainability harvest with others so that they can learn how grow their own program!



↪

CONTINUATION OF ALL PRACTICES IN LEVEL ONE AND TWO

+

40 ADDITIONAL POINTS IN ANY CATEGORY OF YOUR CHOOSING

10 OF THE 40 POINTS NEED TO COME FROM THE ENERGY REDUCTION CATEGORY




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WHAT CAN YOU GET POINTS FOR?

CATEGORIES

- Waste Reduction 51 PTS
- Food Waste Diversion 42 PTS
 - Food Policy 59 PTS
- Energy Reductions 114 PTS
- Additional FOGS 63 PTS
 - Land Use 10 PTS

TOTAL REQUIRED POINTS FOR THE HARVEST LEVEL (LEVEL 3) IS **70 POINTS**

Waste Reduction Practices			
Recycling			
Practice	Notes	Point Value	Awarded Value
Plastic- BOH	Back of House recycling program	5	
Glass- BOH		5	
Aluminum and Tin- BOH		5	
Paper- BOH		5	
Cardboard- BOH		5	
Plastic - FOH	Front of House recycling for customer facing operations	10	
Glass- FOH		10	
Aluminum and Tin- FOH		10	
Paper- FOH		10	
Cardboard- FOH		10	
Batteries		2	
Hazardous Wastes	Paints and Chemicals	1	
Grease		2	

Maximum Possible Points 410

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HOW IS THIS DIFFERENT THAN OTHER GREEN RESTAURANT PROGRAMS?

Virginia Green Application Processing Fees

Attraction Type	Commitment Level	Fully-Certified
Restaurants, B&Bs, Wineries, Breweries, & "Smaller" Attractions	\$50	\$75



By not requiring applicants to pay to apply, we are making the program accessible to more business owners.

Disposable Food Service Items

We do not use polystyrene ****REQUIRED****

If there are any items of this nature that you must keep using for some reason, please provide explanation.



During the COVID-19 Pandemic, a lot of businesses relied on Styrofoam. While the world is adjusting to a Post-Pandemic world, restaurants are still trying to figure out the best way to move forward. By allowing businesses to still use Styrofoam, we can keep the program low barrier while rewarding those who make the switch with more points.

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BUSINESSES THAT HAVE SAID THEY ARE INTERESTED

THE LITTLE GRILL

GREENBERRY'S COFFEE AND TEA CO

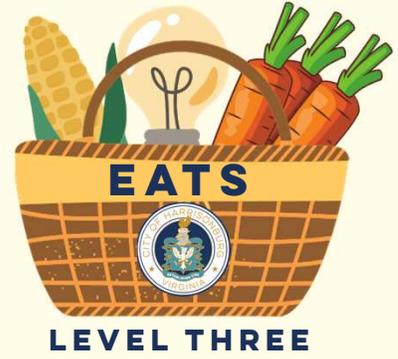
ROCKTOWN KITCHEN

LOLA'S DELICATESSEN

GRILLED CHEESE MANIA *

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E A T S



GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS INVENTORY REPORT QUESTIONS

Q&A: Dr. Sean McGinnis

Question #1: Personally, I am surprised that using a 20-year GWP doesn't increase our HEC footprint more, especially given that our electricity consumption is up a little. Given how big our electrical grid footprint is compared to municipal operations, I think it is worthwhile making an effort to make this as transparent as possible. Trying to find comparable numbers for Dominion's energy mix in 2016 and 2022, it looks like gas is the same at about 40% of electrical generation. Coal has dropped from 20% to 7.9%, from what I found. But renewables are still a very small contribution. So I am puzzled how Dominion's electricity emission factor (table 5) could have dropped from 0.067 to 0.052 in the methane line during that time.

Response #1:

Table 5 Emissions factors are the measured emissions of each chemical in pounds per kWh of electricity generation. These are provided by Dominion to the Edison Electric Institute Electric Company Carbon Emissions and Electricity Mix Reporting Database for Corporate Customers. I see slightly different emissions values in the Dominion direct data, EEI database, and EPA eGrid. In some cases, this depends on whether the utility is including renewable and other energy that it buys rather than generates. To include all emissions from electricity, generated or purchased, I've been using the Specific Emissions Factors rather than the Average Utility Factors which explains the small differences between the table below provided directly from Dominion and the emissions values in Table 5. Also, from 2016 to 2022, the way the data has been reported has shifted slightly so I am using the newest data as I think it is more accurate, despite that fact it is comparing apples to different apples due to reporting protocols. There is not easy answer to keeping a consistent baseline and protocol.

Regarding the drop in these methane values, I do not know what kinds of technology and abatement that Dominion may be implemented to achieve this. This is typically unburnt methane, not methane leakage upstream or downstream which Dominion typically does not measure or report so we have to estimate it from other research as described in the report. As you likely know, the 20-yr GWP is not factored into these emissions factors. Once the emission factor is multiplied by the City usage of electricity to estimate total pounds of methane emitted, the GWP is multiplied by these quantities to scale the emissions to carbon dioxide equivalents.

Dominion Energy Virginia

DEV
Customer Carbon Intensity Residual Mix

Year	lbs / MWh	MT / MWh
2020	711	0.323
2021	693	0.314
2022	661	0.300

DEV and DENC Generation Mix

Generation Fuel Type	Percentage		
	2020	2021	2022
Coal	9%	9%	8%
Oil	0%	0%	0%
Natural Gas	49%	41%	37%
Other Fossil	0%	0%	0%
Nuclear	32%	30%	28%
Hydro	1%	1%	0%
Biomass	1%	1%	1%
Wind	0%	0%	0%
Solar	1%	1%	1%
Geothermal	0%	0%	0%
Other (Purchased Power)	7%	18%	24%

Question #2: Please take a look at this new "calculator" published by Rocky Mountain Institute for comparing natural gas emissions with coal.

[EMISSIONS: GAS VERSUS COAL](#)

This indicates that the "break-even" point of gas with coal occurs at a fugitive emissions rate of about 3.5% using the 100-year Global Warming Potential (GWP) figure, but at a much lower point when we use the 20-year GWP. I was very surprised that the calculation set on the "user defined values" model showed that going from the 100-year GWP to the 20-year GWP reduced the parity point from over 3% to just 0.3%. And using the "WVa - Marcellus Gas vs WV Coal" model gives a parity point of 1.36%. But the important thing, I think is that both of these parity points are lower than the figures the natural gas industry acknowledges for fugitive emissions. If I understand this correctly, that means that Dominion's move from coal to gas generation in recent years may actually be a step backward from an emissions standpoint. Being able to get a sense of our overall electricity footprint would be useful going forward. It's a little hard to get the total picture, since our Emissions Inventory reports various components separately (municipal, schools, community), and the contribution from rooftop solar so far can't be directly calculated from 2-way meter day.

Does this affect our GHG Inventory calculations?

Response #2:

I believe that the RMI calculator and the break-even analysis are done well. Over the short term, the analysis does suggest that moving from coal to gas fuels will cause more climate impacts in the near term. But, the warming does continue after 20 years and the longer lived carbon dioxide will continue to warm more than the methane moving out to 100 years. I think it is still up for debate which effects will be worse. An argument for natural gas use is that we do have the technology to already to find and seal/capture many of the natural gas leaks, but not the utility or governmental/political will to make this happen.

The overall electricity footprint in total and broken down by source and sector are included in the report. I think we can glean many things from the data and analysis in this report, but if the results need to be presented in another way or broken down differently, this can be done.

While we can't measure the Community solar directly due to metering limitations, I believe that we probably could do this in more resolution from any Municipal bills that we have access to. I haven't looked at HEC bill data directly, but know from personal experience at my residence that I can get generated electricity, received electricity, and electricity sent back to the grid from my AEP/APCO bills. We can, however, reasonably estimate the total rooftop solar emissions reductions if we know the total installed capacity since we can model utility electricity avoided from relatively simple average solar intensity and production parameters using solar panel calculations. Note that even if we can't know avoided emissions exactly, there are accurately considered in the analysis since the avoided electricity is never purchased and therefore is not counted in the emissions calculations.