



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
**SOLAR DECATHLON**

2011

## Local Government Panel

Arlington County, Loudoun County,  
Montgomery County, District of  
Columbia



# AGENDA

- Introduction
- Local Government Briefings
- Panelist Discussion
- Q & A with the Audience



# Introduction

- Purpose
  - Educate homeowners on resources and programs available from area local governments
- Speakers
  - Moderator: Christine Barbour (Newport Partners)
  - Joan Kelsch (Arlington County, VA)
  - Najib Salehi (Loudoun County, VA)
  - Olayinka Kolawole (District Department of Environment, DC)
  - Eric Coffman (Montgomery County, MD)



# Arlington County, Virginia



# Community Energy Plan Arlington County

- Buildings use ~75% of Arlington's energy
- Goal: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions (i.e., energy use) by 80% by 2050.
- Look at energy generation, transmission, storage, and use
  - Building energy efficiency
  - Infrastructure issues
  - Transportation

**Conservation is the first fuel!**





## Arlington Initiative to Reduce Emissions (AIRE) Resident Resources

- Resources
  - *Green It* workshop and event series
  - AIRE Tips and Factsheets
  - Green Home Choice
  - Neighborhood Solar Co-ops
  - Outreach and staff support
  - ([www.arlingtonva.us/aire](http://www.arlingtonva.us/aire) )
- Partnership with **Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE)**
  - Solar raisers (solar hot water installation)
  - Weatherization
  - Green Home Building and Remodeling Resource Directory
  - [www.arlingtonenvironment.org](http://www.arlingtonenvironment.org)





[Arlington Initiative to Reduce Emissions \(AIRE\)](#)  
[Resident Resources](#)

## Homeowner Incentives and Recognition

- Federal Incentives ([www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov))
- State Incentives ([www.dmme.virginia.gov](http://www.dmme.virginia.gov))
- Dominion VA Power Smart Cooling Rewards ([www.dom.com](http://www.dom.com))
- Washington Gas Rebates ([www.washgas.com](http://www.washgas.com))
- Solar Raisers ([www.arlingtonenvironment.org](http://www.arlingtonenvironment.org))
- Arlington hybrid car tax ([www.arlingtonva.us](http://www.arlingtonva.us))
- Green Home Choice Awards ([www.arlingtonva.us](http://www.arlingtonva.us))



# Loudoun County, Virginia



## Loudoun County Energy Program



- **Vision**

“Loudoun County will always have reliable and affordable energy, be energy efficient and have reduced greenhouse emissions”.

- **County Energy Strategy**

Energy Strategy was selected to serve as a national model of community-wide energy planning by the National Association of Counties. It is a 30 year road map

- **Energy Strategy Goals**

1. Be recognized as a location of choice for investment in part because of its innovative energy strategy
2. Have consistently lower energy costs relative to surrounding areas
3. Be recognized as regional-state-national model of effective energy & climate management
4. Have the lowest greenhouse emissions in the country
5. Major investments will visibly contribute to meet the County Energy Strategy goals



## INTEGRATED ENERGY MANAGEMENT PLAN

### Moorefield Station



It is a 400-acre mixed-use development clustered around the proposed “Dulles Silver Line”

Two critical components of the development are its density and its focus on transit

It includes 550,000 square feet of office space and 1,500 units of residential space in Phase One. When fully built-out, the development will include approximately 6,000 homes and 9.75 million square feet of commercial and retail development.

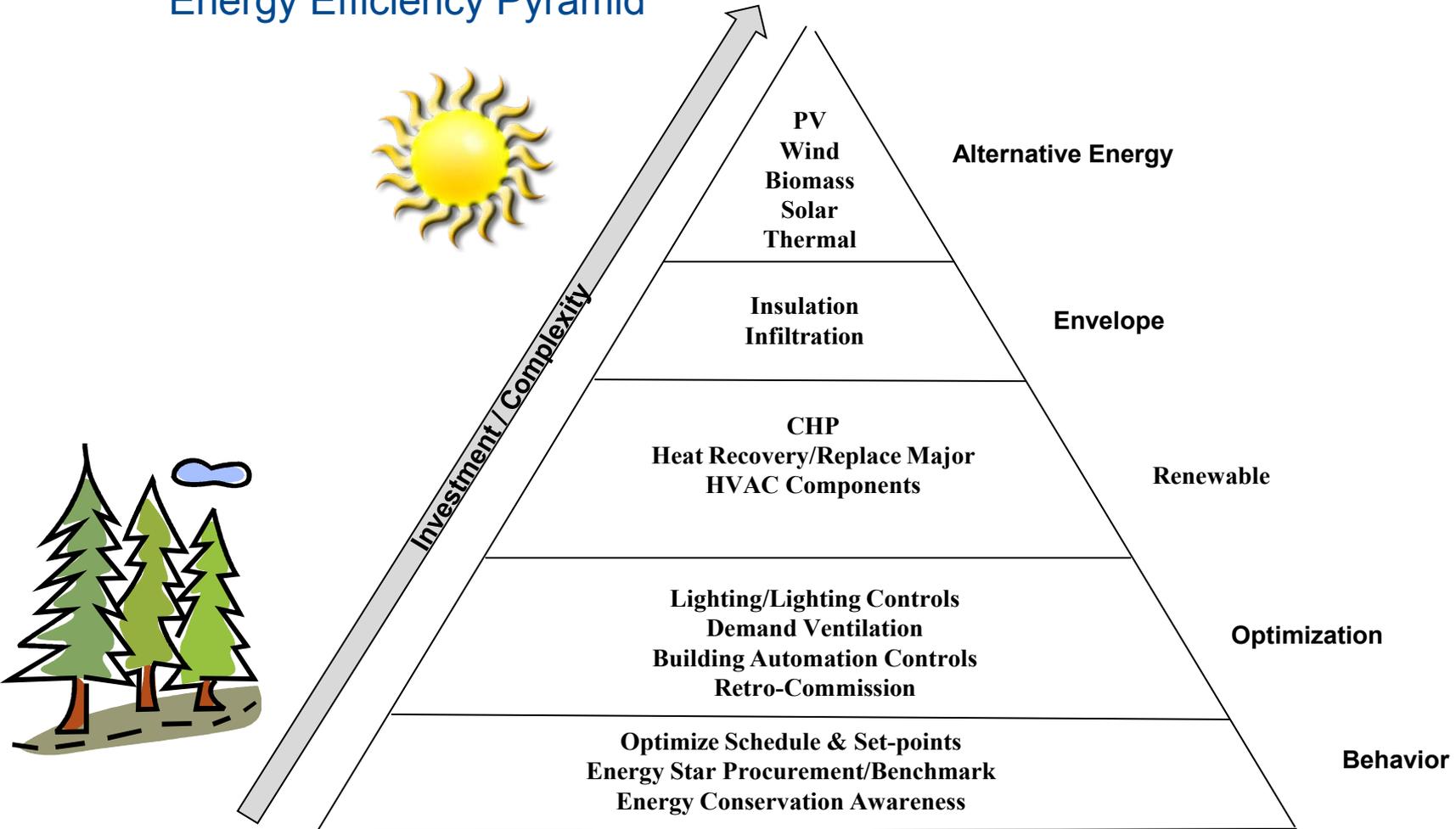
Funded by about \$400,000 from both the Claude Moore Foundation and the DOE grant, and with the support from Digital Realty Trust, a fully integrated energy master plan (IEMP) will be prepared by 2011

### Final Thoughts

The least expensive way to save energy is to use good habits. The most energy efficient CFL lights are those that are turned off when not needed.



## Energy Efficiency Pyramid





# District of Columbia



## Renewable Energy Incentive Program (REIP) for the District of Columbia



### REIP Background

- Established by the CAEA 2008, a 4-yr program (FY09 – FY12) to provide cash incentives to owners of renewable energy generation systems in the District
- Currently provides incentives/rebates for solar photovoltaic (PV) systems in tiers\*:
  - \$1.50 for each of the first 3,000 watts, \$1.00 for each of the next 7,000 watts, \$.50 for each of the next 10,000 watts
  - \*Capped at a maximum of 20kW or \$16,500
- Funded through the SETF
- Over the 2 years of operation (FY09-FY11), provided over \$4.1 million to support:

355 projects supported by REIP

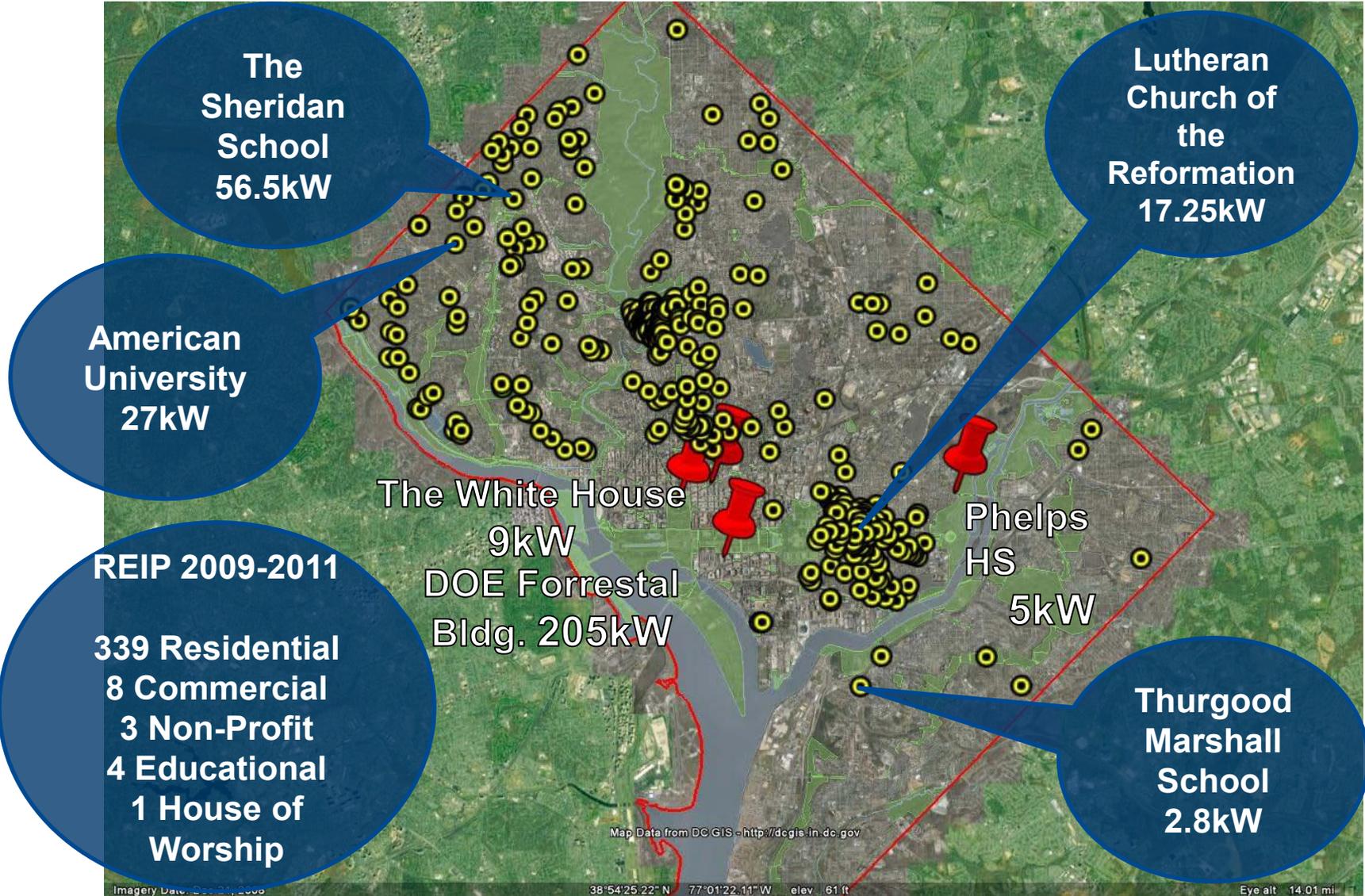
1.6 MW of Solar PV Capacity

Offset 1400+ tons of CO2





# Photovoltaic Distribution, 355 Systems = 1.6MW





## PV Around Town...



Small commercial



Residential – historic with pitched roofs



Residential – Row houses with flat roofs



Residential BIPV – solar “slates”, thermal



## 2011 and Beyond

- Updated incentive tiers FY2012
- Sustainable Energy Utility (SEU)
- Distributed Generation Act of 2011
- Community Solar (“Solar Gardens”)
- Solar Access
- Permitting



## Questions?

### The Renewable Energy Incentive Program

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# Montgomery County, Maryland



## Montgomery County Energy and Climate Programs

### Local Energy Programs

- Montgomery County's Department of Environmental Protection is tasked with protecting the environment and enhance quality of life in the County. In this capacity we often serve as both an implementer as well as the "glue" that brings diverse agencies together.
- We advocate for policies to enhance the County's sustainability, build programs to help consumers overcome information and financial barriers, and pool resources to undertake collective projects across County agencies.
- Our Energy Programs team is small and lean, focused on encouraging long term behavior change through energy conscious and sustainable behaviors.
- Much of our program drive comes from our local needs as well as the mission of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. (ARRA) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant. **JOBS JOBS JOBS**



## Montgomery County Solar and Renewable Energy Efforts

### Resources Available to YOU

- Montgomery County Public Schools has installed over 1.4 Megawatts of solar across 8 schools.
- Montgomery County's Department of Environmental Protection recently unveiled a 250 kW system on our solid waste transfer station.
- Housing Opportunities Commission launched an bid to solarize over 10 affordable housing units.
- The Non-Profit Energy Alliance (NPEA) has helped 45 non profit organizations procure clean energy while reducing costs an average of 10 to 15%.
- The County and its clean energy buying group remain the 5<sup>th</sup> largest local government purchaser of clean energy.





## Incentives and Resources for Homeowners

### Montgomery County, Residential Energy Efficiency Rebate Program

- Incentives for homeowners to install energy efficiency, geothermal, and solar water heating.
- Homeowners get an energy audit, using utility programs and get a proposal from contractors
- Apply for up to \$3,000 in funding for improvements (typically 20% to 25% of cost)
- Combine incentives with utility and state incentives
- All applications are submitted electronically via [www.mcenergyfunding.com](http://www.mcenergyfunding.com) which is the County's rebate website.
- County tracks participant before and after energy consumption and collects survey data
- Residents enjoy more comfortable homes, energy savings, and greater long term home value.
- Goal is to fund over 1,000 retrofits using approximately \$1.1 million in funding.
- 10 to 30% savings per homeowner anticipated.



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