



COG Staff Updates for CEEPC

May 23, 2016

REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS VALUE CHAIN COORDINATION INITIATIVE

COG is participating in a new pilot program with the U.S. Department of Agriculture called Food LINC (Leveraging Investment for Network Coordination). The program's purpose is to increase connections between local farmers and consumers. This initiative will support COG's Region Forward goals for farmland protection, for increasing the amount of locally-sourced food grown and consumed, and for reducing greenhouse gas emissions (from food transportation miles) in the COG region. Lead staff are Brian LeCouteur and Lindsay Smith.

COG SUSTAINABILITY

COG is conducting an assessment of its own energy use, water use, and waste production - among other metrics - as part of an organization-wide sustainability study. A report will be completed in the coming months. The report will follow the Global Reporting Initiative protocol.

LAB-TO-MARKET TECHNOLOGY FORUM: ENERGY & WATER INFRASTRUCTURE JUNE 2 AT COG.

Hosted by COG and the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer, Mid-Atlantic Region (MA-FLC), this forum will focus on commercializing innovative technology from Federal laboratories that can improve our regional energy and water infrastructure. The forum will feature discussions on:

- Future of regional energy & water infrastructures
- Federal laboratories as sources of innovation and collaboration
- Protection through cyber & physical security
- Integration of engineering & innovation with policy and regulatory issues

Speakers include Virginia's Secretary of Technology, and representatives from the National Institute of Standards and Technology, University of Virginia and the Virginia Governor's Cyber Commission, DC Water, and cyber security firm CEO.

CLIMATE AND ENERGY LEADERSHIP AWARDS

The 2016 annual Climate & Energy Leadership Awards is open for applications until June 22.

[Nominate](#) someone today!

Four applicants from the NCR will be recognized with a Climate and Energy Leadership Award for leading practices in greenhouse gas reduction, built environment and infrastructure, renewable energy, transportation, land use, sustainability and/or resilience programs. Entrepreneurs of resource conservation, cutting edge technology, and environmental justice initiatives are encouraged to apply. The award categories include:

- LOCAL COMMUNITY (municipalities and counties of all sizes)
- EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION (K-12, public, private, higher education, etc.)
- NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
- PRIVATE BUSINESS

Each applicant must be located in the [National Capital Region](#). All local governments, member jurisdictions as well as non-members towns in the region are eligible to apply for the community award.

COG RECYCLING & SOLID WASTE PROGRAM

In late April, the COG Solid Waste Managers Group hosted a two-day emergency debris training and one-day table top exercise conducted by FEMA Region III. The committee will be reviewing an after action report and other debris documents at its June 24 meeting.

The COG Recycling Committee is working on a new Go Recycle regional promotional campaign. The effort will use paid advertising on social media in June and follow with a much broader campaign on recycling awareness this fall.

COOPERATIVE PROCUREMENT

COG is a partner for the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Summit taking place this week from May 23 – May 26, 2016 at Gallaudet University in Washington DC. The Summit *“brings together visionary purchasing and sustainability professionals, suppliers, and NGO experts from diverse sectors and regions in order to share, simplify, and spread the best sustainable purchasing practices across the whole economy.”* COG members were invited to attend for free the SPLC Connect: Buyer-Supplier Matchmaking Event on May 25 and were offered a discount for attending the full conference.

CLIMATE ACTION CHAMPIONS

COG and its member local governments are designated as White House Climate Action Champions. As part of the Champions Program, the U.S. Department of Energy invited COG member local governments at no charge to the local government sessions on May 9th, the first day of the Better Buildings Summit in Washington D.C. followed by a gathering of Climate Action Champions from across the country.

DC GREENING THE FLEET PROJECT

The purpose of the District of Columbia's Department of Energy and Environment's (DOEE) Greening the Fleet project is to develop an inventory of current vehicles and create a comprehensive suite of strategies to help guide large fleets in the District toward greater fuel efficiency and lower air emissions through the adoption of cleaner vehicles. COG was part of the winning team to calculate the GHG emissions and air quality impacts for a baseline (existing) inventory and proposed green alternative of vehicles for District-based public and private fleets. The Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition (GWRCCC) serves as the project team lead along with other project partners, the National Association of State Energy Offices and Sustainable Energy Strategies, Inc.