

# **ANNUAL COMMITTEE BRIEFING**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**Mayor and City Council Work Session**  
Monday, November 14, 2016



*Gaithersburg*

# Priority List Background

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The Environmental Affairs Committee (EAC) priority list is based on the previous year's list of priorities, along with new projects, programs and initiatives that have come up in the past 12 months.

# EAC Priority Categories

- The list of priorities are organized under four categories:
  - Community Outreach
  - Community Recognition
  - Community Programs
  - Community Action



# Category 1: Community Outreach

Each initiative in this group is intended to reach the community in a positive way and involve as many Gaithersburg residents, businesses, and employees as possible in environmental issues



# Community Outreach Initiatives

- **Clean Up Day:** Annual clean up of streams and neighborhoods in the City. Volunteers focused on the Longdraft branch/Rabbitt Rd. area this year.
- **Celebrate Gaithersburg in Olde Towne Day:** EAC members speak to fair attendees about environmental initiatives in the City and share ideas for conservation and preservation.
- **Green Team for Sustainable MD Certified:** The Green Team assisted with efforts for the City's first re-certification with Sustainable Maryland Certified.

# Community Education/Tour

The Committee toured the Pepco Watershed Sustainability Center in July 2016.



# Pepco WaterShed Sustainability Center



Ground Mounted  
Solar Panels



Solar Hot Water System

# Category 2: Community Recognition

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Initiatives in this group are intended to recognize individuals, organizations, schools, HOAs and businesses for their proactive environmental practices.



# Community Recognition Initiatives

## Environmental Awards Program

This popular and growing ceremony publicly recognizes individuals, groups and organizations for their positive environmental practices.



**Award Winners from  
Eco Action Team at St.  
Rose of Lima**

# Category 3: Community Programs

Programs in this group involve the community in environmental projects and programs for the overall betterment of the City.



# Community Program Initiatives

- **Recycling:** Improving the City's recycling in public settings such as outdoor events and at City facilities.
- **Rainscapes Rewards:** Continue to promote this program, especially with the expansion to include HOA common areas.
- **Energy:** Encourage residents to reduce energy consumption and encourage alternative energy usage (wind, solar, geothermal).

# Category 4: Community Action

While the EAC and Mayor and City Council are important to the protection and preservation of Gaithersburg's environment, it is the action of its citizens that will ensure its success.



# Community Action Initiatives



Community Shredding Event



Clean Up Day



Maryland  
Green Registry  
**MEMBER**



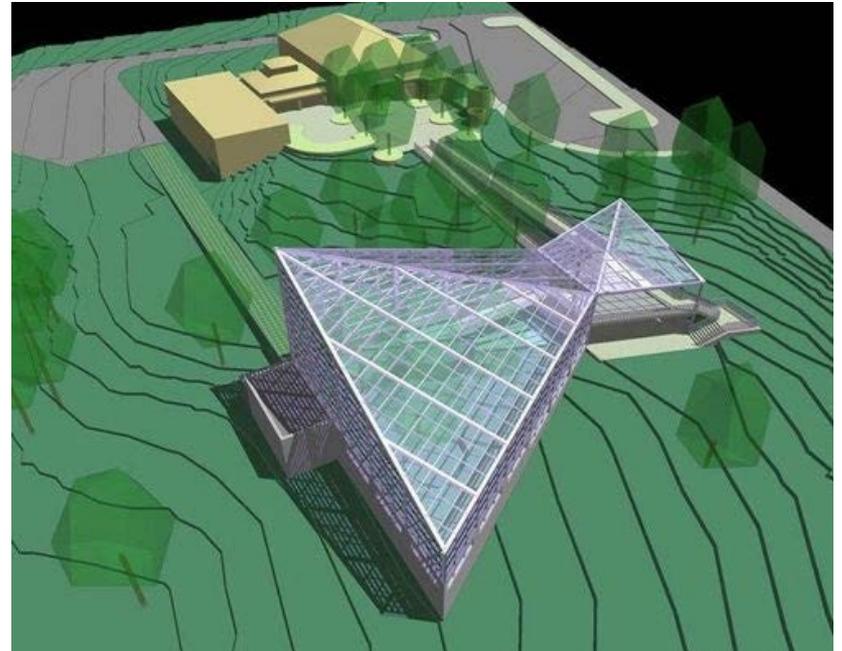
# Recommendations for Action by the City

- Assess impacts of pesticides on pollinators.
- Mayor's for Monarchs commitment; National Wildlife Federation.
- Explore Green Procurement voluntary program with department tracking and goals.



# Recommendations for Action by the City

- Explore voluntary green building stretch codes (beyond current requirements).
- Explore Energy Benchmarking.



# Current EAC members

- Robert Wu, Council Liaison
- Doug Wolf, Chair
- Ed Mitchell
- Maribeth Gravunder
- Luis Gonzalez
- Marissa Msefya
- Eileen Conley
- Joshua Schuman

