



ecoaction  
arlington





# VISION

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***Everyone in Arlington is collectively engaged in creating a sustainable community.***





**ADVOCATES**



**EDUCATES**



**ACTS**

# MISSION

*EcoAction Arlington advocates, educates, and acts to create a sustainable community by improving our natural environment, encouraging environmentally-friendly behaviors, ensuring environmental justice, and addressing the climate crisis.*



# ISSUE AREAS

## **ENERGY**

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### **PROGRAMS**

- **Energy Masters**
- **Solar and EV-Co-op**

### **ADVOCACY**

- **County Energy Plan**

## **WATER**

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### **PROGRAMS**

- **Storm Drain Marking**
- **Stream Cleanups**

### **ADVOCACY**

- **Stormwater Master Plan**



# ISSUE AREAS

## SUSTAINABILITY AND LIFESTYLE

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### PROGRAMS

- R4
- Green Dining
- Plastic Pollution Cleanups

### ADVOCACY

- Plastic Bag Tax

## NATURAL RESOURCES

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### PROGRAMS

- Invasive Species Removal
- Native Seed Collection
- Tree Canopy Fund

### ADVOCACY

- Forestry and Natural Resources



# Climate Change Impact to Arlington

## . Wetter

- Increase flooding due to more rain in the Potomac

## . Warmer

- Longer, hotter summers
- More humidity
- More mosquitos

## . Wilder

- Intensity of storms increase, leading to flooding, overwhelming storm drains, and prohibiting movement of people and goods
  - Example: June 2006 brought seven inches of rain, and another storm in July 2019 brought a month's-worth of rain in one hour



[Image from ArlNow.com July 10, 2019](https://www.arlnow.com/2019/07/10/flooding-arlington-va/)



# Arlington Initiative to Rethink Energy (AIRE)



- County's core agency for energy, climate, and energy resilience objectives
- Direct implementer and developer of programs, projects, and policies
- Administrator and implementer of governmental and community-facing programs and policies
- Manage the implementation of the Community Energy Plan.



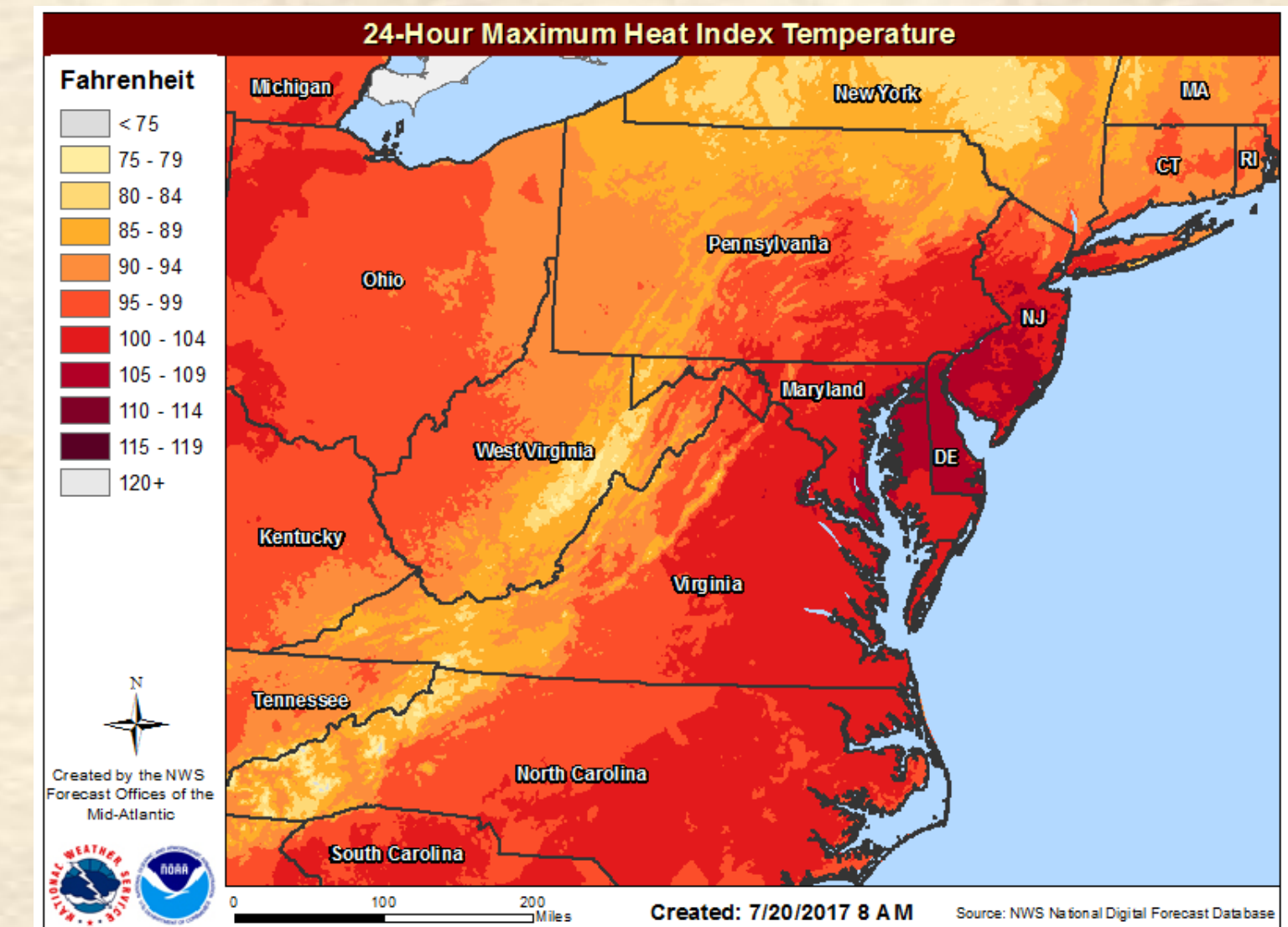
# Community Energy Plan





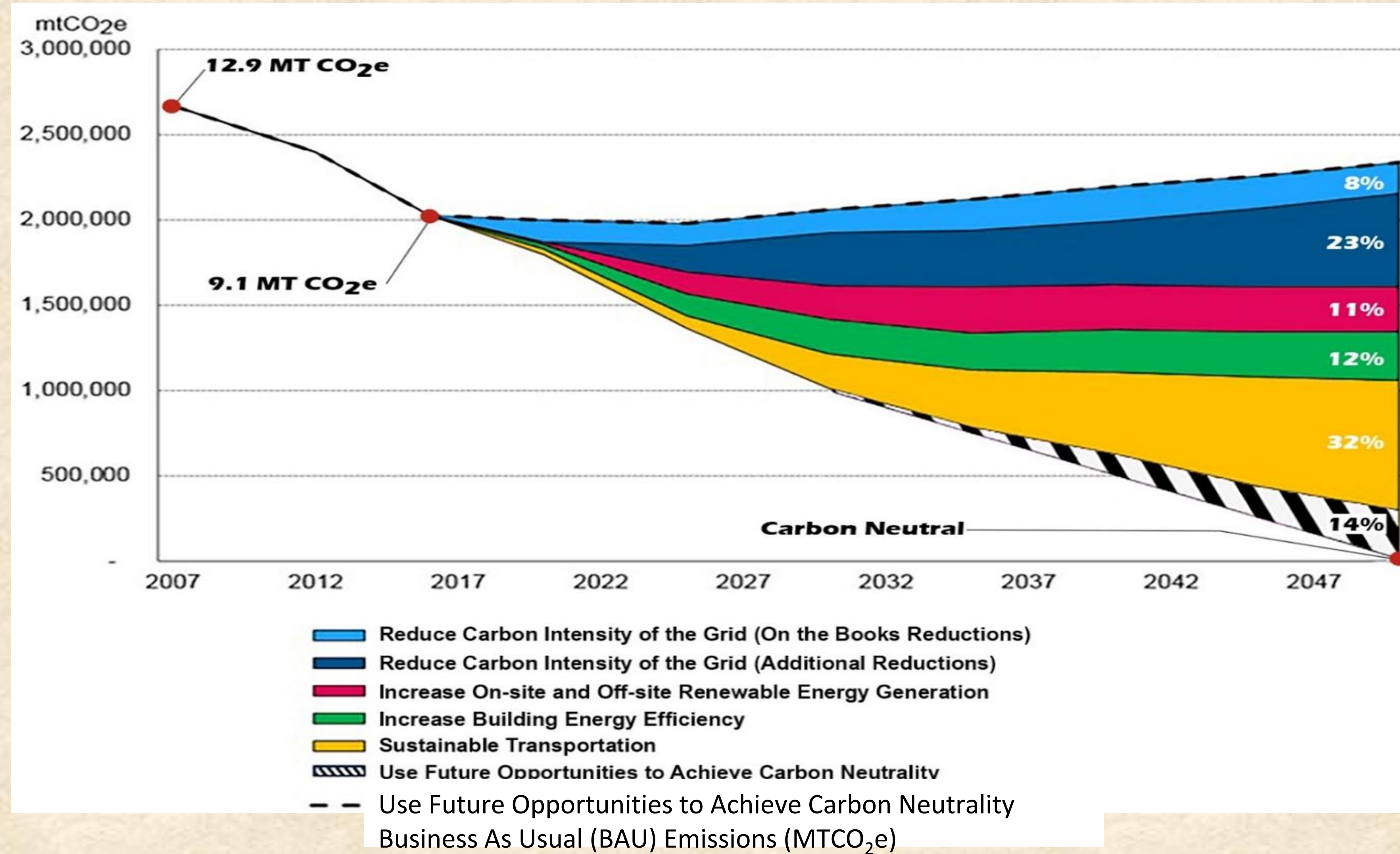
# What Is the CEP?

- Long-term vision for transforming how we generate, distribute, store, and use energy.
- Adopted as an element of the County's Comprehensive Plan in 2013.
- Organized by six Goal Areas and related Policies. Focus on:
  - Energy Security
  - Economic Competitiveness
  - Environmental Commitment
  - Energy Equity





# Pathway to Carbon Neutrality by 2050





# 2023 Updates



- As of January 2023, Arlington has achieved its goal of 100% renewable electricity use at all County facilities, two years ahead of schedule.
- In February, the County Manager appointed Bill Eger as the first climate policy officer. Bill Eger will lead the new Office of Climate Coordination and Policy.



# Stormwater Utility Credit Program

- County proposing new fee structure to fund stormwater management.
- Properties would be charged based on the Equivalent Residential Unit– the median amount of impervious square footage specific to Arlington County.
- This plan is included in the FY24 budget package and if passed, would become effective in January of 2024.
- Credits available for conservation landscaping, rain gardens, tree planting, rainwater collection and permeable pavements.





# What Can You Do ?



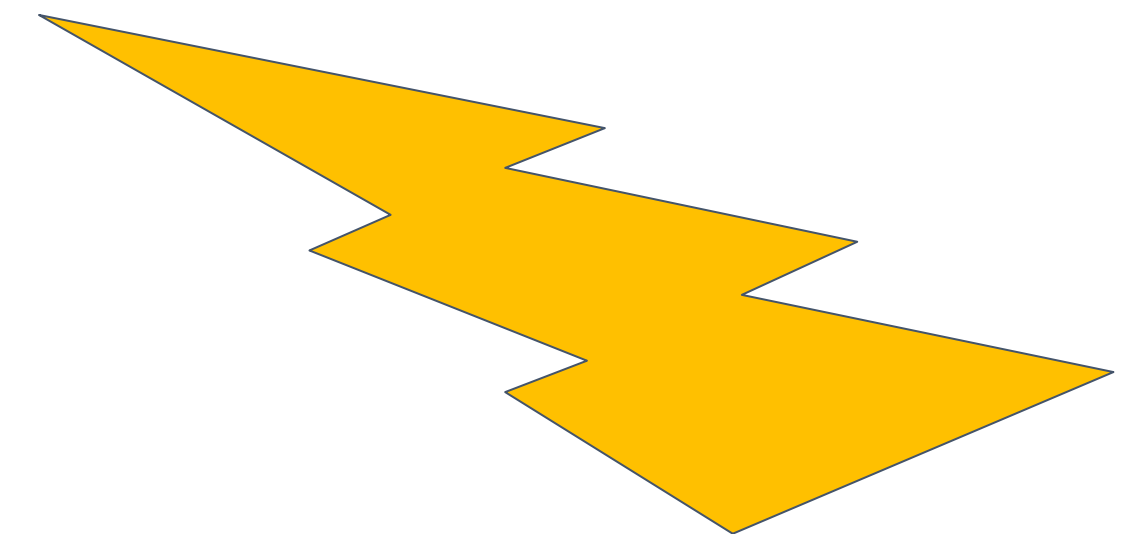


# Energy Audits: Assess Your Home's Energy Use

- . Improve comfort
- . Explore opportunities to save money and energy
- . Learn more about your home's inefficiencies and get a list of areas to improve—prioritize

Find a professional energy auditor:

- . Search for “Certified Residential Energy Auditors”
- . Visit Arlington County website
- . Dominion Energy (start with a virtual audit)







# ARLINGTON SOLAR AND EV CHARGING CO-OP

Going solar as part of a group saves members 30% on the cost of a solar photovoltaic system and EV chargers.

Our partnership with Solar United Neighbors of Virginia and AIRE make transitioning to solar cheaper and easier.



# Use Technologies via the Library



Arlington Initiative to  
**Rethink  
Energy**

**About AIRE**

**Thermal Cameras**

**Energy Meters**

**Books**

**LED Bulb Sampler**

**New  
Energy  
Lending  
Library**



# RAIN BARREL PROGRAM

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- Rain barrels reduce flooding and stormwater runoff and provide savings on your water bill.
- As part of a regional initiative, the Northern Virginia Soil and Conservation District and its partners offer build-your-own rain barrel workshops and distribute low-cost rain barrels in events throughout the year.
- Register online: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation/rain-barrel](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation/rain-barrel)







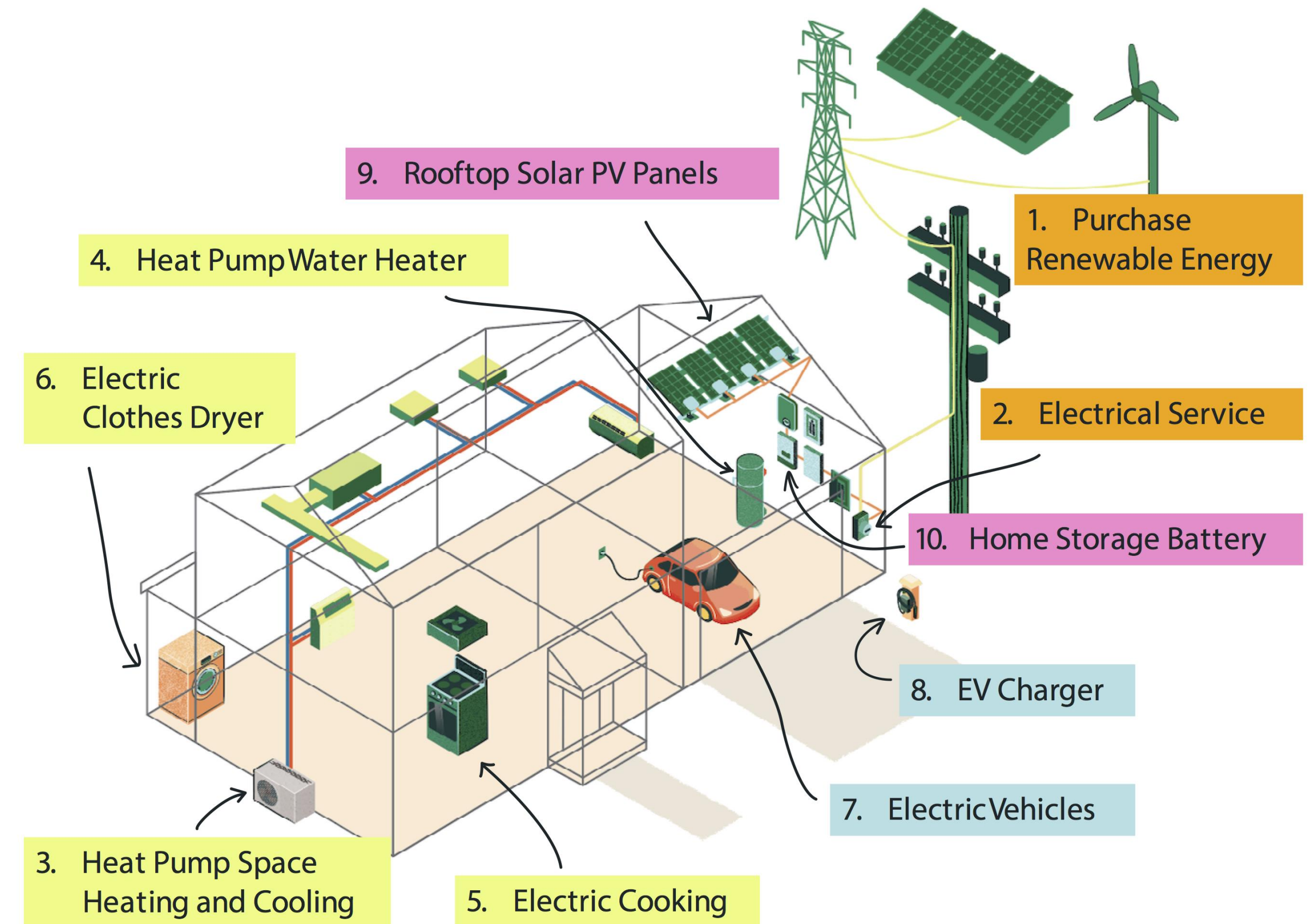
Green Home Choice is a free voluntary program that provides coaching to residents, builders, and architects on making new homes, home renovations, and even kitchens and baths more:

- Comfortable
- Energy, water, and waste efficient
- Better Indoor air quality
- Durable, including flood resilient



# ELECTRIFICATION

- Goals of the many organizations working on this issue:
  - Electrify all vehicles.
  - Electrify all fossil fuel uses in our buildings—from space heating to cooking
- Building electrification describes **the shift to using electricity rather than burning fossil fuels.**
- The ultimate goal is all-electric buildings and vehicles powered by solar, wind and other sources of zero-carbon.



**Image Courtesy of Rewiring America**  
[www.rewiringamerica.org](http://www.rewiringamerica.org)



# Programs to help plant trees on private property

- Tree Canopy Fund Program

- Homeowners and multi-family buildings can apply to have landscape-sized canopy trees planted on their property
- [ecoactionarlington.org/trees](http://ecoactionarlington.org/trees)

- Tree Distribution Program

- Pick up and plant your own
- [environment.arlingtonva.us/trees/plant-trees](http://environment.arlingtonva.us/trees/plant-trees)

- Both funded through developer contributions to the Tree Canopy Fund







# TREE CANOPY FUND PROGRAM

The Tree Canopy Fund Program is designed to increase tree cover throughout Arlington County.

Tree planting occurs during two cycles annually with deadlines in June and January.

The application deadline for trees scheduled to be planted in the fall of 2023 will be mid-June.



# TREE CANOPY EQUITY PROGRAM

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## GOALS

- Plant 2,500 Trees
- 5 Years
- 10 Neighborhoods

## First Year Success in Target Neighborhoods

- 113 Trees Planted
- 100 Shrubs Planted





# Tree Canopy Fund Schedule

*two cycles - fall and spring*

*[ecoactionarlington.org/trees](http://ecoactionarlington.org/trees)*

- **Fall planting cycle**

- Early April – application goes live
- 6/19 – deadline
- Trees planted: November to January

- **Spring planting cycle**

- Early October – application goes live
- 1/5 – deadline
- Trees planting: March to April





# Tree Canopy Fund Maintenance Program

Pilot program taking place now

- Provides maintenance for mature trees on private property in good health that are going to survive for many years to come.
- Provides the following:
  - Pruning
  - Mulching
  - Decompaction of the soil
  - Applications for insects





# Take a Climate Action Pledge

- ✓ Plant a native tree
- ✓ Install solar
- ✓ Electrify your home/vehicle
- ✓ Reduce stormwater runoff
- ✓ Educate others







# ENERGY MASTERS PROGRAM

Help reduce energy bills and improve comfort for residents in affordable housing.

Modeled after the Master Gardeners program. Trained volunteers provide 30 hours of service annually.

Training for the 2023-2024 program will take place in the fall of 2023.



# VOLUNTEER STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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- April 23 | 9 a.m.–12 p.m.  
**Earth Day Cleanup**  
Jennie Dean Park
- May 3 | 7–8 p.m.  
**New Volunteer Orientation**  
Via Zoom







# SAVE THE DATE

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MAY 18, 2023



MUSEUM OF  
CONTEMPORARY  
ART ARLINGTON



2023 Earth  
Month  
Challenge  
April 1-30



**Scan the QR code to donate to  
the Challenge Match**





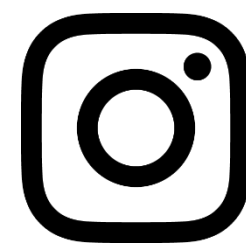
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