

## Carbon Footprint

With a commitment to doing our part for cleaner air and a healthier community, the City of Arlington has joined the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, the US Conference of Mayor's Adoption of the 2030 Challenge and the US Mayor's Federal Climate Protection Framework. In short, the City has pledged to reduce fossil-fuel, burning green house gas emission from municipal operations. The City of Arlington, in partnership with UTA and CDM consultants engaged in the creation of a carbon footprint for both the community and municipal operations, and as a partner, UTA is creating an additional campus footprint as well. This emissions inventory will provide both a baseline of 2005 emissions levels as well as a forecast for 2010 and serve as a starting point for setting reduction goals and creating an action plan. The City of Arlington also hold two seats on the Presidents Sustainability Council created by UTA President Spaniolo. To calculate your personal carbon footprint visit:  
<http://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx>

## Energy Star Challenge – Change a Light Change the World



The City of Arlington is asking every resident to help save energy, money and reduce green house gas emissions by making a pledge to change at least one light to an energy efficient model bearing the Energy Star label. The Mayor and City Council have proclaimed October 8th as Energy Start Change a Light Day and challenged 500 residents to sign up in 2008 at [www.energystar.gov/changealight](http://www.energystar.gov/changealight). The City of Arlington will also give one free energy star approved bulb to participants at City events who sign the pledge when available.

## Green Cement

In January of 2008 the Arlington City Council passed a resolution allowing preference on bid evaluations for product from facilities that produce cement with emission rates that meet 1.7 pounds of nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) per ton of clinker or less on city construction bids. Technology now allows cement kilns to produce cement through a process which burns half as much fuel and produces half as much carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). Continued advances in filtering technology also allow kilns to retrofit equipment to continue their current production process and still achieve emissions reductions and the City of Arlington's, along with other local governments in the North Texas region, preference in purchasing cement produce with low emissions technology will help encourage the industry to do so.

## Water Conservation Efforts

The City of Arlington is promoting water conservation in numerous ways. The City's website has a special page, Dive into Water Conservation, dedicated to tips on how individuals can conserve water, which saves energy and effects GHG emission levels, and protect ground water. You can visit the site at [www.ci.arlington.tx/waterdice](http://www.ci.arlington.tx/waterdice). The City also initiated year round water conservation for lawns and landscapes with, Watering Nixed from 10-6. The City is putting low flow amenities in new City facilities and retrofitting existing building when feasible. Tierra Verde Golf Club and MLK Sports Center utilize rain water in ponds for turf irrigation. When the ponds are running low, they utilize gray water from the Kubala Water Plant. The City also provides information on SmartScaping and where residents can learn more about it, in addition to having a SmartScape garden in Veterans Park and a Smart Yard contest each summer for residents and business who use low water vegetation to beautify their property, conserving water and money, protect groundwater and stormwater. A high efficiency toilet give away program will begin in the spring of 2008.

## Tierra Verde Golf Course

In 1997, Arlington Golf embarked upon the construction of Tierra Verde Golf Club and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Sports Center at The Reserve utilizing the principles of sustainable resource management on the course, sports complex and the buildings. The golf course opened in November 1998 and became the first golf course in the state of Texas and the first municipal golf course in the world to be designated as an Audubon Signature Sanctuary by Audubon International in October 2000. Martin Luther King, Jr. Sports Center opened in April 1999 and became the first sports facility in the world to achieve the Audubon Signature Sanctuary designation in October 2000 as well. The Reserve provides visitors in the metroplex area the opportunity to see an abundance of wildlife and undisturbed land in an otherwise highly developed area.

## Composting Classes

In response to the need to keep yard trimmings out of our landfill, the City of Arlington in partnership with the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality, is offering a Master Composter Training Program for citizens. This program, designed to train and recruit local volunteers who will promote backyard composting and yard waste reduction in their own neighborhoods, is open to anyone interested in learning how to compost in their own backyard. Class graduates will receive books and workshop materials, and a compost thermometer. Check out <http://www.ci.arlington.tx.us/environment/composting.html> for information and free classes.



## Environmental Initiatives



### The Plan for a Clean Green Arlington

Environmental awareness and the effect it has on public health is not a new concept to the City of Arlington. Arlington seeks to be a leader in protecting public health through environmentally beneficial operations, in protecting natural resources and planning for a sustainable community, in public education and in creating partnerships with other organizations and entities that have the same objective. In early 2008 the Arlington City Council was presented an environmental initiatives strategic plan with an organization-wide perspective. The plan includes 14 objects organized into four main goals for a Clean Green Arlington:

- Enhancing our Commitment to Community Health (Through Environmental Initiatives)
- Utilizing Ordinance and Best Practices (for a Clean Green Arlington)
- Leveraging Public and Private Partnerships
- Making the Community Part of the Solution

Numerous projects underway and to come are part of reaching our goals and accomplishing the objectives in the plan. These are a few currently in progress.



## Environmental Initiatives

### Clean Air IQ



The City of Arlington is taking proactive steps to ensure the quality of the air, and the environment. The Clean Air IQ program serves to educate the community to make the smart choices that will help improve our air quality today, tomorrow and in the future. The Clean Air IQ website provides air quality information, proven solutions and helpful resources to build your Clean Air IQ and help us all breathe a little easier. You can access audio and video clips, find air quality tips, and learn about air pollution watches. You can also request a personal air quality test kit or Clean Air IQ brochure from the website at [www.ci.arlington.tx.us/cleanair/index.html](http://www.ci.arlington.tx.us/cleanair/index.html). Banners and environmental messages from the Clean Air IQ program can also be seen at the Parks Mall and recently won in the Green PR Campaign category in the PR News Social Corporate Responsibility international awards.

### Stormwater Protection

Stormwater pollution prevention is a major initiative of the City. Numerous educational materials are available for businesses and residents on the City's website as well as activities like the annual litter challenge, lake and creek cleanups and seminars for constructors. These activities take place in addition to the regulatory requirement for the City to enforce the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Ordinance, regular water quality monitoring, construction and industrial inspection, and citizen call response.

### Landfill, Traffic and Fleet Vehicles

In 2002, the City installed an award-winning methane gas recycling system at its landfill. Like automobile exhaust, methane gas contributes unhealthy ozone to our environment. The Public Convenience & Recycling Center is also now open at the Landfill. Residents may drop off household recyclables free of charge including newspapers, magazines, flattened cardboard boxes, flattened chipboard boxes (cereal boxes), office paper, junk mail, phone books, glass jars & bottles, aluminum and

steel cans, plastic jugs and bottles. The landfill will also accept computers, tires (limit of four), concrete, asphalt, brush, fence panels and scrap metal to be recycled as well. The City has "retimed" most of the traffic lights and is adding more turn lanes within the City to improve traffic flow and reduce unwanted idling that leads to more bad ozone. To save on emissions, the City has incorporated approximately 38 hybrid vehicles into their fleet, which produce 90% less pollutants than the old gas burning vehicles.

### Energy Conservation

The City of Arlington is combining environmental stewardship, protection of public health and fiscal responsibility in many ways. One is through our energy reduction efforts. In January the City Council approved a contract to hire an Energy Service Company (ESCO) to run a pilot study in three city facilities. The study will include an audit of the buildings to determine where energy saving can be captured through retrofits and upgrade to the facilities and equipment. Recommendations will be made not only for changes but how to use the long-term money saving in energy cost to reimburse the City for the expenses associated with implementing the ESCO recommendations. If the pilot is a success, the program can be extended to additional City facilities in the future.

### Green Policy Council

To be a leader in protecting the environment and public health the City of Arlington knows we must set the example. To accomplish this an interdepartmental council representing the entire organization has been formed to look at internal policies and procedures to make recommendation on how City of Arlington employees can be better environmental stewards on the job. The Green Policy Council's (GPC) goals for the first half of 2008 are to create a uniform waste and recycling policy that will expand the organizations current recycling opportunities and bring recycling to city facilities where it is not currently available, to launch an aggressive employee education campaign on simple things that can be done at work to make the City of Arlington a more "green" operation, to consider and make a recommendation on the discontinuance by the City of purchase and sale of bottle water, and to create and environmentally friendly uniform pest management policy. Future areas for exploration might include employee rideshare or trip reduction incentives, a uniform hazardous waste policy and expanded water conservation and reuse.



### L.E.A.F.

Lets Enhance Arlington's Forest (LEAF) is an urban forestry initiative designed to bring quality free trees to neighborhoods, businesses and public open spaces in Arlington. The program is designed around the principle of reinvigorating neighborhoods, but also builds community through civic and environmental responsibility and improves air and water quality. For information on how to get your free trees contact 817-275-7041.



### Join the Green Team- Arlington Gets Commercial Recycling

City Staff are working with businesses across town, recyclers and recycling haulers to bring commercial recycling to Arlington. The City's commercial recycling program, The Green Team, is focusing efforts on helping Arlington businesses look for savings through waste reduction and recycling. The City will guide businesses through the process of conducting waste audits, setting up in-house recycling programs, and connecting recyclables to buyers. Members will be recognized for their efforts through the City's webpage which will contribute to the momentum of the program. The goal is to have the commercial recycling pilot program up and running by Earth Day 2008.

### Keep Arlington Beautiful (KAB)

The Arlington Environmental Services Department is currently in the process of formulating a proposal that would allow Arlington to have it's own Keep Texas Beautiful/ Keep America Beautiful affiliate. The program would be a quasi-governmental entity, standing alone as a separate 501(c)3 organization, being staffed by a City of Arlington employee, funded through grants such the proposal to the Arlington Tomorrow Foundation, private partnerships such as Republic Waste, and individual and corporate donations. The City hopes to have the details finalized and be able to officially announce the creation of KAB by Earth Day 2008.