DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

FY11 **ACCOMPLISHMENTS** REPORT

green forward

Krista Schlyer

Tell me, I forget.
Show me, I remember.
Involve me, I understand.
—Chinese proverb

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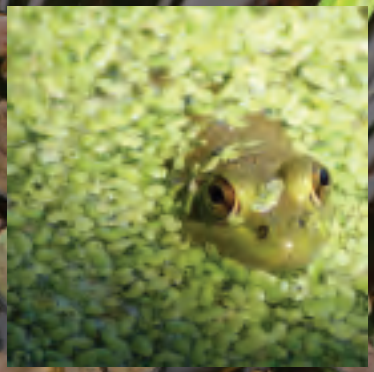

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Front cover photo by Krista Schlyer
Produced by DDOE's Office of Public Affairs
Produced with environmentally-friendly products

DDOE MISSION

The mission of the District Department of the Environment (DDOE) is to improve the quality of life for the residents and natural inhabitants of the nation's capital by protecting and restoring the environment, conserving our natural resources, mitigating pollution, and educating the public on ways to secure a sustainable future.

DDOE VISION

The District Department of the Environment (DDOE) envisions a nation's capital that sets the standard for environmentally responsible and sustainable practices. We envision a city whose rivers and waters are fishable and swimmable; whose buildings and infrastructure protect our health and environment; and whose residents, businesses, and visitors embrace and employ smart environmental practices in their daily lives and work together to deliver a clean, healthy, and vibrant city to future generations.

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DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Vincent C. Gray, *Mayor, District of Columbia*
Christophe A.G. Tulou, *Director, District Department of the Environment*

FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

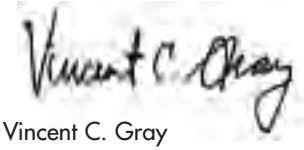
Government of the District of Columbia

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this report on the recent accomplishments of the District Department of the Environment (DDOE). Under the leadership of Director Christophe Tulou, and with the hard work of its employees, DDOE has taken its place as an exemplary government agency after its creation just six years ago.

A quick glance at this report reveals that impressive gains have been made in increasing the quality of the District's natural and built environment. This fact is evidenced by the increased attention—national as well as global—on the District's progress.

Within the city, a renewed sense of environmental accountability is also spreading throughout all eight wards. This environmental stewardship, fueled by the enthusiasm of District residents and businesses, underscores my commitment to making the District the greenest, healthiest, most livable city in the United States. With the full support of my administration, we will make this vision a reality. A healthy environment builds a healthy economy while also helping to level the playing field for all of our citizens.

Take a close look the accomplishments in this report and get familiar with the wonderful work being done by Director Tulou and the DDOE team. You will agree that these accomplishments are valuable to us all and have created opportunities for all of us to become a part of the solution and ensure a healthy environment for District residents, businesses, and visitors.



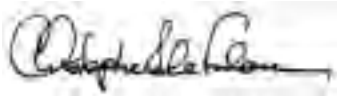
Vincent C. Gray
Mayor, District of Columbia

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Thank you for taking the time to become familiar with the District Department of the Environment's (DDOE) accomplishments during Fiscal Year 2011 (FY11). Like many other District government agencies, DDOE started the year with imposed budget restrictions and hiring freezes. Yet, in the face of these challenges, we ended FY11 with impressive results: Approximately one million square feet of green roof, an improved tree canopy, reconstructed roadways using stormwater retention practices, and restoration of local streams to protect and restore our urban ecosystem. The list goes on.

These accomplishments, of course, are attributed to our professional and dedicated staff, our collaborative alliances in both the public and private sector, and last, but certainly not least, the leadership of Mayor Vincent C. Gray. Our commitment to protect and restore the environment is intricately woven into Mayor Gray's vision of making the District the cleanest, greenest, and most livable city in the United States.

I invite you to peruse this report. Witness how far we've come. I believe you will be favorably impressed with our efforts. We have a lot of which to be proud and a lot more to accomplish. And as we move forward, guided by Mayor Gray's vision for a Sustainable DC, we will continue to work closely with our stakeholders to improve the environment and to ensure the health and wellbeing of the residents of this great city.



Christophe A.G. Tulou
Director, District Department of the Environment

Krista Schlyer

Into The **Green**

[an overview of a green forward year]

FY11 was an exceptional year for the environment in the District of Columbia. The city has led the way in areas such as green building (the District is #1 per capita in the amount of LEED certified and ENERGY STAR buildings), green power (the District uses more green power than any other jurisdiction in the US EPA Green Power Community), and transportation (the District has the largest bicycle share program in the country and is second in the country in the number of commuters who walk to work and take transit). These statistics are particularly impressive given the competition (New York, for example, has less than a handful more LEED certified buildings than the District despite being over ten times as large in population).

Many of our programs have become models for other jurisdictions. The District's bag law, for example, the first of its kind in the United States, aims at reducing pollution in the District's waterways while raising money to clean and protect them. With more than 770 million kilowatt-hours of green power being used by residents, businesses, institutions, and government entities, the District was ranked the largest Green Power Community by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), setting a strong example of leadership in the effort to transform the nation's energy sources to clean renewable energy.

As a result of DDOE's progressive approach to sustainability in the District, the city has been selected to pioneer programs such as Greening America's Capitals, which creates vibrant neighborhoods through e-designs developed by experts in the private sector. We have implemented innovative technological advancements to educate and empower District residents and businesses on ways to incorporate sustainable practices in their daily activities as well as to streamline programs and improve efficiency on data collection and reporting. We have undertaken many rulemakings—from updating the LEED and Green Communities Standards to proposing a stormwater discount program—and have aggressively pursued enforcement actions for violations to strengthen the District's environmental programs. Our successes have been far-reaching.

Several factors have fueled our success this year—strong partnerships, secured funding, a robust local environmental activism, and a readiness by Mayor Vincent C. Gray to make protecting the environment a key agenda issue. In his first year as the top official of the city, Mayor Gray has been eager to demonstrate ways in which the District can maintain a clean and healthy environment that supports a vibrant and growing economy as well as opportunities for its residents. The ceremonial groundbreaking of the Watts Branch Restoration Project in Ward 7 in February 2011, for example, demonstrated the Mayor Gray's commitment to restoring parks, rivers, and streams in the District, thus improving the quality of life and reviving neglected neighborhood resources for District residents.

The District made real progress towards restoring the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries—the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers, and Rock Creek—and toward meeting its two-year milestones for the US EPA-issued limits on nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment pollution. One of the ways the DDOE staff ensures such progress is through the RiverSmart Homes and Schools programs, where we manage impervious lands with innovative stormwater management practices. With a total of 16 new projects and 39 multi-year on-going projects, our Watershed Protection Division (WPD) has been installing low impact development (LID) retrofits that include green roofs, rain gardens, permeable pavers, Bayscaping, and shade tree plantings; implementing trash removal technology, and providing environmental education for both children and adults. As a result, 230 individual rain garden or pervious paver projects were installed on private properties, approximately 61,000 square feet of green roof installations were financed by the green roof rebate, and 240 students participated in outdoor learning experiences.

Improvements to the Anacostia River have also been evident with return of wildlife to the area. Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), a species of hawk, relies on clean water and a healthy fish supply. In FY11, there were seven active osprey nests on the Anacostia River. All the nests were on man-made structures, such as bridge supports, stadium lighting towers, channel markers, and, in one instance, the top of a construction crane in Anacostia Park. Although the construction crane nest delayed a segment of the Anacostia River Walk Trail, it was in the spirit of the Trail and another sign of the constant improvement of the river. Bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocophalus*) also have been seen flying and fishing along the Anacostia River in greater frequency. Once an established breeding bird in the District, strides are being made to return this species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) to our city. Bald eagles use the same habitat as osprey and require large amounts of fish and large trees close to the water for nest sites. To assist in providing nesting opportunities for osprey and bald eagles, two nesting platforms are being built and will be placed on Kingman Lake. These platforms will not only encourage these regal birds to make the District their home, but also will be viewable from the bridge between Kingman and Heritage Islands, providing an education experience for visitors and youth.

In spite of efforts to improve water quality, District waters are still not safe for all activities. Recognizing that many District residents use the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers and their tributaries for recreational boating and angling (some even eat fishes caught from these waters), Director Tulou appointed a working group of various stakeholders to analyze samples of fishes taken from the waterways and draft a Fish Consumption Advisory. In May 2011, in an effort to ensure public health, Director Tulou submitted the advisory to the Department of Health for consideration and issuance. The advisory, which was reproduced in five languages, listed fishes caught in DC waters that are not considered safe to eat.

In FY11, DDOE dedicated a significant amount of resources to educating the public on ways to protect themselves and local wildlife from environmental health threats. Our Fisheries and Wildlife Division hosted several backyard wildlife habitat workshops for more than 600 residents and encouraged them to adopt the principles of landscape conservation and discover native plant gardening designs that increase desirable wildlife habitat in the District.

Additionally, as part of the District's first wildlife management actions to prevent further wildlife species decline, our team identified more than 43 dragonfly and damselfly species and 40 moth and butterfly species, six of which are considered SGCN as defined in the city's Wildlife Action Plan. DDOE staff further identified a small population of Eastern Box Turtle (*Terrapene Carolina*), also listed as a SGCN, at a northeast DC site scheduled for development activities and relocated them to a similar habitat site. The relocated turtles were fitted with radio- transmitters and are being tracked regularly for protection and to determine their movement patterns.

Also in FY11, DDOE's Lead and Healthy Housing Division renewed its partnership with the District Child and Family Services Agency to provide guidance on lead risk assessments in prospective foster care homes prior to child placement. The Division also initiated a similar partnership with the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), which oversees licensing of the District's daycare centers to ensure that they are lead-safe prior to becoming an OSSE-licensed daycare. The Lead team also published the District's first-ever Strategic Plan for Lead-Safe and Healthy Homes, a five-year roadmap for improving the sustainability of the city's housing stock and ensuring indoor environmental hazards are remediated.

Indeed, great things are in store for our local environment. The staff at DDOE will continue to use their expertise and resources to protect and restore the environment, conserve the city's natural resources, mitigate pollution, protect the public from toxic poisoning, and encourage environmental stewardship among District residents and businesses. Our agency's ultimate goal is simple: improve the quality of life for District residents and wildlife. Our success, however, is contingent upon the participation of everyone—young and old—to work together on behalf of the environment. We hope the subsequent pages aptly illustrate how District residents from various perspectives and sectors are working to improve our city.

Green On Spec

[innovations, technology]

Every innovation is conceived out of necessity. Whether it's a shelter from the elements or a light bulb that illuminates the shadow of our own planet, we've always dreamt up new ways to exist and adapt to our ever-changing surroundings. And so, as the health of our earth continues to decline, now more than ever we must be one step ahead to preserve our precious resources and reverse this trend. Today's technologies must move beyond individuals' needs. At DDOE, we understand the importance of green technologies and work to incorporate them into our daily work for the good of our constituents... for the good of our environment.

GREENUP DC

DDOE offers a great deal of information to District residents and land owners on ways to reduce their environmental impact through energy conservation, clean energy use, and stormwater reduction measures. The Watershed Protection Division developed GreenUp DC, an interactive web tool that teaches property owners how to reduce their energy footprint and stormwater releases. The tool tracks energy reduction and stormwater activities, and creates reports that allow DDOE to fulfill its legal obligations to the US EPA. GreenUp DC allows DDOE to be transparent and responsive with up-to-the-minute statistical reporting on the energy performance and stormwater reductions.

GREEN DASHBOARD

The District continues to make progress in becoming a more sustainable place to live, work, and play. To help residents understand this progress, the Office of Policy and Sustainability developed an online, interactive Green Dashboard containing approximately 60 indicators in six categories (air quality & climate, energy & buildings, nature, transportation, waste & recycling, and water). Once launched in 2012, users will be able to manipulate the data by time period and metric to suit their interests and will be able to also download raw data and images files of graphs for later use. Additionally, the Dashboard will provide contextual information for each indicator. Information on what the data mean, why they are important, how the District compares to other jurisdictions, and ways users can get involved will be available. Information will be presented in an easy- to-read style with images and links to make the information engaging and digestible.

STAR BETA COMMUNITIES

In FY11, the District was selected to participate in the STAR Beta Community Index, a pioneering, strategic planning and performance management system that offers local governments a road map for improving community sustainability. STAR helps communities address their interconnected sustainability concerns – economic, environmental and social. When completed in 2012, STAR will measure a jurisdiction's sustainability across approximately 60 measures in eight categories. Through these measures, cities will be able to assess their progress towards sustainability and compare themselves to other cities. As a Beta community, the District will play a leadership role in helping to develop, test, and review the measures for appropriateness feasibility. The first twenty measures were released in June 2011.

THE DISTRICT'S NCORE AMBIENT AIR MONITORING STATION

In January 2011, the District launched a national core (NCore) ambient air monitoring station at the McMillan Reservoir site, with funds provided by EPA. The NCore station network is a multi-pollutant network that integrates several advanced measurement systems for particles, pollutant gases, and meteorology. EPA coordinated with state, local, and Tribal partners to establish a seventy-five station nationwide network. The NCore monitors are capable of using wireless communications and allow web based data rendering. The NCore stations are expected to provide timely reporting of data to the public by supporting AIRNow, air quality forecasting, and scientific studies ranging across technological, health, and atmospheric process disciplines, and ecosystem assessments.

REGENERATIVE STORMWATER CONVEYANCES

Throughout FY11, DDOE showcased a new stream restoration technology in four small watersheds in the District. A Regenerative Stormwater Conveyance (RSC) is a specialized type of stream restoration focused on eroded and degraded headwater streams and stormwater outfalls. RSCs reconnect tributaries with their historical floodplains and create dependable, open channel conveyances that reduce erosive forces and improve the ecology of the waterbody. The first two RSCs were installed in Rock Creek Park in northwest DC and the second two in Pope Branch Park in southeast DC. DDOE also began to study how effective RSCs are at removing stormwater pollution. Through a $700,000 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant, DDOE will install a 1,000 linear foot RSC and monitor its effectiveness in removing nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment from stormwater. RSCs are an important tool in the District's restoration toolbox because they are simple to implement and cost-effective.

THE HEALTHY HOMES AND LEAD POISONING SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

In FY11, DDOE's Lead and Healthy Housing Division became the nation's first lead poisoning prevention program to use the "Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Surveillance System," a new and improved federal database created by the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The Lead and Healthy Housing Division staff can now record the presence of a variety of environmental health threats or other characteristics of child-occupied housing to help prevent exposure of children to these threats.

Green Power

[energy]

Energy—the living force of our universe—is defined as the ability to make things happen. At DDOE, we work to make things happen every day. We pursue means to reduce energy use and to increase the use of renewable sources.

DC SUSTAINABLE ENERGY UTILITY (DCSEU)

In March 2008, the Council of the District of Columbia enacted the Clean and Affordable Energy Act (CAEA), which called for the creation of DC Sustainable Energy Utility (DCSEU). The DCSEU is charged with helping District households and businesses save energy and money through energy efficiency and renewable energy programs and increasing the number of green-collar jobs in the District. With a budget of $7.4 million and within a six-month time-frame in FY11, DCSEU successfully implemented:

The **Low-Income Multifamily Quick-Start Program**, which provided 4,710 residences with energy-efficient upgrades, including more than 43,000 CFL bulbs, 10,000 low flow water devices, and 240 Energy Star refrigerators.

The **Single-Family Residential Quick-Start Program**, which provided 169 homes with lighting upgrades, including 432 CFLs, 77 low-flow showerheads, 157 low-flow faucet aerators, 612 linear feet of hot water pipe insulation, 27 hot water tank and pipe insulation, and 249 air sealing and insulation measures.

The **Small Commercial Direct Install Quick-Start Program**, which upgraded lighting systems, including more than 16000 CFLs and 1300 LEDs, installed water-saving devices including 42 pre-rinse spray valves in food preparation kitchens, and installed other efficiency measures including 300 electric hot water tank and pipes and 157 ENERGY STAR air conditioners in 754 facilities.

The DCSEU also created the **Commercial and Institutional Lost Opportunities Program** designed to capture energy efficiency opportunities with large commercial customers making energy choices to replace old equipment, renovate a building, or begin new construction. With the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), they co-piloted demonstration programs, including lighting retrofits, the installation of new energy-efficient light fixtures, and the utilization of a lighting management program to reduce energy consumption at the UDC campus. They also planned and implemented a **Renewable Energy Quick-Start Program**, installing 15 rooftop photovoltaic systems and three commercial solar hot water systems.

In FY11, DCSEU completed 5,600 energy efficiency projects and spent 75% of its funds with DC Certified Business Enterprise contractors. These contractors, in turn, employed nearly 360 District residents as temporary staff, permanent staff, and construction workers. Sixteen local contractors were hired in energy efficient work, thus creating a lasting effect for local contractors to gain access to new markets and customers. Additionally, 48% of DCSEU's budget was dedicated to low-income residents, which exceeded the contractual requirement of 30%.

OTHER ENERGY PROGRAMS

The **Weatherization Plus Program** offers energy audits and installs audit-identified measures such as energy efficient lighting upgrades, insulation, window/door replacement, heap pump repair/replacement, hot water heater replacement/wraps, faucet aerators, showerheads, and programmable thermostats in low-income dwellings. In FY11, the program completed 290 energy audits and installations, exceeding its goal of 147 installations.

The **Weatherization and Rehabilitation Program** offers energy audits and installs electricity energy-saving measures in rehabilitated low-income housing units. The program targets non-profits and community-based organizations that provide improvements to multi-family low-income housing units. In FY11, the program installed 217 energy efficiency measures, exceeding its annual goal of 75 units.

The **Heating System Repair, Replacement, and Tune-Up Program** performs energy audits and natural gas-fired heating system tune-ups, repairs, and replacement in low-income dwelling units. It also replaces inefficient gas hot water heaters and installs programmable thermostats. In FY11, the program repaired, replaced or tuned- up 179 heating systems in 156 homes of low-income District residents in 2011.

The **Residential Weatherization and Efficiency Program** encourages District residents to use natural gas in a more efficient and cost effective manner by offering incentives for installing energy efficient measures such as door and window replacement, weatherstripping, and duct insulation. In FY11, with a total budget of $225,594, the program awarded 244 weatherization rebates to District residents.

The **Saving Energy in D.C. Schools** (SEDS) program educates students in grades 6 through 12 on energy efficient measures, mechanisms, and methods, and works with schools in each of the eight wards in the District. In FY11, SEDS conducted 40 trainings on energy efficiency and the environment, reaching 400 students and 40 teachers.

The **Renewable Energy Incentive Program** (REIP) works to increase the use and awareness of renewable energy generation technologies. In FY11, REIP funded 145 projects, paying out $1,932,349.00 in rebates, to install solar photovoltaic electric systems across the city.

REIP's Environmental and Economic Impacts

	Achievement
Capacity of Projects Rebated (kW)	660.8
Rebate Amounts Awarded	$1,932,349.00
Carbon dioxide (pounds)	1,880,671.65
Nitrogen oxides (pounds)	2,627.56
Sulfur dioxide (pounds)	7283.82
Capacity of Rebates Requested (kW)	911.7
Residential Installations	132
Non-profit, business and institutional Installations	13
Kilowatt hours/year capacity awarded (kWh)	$1,121,450
Energy Value ($/year @ 13¢ a kWh)	$145,788.50
Projected Lifetime Energy ($/yr @ $.13 a kWh for 25years)	$3,644,712.50

GRANT-FUNDED ENERGY PROGRAMS

- The **District of Columbia's Residential Energy Assistance Challenge** (DC REACH) assisted 2,283 District low-income residents, offering home visits and quick intake for energy assistance in FY11.
- The **Home Energy Rating System** (HERS) completed 1,193 home energy audits in FY11. Three DC-based contractors performed the audits.
- The **District of Columbia Energy Star Appliance Rebate Program** awarded 1,269 rebates for new ENERGY STAR(r) appliance to District residents in FY11.
- The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program** (LIHEAP) offered energy assistance 29,616 low-income households in FY11 ensuring that low-income District residents could keep vital utilities connected.

ENERGY EVENT — JUDD

In September 2011, DDOE held a Joint Utility Discount Day (JUDD) that attracted more than 3,350 District residents seeking assistance to pay their gas, electric, telephone, and water bills. JUDD, considered the largest event of its kind in the United States, provides low-income residents an opportunity to apply for energy assistance and utility discounts at one main event. More than 250 volunteers from the utility companies were on-hand to accept applications.

Green Together

[teamwork, friends, and funds]

Individuality defines who we are. We are unique. One in billions. Yet, the billions of us have one thing in common: our planet earth. When it comes to the environment, our fates are the same. We share the sun. We breathe the same air. Whether we believe the "butterfly effect"—a theoretical example of a hurricane's formation being contingent on whether a distant butterfly flaps its wings—as hard fact science or just poetic metaphor, we, as a collective force, have much more influence on climate change, for example, than we could ever imagine. At DDOE, partnerships and funding allow us to work together to improve our environment, our community, and yes... our health and wellbeing.

PRACTICING WHAT WE PREACH—DDOE'S ALL HANDS

In June 2011, Director Tulou and the DDOE staff partnered with Groundwork Anacostia River, DC and spent a workday at the Parkside /Kenilworth Park Neighborhood in northeast DC planting more than 50 trees, removing invasive weeds, and picking up more than 1,309 pounds of trash from the area.

MAYOR VINCENT C. GRAY GREEN ZONE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (GZEP)

The District's Green Zone Employment Program (GZEP) engaged more than 400 youth for its summer 2011 work program. More than 769 community beautification projects were completed. These projects consisted of neighborhood street sweeps, community park clean-ups, graffiti removal from buildings and other government facilities, and maintenance support to almost 300 senior citizens' homes and yards. More than 115 community garden and tree maintenance projects were completed. To help connect youth to potential job and green careers, more than 40 GZEP job development and environmental trainings were offered at various worksites.

PROTECTING OUR WATERSHED

In FY11, the DDOE Watershed Protection Division (WPD) initiated a 1.7-mile long stream restoration project in Watts Branch to reduce the amount of sediment washing into the Anacostia River through stream bank grading, stabilization techniques including in-stream rock structures, and expansion of the riparian corridor. This project, the first such initiative undertaken by DDOE, will significantly improve water quality and habitat conditions in the stream. In the same watershed, WPD completed the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funded Jay Street NE bioretention project that has resolved a flooding issue on Jay St. that no other agency was able to remediate. The project treats approximately 1.5 acres of impervious surface with six bioretention cells. In Hickey Run, DDOE installed a large water quality best management practice (BMP) technology after more than seven years of design and coordination with the landowner, USDA National Arboretum. Placed at a stormwater outfall under New York Avenue, the BMP removes oil and grease as well as large amounts of trash from the stream before it flows through the Arboretum and into the Anacostia River.

RIVERSMART PROJECTS

The DDOE WPD's RiverSmart team had an outstanding FY11. The RiverSmart Schools team worked with five District public schools to identify, plan, and construct low impact development (LID) retrofits and outdoor learning gardens, and funded numerous teacher trainings on effective use of schoolyard gardens in the school's curriculum.

Through a grant for $800,000 from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, DDOE's RiverSmart Washington team and its partners began studying how much stormwater can be captured when two urban sewersheds—with impervious covers from 40% to 90%—are "re-greened." The project will quantify reductions in stormwater runoff when these sewersheds—totaling 28 acres—are widely retrofitted

Courtesy of the American Society of Landscape Architects

with LID retrofits. Baseline monitoring and an analysis of the sewersheds were completed. Additionally, DDOE staff performed outreach to the affected communities including stormwater audits of 66 properties in the study area (43% of all properties). Of those properties, 60 (39% of all properties) are participating in the project and will receive stormwater-reducing landscaping on their yards.

The DDOE's RiverSmart Homes encourages stormwater retrofits on private property and offers homeowners up to $1,200 to adopt environmentally-friendly landscape enhancements. In FY11, DDOE conducted 1,040 stormwater audits. Through its grantees—the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, Casey Trees, and DC Greenworks—DDOE installed 575 rain barrels, permeable pavers on 14 driveways and patios, and 180 rain gardens; and planted 151 native plant gardens and 681 trees. Collectively the practices installed in FY11 through RiverSmart Homes are treating 21 acres of land in the District.

GREENING DC'S STREETS

DDOE partnered with the District's Urban Forestry Administration (UFA) to fund, administer, and conduct three projects: Impervious Surface Reduction, which removed concrete or other impervious surfaces to create tree boxes; the Green Median Renovation, which demonstrated opportunities to further reduce the amount of impervious surface in the District's medians; and the Tree Canopy Renovation, which improved the condition and coverage of the tree canopy so that additional rainfall is intercepted and does not enter the stormwater system. As a result of these projects, over 84,000 square feet of impervious surface has been removed; more than 2,400 trees were planted and approximately 1,800 ailing trees were removed. These projects were funded by ARRA via the EPA's Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF).

GREENING DC'S LIBRARY & SCHOOL ROOFS

In FY11, DDOE supported the District Public Library's (DCPL) construction of the Watha T. Daniel/Shaw, Dorothy I. Height/Benning, and Tenley-Friendship neighborhood libraries by funding the installation of a vegetative green roof on each one. The funding was provided by ARRA via CWSRF. The green roofs will effectively prevent rainwater from becoming stormwater and also significantly contribute to the success of the LEED ratings for these libraries. These library green roofs together contribute 20,000 square feet of green roof to the District's total of over 1 million square feet and will retain over 300,000 gallons of rainwater annually. DDOE installed green roofs on three District high schools: Woodson, Wilson, and Anacostia. These school green roofs together contribute 72,700 additional square feet of green roofing and will retain over 1.1 million gallons of rainwater annually. DDOE also funded the installation of a rainwater harvesting system at both Anacostia and Woodson High Schools. Each project included a system for directing rooftop runoff into cisterns. Water from these cisterns will be drawn upon to flush toilets.

GREEN TANKS FOR DC'S FIRE ENGINES

With a $500,000 ARRA grant, DDOE funded and offered project management assistance to DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department's (FEMS) efforts to "go green." The rooftop rainwater harvest project took an integrated site design approach directing roof runoff to cisterns, utilizing this captured rainwater to fill water tanks on fire trucks and to wash trucks. Two fire engine houses were selected for the retrofit. This project reduced FEMS' needs for water, while diminishing each site's impact on aquatic resources and the Anacostia River.

REDUCING DIESEL EMISSIONS

Air pollution created in the District comes largely from motor vehicles and can cause and aggravate respiratory problems such as asthma, particularly in vulnerable populations. In FY11, DDOE's Air Quality Division (AQD) used federal AARA funds from EPA's State Clean Diesel grant to fund the purchase of10 alternatively fueled heavy-duty vehicles: two compressed natural gas (CNG) street sweepers, two CNG trash compactor trucks, and six E85 snow-plow trucks. AQD also launched a publicity campaign (www.turnyourengineoff.org) to encourage truck drivers to turn off idling engines. An estimated 203 drivers were directly reached with this campaign. Approximately 800 no-idling signs were designed and fabricated. Enforcers of the District's anti-idling regulation posted about 450 signs to areas identified as having the most idling vehicles. The National Park Service received 50 signs to post on federal properties, and the District's Office of State Superintendent of Education received 200 signs to post around schools and their loading docks.

RADON

Radon, a naturally occurring radioactive gas, has been found to cause lung cancer and thousands of deaths each year nationwide. In January 2011, Mayor Vincent C. Gray signed a proclamation declaring January as "District of Columbia Radon Action Month." During the month, DDOE staff ratcheted up its outreach efforts, including setting up an informational booth at a local Home Depot Store, and provided free Radon test kits to approximately 7,400 District residents.

TWO DC GOVERNMENT AGENCIES JOIN FORCES WITH DDOE TO FIGHT LEAD POISONING

In October 2011, the directors of Department of Health (DOH), and the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) joined Director Tulou in co-signing a letter to all District-based pediatricians, health clinics, and managed care organizations reminding them of their responsibility, under the law, to screen children under the age of six for lead or face fines and other penalties. The action also underscored Director Tulou's commitment to increase the lead screening rate of the District's children. Consequently, the D.C. chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics sent the letter to all 380 of its members, and the Department of Health Care Finance sent it to the managed care organizations that serve the Medicaid-enrolled families living in the District.

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST)

The UST Branch of DDOE's Toxic Subtance Division improved the combined significant operational compliance release detection and release prevention rates of UST facilities to ~75%, passing the national target of 66% for FY11.This means more DC underground storage tanks have completed the relevant tests, have adequate insurance, and have monitoring systems in place to detect and prevent releases of petroleum to the environment. Additionally, the UST Branch implemented and completed an EPA ARRA Leaking Underground Storage Tank Grant (LUST), using $607,000 for the site assessment and cleanup of eligible LUST contaminated sites.

REDUCING TRASH IN DC'S WATERS

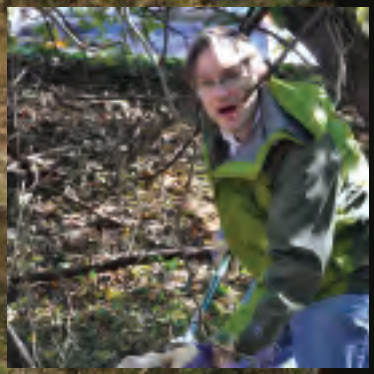
According to the District's water quality assessments, the Anacostia River is considered impaired in terms of trash. In August 2010, EPA promulgated a total maximum daily load (TMDL) for trash in the Anacostia River that allocated responsibility for reducing trash among the District, Montgomery County, and Prince Georges County, MD. In FY11, the District responded aggressively to reduce trash from entering the Anacostia River and its tributaries.

DDOE funded the Alice Ferguson Foundation (AFF) to research local perceptions on litter and public policies proven to reduce trash. In February 2011, AFF released its report, "Public Perceptions and Willingness to Address Litter in the District of Columbia," which found that as many as four in 10 residents actively litter and that litter results in increased operational costs for businesses and government. The research also found that the D.C. bag fee has been effective in changing behavior – 75% of District residents report a reduction in their bag usage.

Additionally, DDOE funded the installation structures to prevent trash from entering the Anacostia. A large trash and sediment capture structure on Hickey Run at the National Arboretum can collect 15,000 pounds of trash per year. Further, DDOE operates a Bandalong trash collection device on Watts Branch, the largest non-tidal tributary to the Anacostia in the District. This Bandalong marked the first time this technology has been installed in the western hemisphere. In FY11, the Watts Branch Bandalong collected approximately 5,000 lbs of trash. DDOE also funded the Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) to maintain a custom-designed trash trap in Nash Run, a tributary to the upper Anacostia.

Amount of Trash Collected at Nash Run Trash Trap

	Total	2009 Total (Feb-Dec)	2010 Total (Jan-Dec)	2011 Total (Jan-Oct)
Trash Weight-C (lbs)	4,985.4	1,083.3	1,626.1	2,275.9



Volume Analysis of Trash at the Nash Run Trash Trap for 2011

	Feb. 2011	Mar. 2011	Apr. 2011	May. 2011
Bottles & Cans (%)	40	42	42	42
Styrofoam (%)	25	24	27	32
Others (%)	34	34	31	26

MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NPDES PERMIT FOR DC'S MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4)

The Stormwater Management Division funded numerous efforts to improve water quality in FY11. Funds for these projects were provided through the MS4 Stormwater Enterprise Fund.

- $250,420 to the Department of Public Work to implement its improved mechanical street sweeping program
- $395,000 to DC Water to clean and maintain 171 catch basins located within the MS4 area
- $265,100 to the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development to demonstrate the practicability of retaining the run-off volume from a 1.2-inch, 24-hour storm event at a new development project
- $1,190,000, to the Office of Public Education Facilities Modernization to demonstrate a stormwater harvest system utilized for toilet flushing in the District's public schools

NEW FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS

DDOE developed new floodplain management regulations in compliance with the flood provisions of the building code to protect lives and properties in the District. The regulations ensured that residents and businesses that have flood insurance are eligible for federal assistance in the event of a presidential declaration of a disaster due to a flood. More than 2,000 public and private properties in Downtown DC, Monumental Core areas, and Southwest communities are now subject to federal mandated flood insurance purchases and regulations governing development in high-risk flood zones. Additionally, DDOE collaborated and coordinated with multiple federal and District Government agencies and the Office of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton on the design and construction of the Potomac Park Levee closure system. The construction of the project started in January 2011 and is anticipated to be completed in May 2012.

TAGGING ALONG IN THE DISTRICT

Using various methods to educate the public on protecting and restoring the environment, DDOE produced the city's first and only environmental-theme license plate in FY11. The license plate is available at the District Department of Motor Vehicles for $25.

Green & Order

[legislative, regulatory, and enforcement actions]

Strong regulations and enforcement are key to ensuring the environmental health of any community. Consider this: the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the waters of our rivers and streams are vastly improved thanks to federal legislation like the Clean Air Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Clean Water Act. Local laws in the District go further to protect health and the natural environment and improve the long-term sustainability of our community. At DDOE, we aggressively enforce environmental laws to protect the health of District residents and our natural environment. Monitoring and enforcement are at the heart of the work we perform on a daily basis.

Krista Schlyer

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ACTIONS

Federal Payments of Stormwater Fees

Many jurisdictions charge stormwater fees to pay for programs required by the Clean Water Act (CWA) to control stormwater runoff. In 2010, the federal Government Accountability Office (GAO) argued that the District's stormwater fee was an impermissible tax on the federal government, suggesting that federal agencies not pay their share of stormwater fees. The legislation on federal payments of stormwater fees, introduced by Senator Benjamin Cardin (D–MD) and signed into law by President Obama on January 4, 2011, amended the CWA, clarifying that federal agencies are as responsible as everyone else to pay stormwater fees.

The federal government occupies approximately 24% of District land (roughly 1,500 federal properties) and contributes approximately 20% of the annual revenue expected from stormwater fees. With the new law, the District continued to collect stormwater fees from federal facilities in FY11 and will be able to raise the funding required each year to meet EPA stormwater permit and the Clean Water Act stormwater management requirements. Equally important, the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers, Rock Creek, and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay will become cleaner. With complete funding, the District has been able to implement practices – green roofs, permeable pavement, tree plantings, and rain gardens to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff generated in the District and capture the nutrient, sediment, and chemical pollution that such runoff carries.

The Bag Law

The Anacostia River Clean Up and Protection Act of 2010 ("Bag Law"), the first of its kind in the United States, requires all District businesses selling food or alcohol to charge $.05 for each disposable paper or plastic carryout bag. The District's Bag Law is a response to a 2008 trash study that found that disposable plastic bags comprised 22% of the trash found in the Anacostia river and 47% of the trash found in the river's tributaries.

The Bag Law aims to change behavior among consumers by providing them with an incentive to "Skip the Bag and Save the River." In FY11, a survey of District businesses and residents revealed that 75% of District residents reported reducing their disposable bag usage since the fee was introduced. Many businesses also reported a 50% reduction in bag consumption. Environmental non-profits noted 50% fewer bags in the rivers and streams during clean-up work days.

In FY11, the $.05 bag law raised $1,845,313.25. Since the law's implementation, it has raised nearly $3.4 million. The law allows businesses to keep 1 cent (or 2 cents if it offers a rebate when customers bring their own bag), and the remaining 3 or 4 cents is deposited into a dedicated fund, the Anacostia River Clean Up and Protection Fund. DDOE allocates the funding raised by the law. In FY11, DDOE awarded nearly $1 million in grants to community-based organizations and approximately $300,000 to private firms to assist in the restoration of the District's waterways.

In FY11, DDOE began to enforce the Bag Law through inspections of businesses. An online tip line on DDOE's Skip the Bag, Save the River webpage (www.ddoe.dc.gov) allows the public to report businesses suspected of violating the law. In FY11, 23% of inspections were based on tips from the public. Three hundred and thirty four inspections were conducted of the approximately 4,765 local businesses required to charge the bag fee. DDOE issued 188 Notices of Violation (NOV) and 13 Notices of Infraction (NOI) for failure to charge the $.05 bag fee.

OTHER LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

DDOE also drafted and amended several environmental legislation and regulations necessary to preserve and protect the environmental health of the District. A summary of our FY11 legislative and regulatory actions are below.

Legislation

Green Building Editions Updates – This legislation was enacted updating the LEED and Green Communities standards.

Regulations

Lead Law – These regulations have been proposed to implement the Lead Hazard Prevention and Elimination Act.

Stormwater User Fee Discount Program – These regulations have been proposed for a stormwater fee discount program allowing property owners that have installed practices that retain stormwater to receive a discount on their stormwater fees.

Reduction of Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Emissions – These regulations have been proposed to further reduce the VOC emissions within the District. VOCs are precursors to ground-level ozone, a principal component of smog formed in the atmosphere in the presence of sunlight.

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Voluntary Cleanup Program – These regulations have been proposed for the Voluntary Cleanup Program, which manages, among other things, cleanup of petroleum underground storage tanks (USTs) and other hazardous substances.

Green Building Act of 2006 – These regulations have been proposed establishing ENERGYSTAR requirements for private buildings.

Amending the swimming ban to allow triathlons – These emergency regulations were enacted that created an exemption to the prohibition against swimming in the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers to allow two triathlon events.

JUDICIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

DDOE vs. Pepco

In January 2011, DDOE entered into a Consent Decree with Potomac Electric Power Co. (Pepco) and Pepco Energy Services Inc. (PES) under which Pepco and PES committed to launch an environmental investigation and cleanup study to determine if historical Benning Road facility operations have contributed to contamination of the Anacostia River sediments and if so, what—if any—additional response actions should be taken. The Consent Decree also ensured that Pepco reimbursed the District for response actions and oversight undertaken to address the potential release and/or threat of release of solid wastes at or from Pepco's facility, and Pepco must perform a remedial investigation and feasibility study for the facility and for the Anacostia River sediment near the facility.

DDOE vs. CSXT

In January 2011, DDOE entered into a Consent Decree with CSX Transportation, Inc., (CSXT) for CSXT to contribute $8 million to the cleanup of lands in the District, including the sites on the Anacostia River. The enforcement provided that CSXT would contribute $7.5 million to a fund that the DDOE will use to finance cleanup efforts at other private sector and government sites on the Anacostia River, pay a civil penalty of $500,000, reimburse the (DDOE) future oversight costs, conduct a site-wide investigation and natural resource damage assessment, and clean up pollutants on or emanating from its Benning Road rail yard. The Consent Decree resulted from claims against CSXT alleging that CSXT caused un-permitted discharges of petroleum products to its Benning Yard site and into the Fort Dupont stream which, in turn, discharges to the Anacostia River. Under the direction of DDOE, CSXT immediately investigated and remediated the site, including designing an improved stormwater management system.

District of Columbia vs. 3511 13th St Residences, LLC

DDOE's Lead and Healthy Housing Division has stopped environmental health threats in their tracks on many occasions by responding to District residents' alerts when they spot unsafe practices involving older properties undergoing renovation. A notable example occurred in August 2010 at Monroe Park in northwest DC when DDOE responded to a citizen complaint that nearby demolition activities were causing fugitive dust that risked contaminating the surrounding neighborhood. Division enforcement personnel shut the work down, and the division paid for remediation measures to

decontaminate the property adjacent to the work project. DDOE took legal action against the owners of the property that had initiated the work, resulting in a $100,000 settlement in June 2011. The agreement contained no admission of liability.

OTHER ENFORCEMENT-RELATED MATTERS

Watershed Protection Division (WPD)

In FY11, the WPD reviewed and approved approximately 1,700 erosion and sediment control and 240 stormwater management plans. The division conducted more than 8,600 inspections for erosion and sediment control, new stormwater management structure installation inspections, and stormwater management maintenance inspections. In addition, more than 190 enforcement actions were issued to construction sites to bring these sites into compliance with the District's erosion and sediment control and stormwater management regulations.

Coal Tar Ban Enforcement

In FY11, DDOE conducted 25 inspections for highly toxic coal tar sealants used on driveways and parking lots. Use of coal tar sealants was banned in the District in 2009, making DC one of the first cities in the nation to do so. Thirteen of the inspections resulted from tips from DDOE cross-trained field staff. Of the 25 inspections, seven sites tested positive for coal tar pavement products. These seven sites were issued Notices of Violation and four have successfully completed remediation. Approximately 58,000 square feet of coal tar sealant have been remediated from these properties.

Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Enforcement and Regulatory Oversight

Many LUST sites were cleaned and deemed safe to human health and the environment in FY11. The District closed 35 federally-regulated LUST cases, which leaves a backlog of less than 112 (13%) open cases. The national backlog is 18% of open sites waiting to be closed in the future. To date, 88% of all opened LUST cases (1493 out of 1693) in the District have been remediated.

Reducing Diesel Emissions

The District has an air quality regulation that limits engine idling to three minutes. In FY11, DDOE issued 50 notices of violation to drivers who exceeded the three-minute limit and 24 notices of infraction.

ADMINISTRATIVE ENFORCEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

The Office of Enforcement and Environmental Justice (OEEJ) team developed a comprehensive Civil Infractions Database to record enforcement activity and allow staff quick access to violators' information and history. This led to efficient recording, monitoring, and processing of civil infractions cases. The database also included forms that created, among other things, completed notices of infraction, daily notices of case activity, and certificates of service. In FY11, the database included information on approximately 1,000 cases dealing with the agency's civil infractions from 2006 to 2011. Additionally, OEEJ developed environmental records management systems to improve DDOE's enforcement capabilities. This included the creation of file management plans for all enforcement programs and the operation of DDOE's first Central Records Room, which contains more than 244,000 of DDOE's compliance monitoring and enforcement records.

OEEJ resumed collections for unpaid civil infractions fines and penalties. As a result, DDOE collected more than 16% ($28,000) of the fine revenues in FY11. To buttress the collections effort, OEEJ placed four liens on properties owned by respondents who were delinquent in paying their judgments. DDOE also exceeded its fine revenue target by 10% despite having written 20% fewer civil infractions tickets, and dramatically improved its revenue collection rate.

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Green Marks

[awards and recognitions]

Our efforts to protect and restore the environment have not gone unnoticed. With each step forward, DDOE and the District have received remarkable results and have recognized local entities for their excellence in sustainable practices.

foliage

THE 2011 MAYOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

Seven District businesses deserving recognition for their environmental stewardship, innovative best practices, pollution prevention, and resource conservation were awarded the Mayor's Environmental Excellence Award in April 2011. The award applications are a part of an on-line library of environmental best practices in the District. Visit www.ddoe.dc.gov.

LEAD STAR AWARD

In February 2011, the National Lead and Environmental Hazards Association awarded DDOE's Lead and Healthy Homes Division the prestigious Lead Star Award for its outstanding effort to reduce childhood lead poisoning and advance lead hazard control activities in the District of Columbia. The division's three managers were honored. Soon after, EPA Region III selected the District's Lead and Healthy Housing Division to receive the additional $111,100 for lead enforcement work in FY12. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention followed suit by awarding a three-year grant to the Division to implement the District's first-ever "Healthy Homes" grant program, which will result in both lead poisoning prevention and asthma prevention activities in high-risk District housing containing young children. In September 2011, the National Lead and Healthy Housing Grantee Association elected the Branch Chief of DDOE's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention & Healthy Housing Branch to its Board of Directors.

GREEN POWER AWARD

In March 2011, the US EPA recognized the District of Columbia as the leading EPA Green Power Community. District Government, businesses, institutions, and residents collectively purchase nearly 756 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of green power annually-enough green power to meet eight percent of the city's total electricity use. This honor led Mayor Gray to issue a District-wide Green Power Challenge to encourage residents, businesses and organizations to make the switch to green power and to increase green power purchases citywide by 33%. A 33% increase would mean that District electricity users are purchasing a full 10% from green power-more than one billion kWh annually. At the 2011 Renewable Energy Markets Conference in San Francisco, EPA awarded the District the 2011 Green Power Leadership Award that recognizes the country's leading green power users for their commitment to advancing the development of the nation's voluntary green power market. The District community's green power purchase of more than 772 million kWh is equivalent to avoiding the carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions of more than 104,000 passenger vehicles per year, or the CO2 emissions from the electricity use of more than 66,000 average American homes annually.

DC RANKED 8TH GREENEST CITY IN NORTH AMERICA; #1 IN ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

According to the US and Canada Green City Index study, conducted by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) and commissioned by Siemens Corporation, the District is among the top 10 greenest cities in North America. Assessed and compared to 27 major cities in the United States and Canada on environmental performance and policies, the District ranked #1 in environmental governance and #8 overall.

FOLIAGE AWARDED FOR OUTSTANDING E-PUBLICATION

In honoring the messengers and creators of traditional and emerging media, the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals (AMCP) awarded DDOE's external e-publication, *Foliage*, the 2011 Hermes Gold Award for outstanding e-publication. *Foliage* is a quarterly e-magazine that is disseminated to thousands of environmental organizations and advocates in the US and to more than 120 Ministries of Environment in countries around the world.

Green *Forward*

[what's next]

There is an old Native American proverb that goes... *"We did not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrowed it from our children."* As public servants, that perception inspires us to develop and implement programs that will protect and restore our planet earth for the future. At DDOE, the work continues....

Krista Schlyer

PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY (PACE)

In 2010, the Council of the District of Columbia unanimously passed the Energy Efficiency Financing Act, which provided the authority for the PACE program and for the District to issue up to $250 million in revenue bonds to support private energy efficiency improvements. In May 2011, DDOE executed a contract with Urban Energy Advisors (UEA) to design the commercial PACE program. During the last seven months of FY11, UEA and DDOE have been working closely with a number of experts and stakeholders (building owners, capital providers, mortgage lenders, trade associations, and other PACE programs across the country) to design a program that is scalable, market-based, and financially self-sustaining.

The District is also fostering relationships with other pioneers in the commercial PACE field, such as Los Angeles and San Francisco, to develop common loan underwriting standards, shared program design, and broader public education and marketing collaborations. Consistency across programs will improve the overall acceptance of the PACE model within capital markets and increase investor demand for securities backed by PACE assessments.

The design phase for the PACE program is scheduled for completion in spring 2012, followed by a pilot program starting in summer 2012. The pilot will provide an estimated $20 million in funding for energy efficiency projects in four to eight commercial buildings. The success of the pilot will determine the official launch date for the financing programs.

SUSTAINABLE DC

In July 2011, Mayor Gray vowed to make DC the most sustainable city in the nation. He announced that the District would launch a sustainability initiative called Sustainable DC that would create a framework for how to reach Mayor Gray's vision within nine broad topics: the built environment, climate, energy, food, nature, transportation, waste, water, and the green economy. In September 2011, project leads from DDOE and the District Office of Planning (OP) launched "Start in September," an intensive community outreach campaign, which included a website with crowdsourcing capabilities and attendance at more than 50 community discussions and other events. Through this process, 2,500 users shared their vision for a more sustainable DC, casting thousands of votes and posting comments on how the District can best achieve the mayor's vision.

Moving forward, the mayor's sustainable efforts will be ramping up throughout the winter and spring of 2012. In early FY12, a high level Green Ribbon Committee of business leaders, subject matter experts, and active members of the community will convene to develop a framework and ambitious—but achievable—goals. Nine public working groups began to draft recommended goals, actions, and indicators for each key area. These recommendations, along with other input from the community, District leadership, and expert consultants, will be used to develop a draft plan in spring of 2012. Implementation of the plan will be accomplished by the District government, non-profit and for-profit partners, and the community.

Learn more at www.sustainable.dc.gov.

DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

FY11 **ACCOMPLISHMENTS** REPORT

green forward