



Carroll County Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) *2012 Work Plan*

EAC Purpose

The EAC is dedicated to exploration and promotion of the County's environmental management responsibilities and to providing the Commissioners with educated advice that is in the best interest of the County and the County's residents.

EAC Function

The EAC functions at the direction of the Carroll County Board of Commissioners and, as such, works cooperatively with County environmental staff to research environmental policy issues; to advise the Board of County Commissioners; to foster environmental education; and generally to act in the best interest of County residents by promoting effective environmental protection and management principles. The EAC also serves as the County's Tree Commission.

Work Plan Purpose

As an advisory body to the Board, the EAC provides recommendations to the Board on emerging environmental policy and projects. Projects may be individual, discrete projects of the EAC, supplemental or supportive to staff projects, or recommend measures to mitigate environmental impacts for projects initiated by or supported by the Board.

This work plan outlines the topics, projects, and/or issues where the EAC can assist and advise the Board for the coming calendar year. The EAC will review these topics with the Board in an annual meeting. The Board will approve the topics/projects on which it seeks the EAC's input. The Board may modify the scope of these projects before approving the work plan.

Proposed 2012 Work Plan of the Carroll County
Environmental Advisory Council

Proposed Topics and Projects for 2012

In Calendar Year 2012, the EAC offers the following topics and/or projects:

| Board Approved? | Topic/Project | Expected Product |
|---|--|---|
|  | <p><i>Energy Use & Cost Savings:</i> The EAC is in the process of updating 2008 study. This study includes a review of the change in energy usage since 2008 and the progress made toward implementing cost- and energy-saving measures. John Modica, a local certified energy auditor, has volunteered his time to help enlist McDaniel interns to assist with gathering data. The EAC expects that the resulting updated summary of usage will show that Carroll County Government has reduced energy usage in the last four years due to conservation and improvements in efficiency and that county tax dollars have been saved as well.</p> | Memo + summary graphs |
|  | <p><i>Options for Solid Waste Management (Beyond Recycling):</i> The EAC already has weighed in on the topic of recycling. The EAC now will evaluate other measures to reduce the waste stream and other potential solid waste management options. The EAC will recommend to the Board other potential options, identify their possible impacts and costs, and generally suggest possible mitigation measures for these options. The EAC will collaborate with County staff to identify complementary roles and directions for potential topics of study.</p> | Report |
|  | <p><i>2012 Environmental Legislation:</i> The EAC will review proposed legislation related to septic that is introduced during the 2012 General Assembly session. This would be legislation introduced as a result of recommendations from the Task Force on Sustainable Growth and Wastewater Disposal or legislation otherwise related to HB 1107, considered in the 2011 session. The Board will specify the aspects of the bill for the EAC to evaluate. The EAC also may review additional environmental legislation at the request of the Board.</p> | Memo |
|  | <p><i>Alternative Energy Sources for Residential and Light Commercial Use:</i> Time permitting, the EAC will create an overview of alternative energy sources for residential uses</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Memo (to Board) ◆ Flyer or |

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|-----------------|---|-------------------------|
| | and possibly light commercial (small business) uses. The EAC members will evaluate these sources to offer a cursory cost benefit analysis, including a summary of costs, potential savings, and how each compares to other options. | Fact Sheet (for public) |

Ongoing Topics and Projects

The EAC will address the following ongoing topics and projects:

- ▶ The EAC will continue to serve in its role as the County Tree Commission, per Chapter 16 of the County Code.
- ▶ In its continuing role to promote public education and awareness on environmental issues, the EAC will also address citizen concerns as they arise and are brought to the EAC's attention.
- ▶ The Carroll County Commissioners adopted the Environmental Awareness Awards program in 1990 to recognize individuals and groups that have exemplary accomplishments in the protection, conservation, and improvement of our environmental resources through their actions or projects. Awards are presented biennially to individuals and groups chosen from nominees submitted for consideration by their peers, although self-nominations will be accepted. The nominations will be reviewed by the EAC in March 2012. Awards will be presented in April 2012.

Approval will be sought from the Board to proceed on any concerns requiring additional time, staff, or financial resources.

Additional Projects

Other topics and/or projects may surface throughout the year for which the Board would like a review and/or advice from the EAC. If the Board seeks input from the EAC, the Board will request the review and input in writing. The request will specify what aspect of the issue/project should be discussed and/or the desired product from the EAC.

Other issues or projects for discussion may be brought to the EAC's attention during the year by a member of the EAC, the public, or staff. If the EAC chooses to pursue a project, a written request will be made to the Board for approval to amend the work plan with the additional project. The request will specify the scope of the project and expected product and outcome. The Board may modify the scope of the project with its approval.