

Greenhouse Gas Task Force Recommendations								
Goal	Direct Action	Benefit	Feasibility	Cost	Implementation Steps	Existing Programs	Future Partners	Notes
	WHAT	HOW MUCH	WHEN	HOW MUCH	HOW		WHO	
		(H, M, L)	(H, M, L)	(H, M, L)				
Land Use Transportation Subcommittee								
TLU 1: Reduce Traffic Congestion Through County Employee Action	Telecommuting and flex time*	H	H	L	Determine which departments are appropriate for telecommuting or flex time. Initiate a pilot program, expand as feasible. Use examples in local businesses as a guide		The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), Clean Air Council, The Partnership TMA (PTMA), The Greater Valley Forge TMA (GVFTMA)	
	TransitChek*	H	H	L	Determine how to provide benefits to county workers (pretax or benefit). Develop promotional program and provide cost/benefit information to staff to encourage participation. Use as model for other businesses		DVRPC, SEPTA, The Partnership TMA (PTMA), The Greater Valley Forge TMA (GVFTMA)	
	Expand mass transit	H	L to M	H	Work with SEPTA and local TMAs to develop expanded service and participate in regional efforts to promote use of SEPTA. Promote SEPTA among employees.		SEPTA, Spare the Air (offers free mass transit for a day), Collegiate Presidential Challenge, The Partnership TMA (PTMA), The Greater Valley Forge TMA (GVFTMA)	
	Carpool*	H	H	L to M	Identify staff to coordinate and promote carpools among staff and DEP/neighboring businesses. Use of county intranet and internet could facilitate carpool formation. Support and facilitate the construction of park and ride lots.		GVFTMA, eRideshare,	
	Bike/Walk*	L	L	L	Install bike storage facilities at transportation centers. Prepare and distribute promotional material that outlines options for multi-modal travel. Continue County trail construction. Encourage municipalities and businesses to create links to County trail system via on- and off-road facilities.	County trail system, bike shower at county garage, various bike facilities on SEPTA buses and at transit sites.	DVRPC's Mobility Alternatives Program, SEPTA	
	CarShare*	L	H	L	Coordinate with Philadelphia program. Solicit participation from DEP and others. Establish a car pick up/drop off at the Norristown Transportation Center or other high visibility site in Norristown, and evaluate for other locations in the County.	Philly Care Share	Philly Car Share	
TLU 2: Promote Alternative Fuels/Improve Fuel Economy for the County Fleet	Use biodiesel (B20 or greater) for diesel county vehicles*	L	H	L	Identify sources of B20 and evaluate fueling feasibility. Evaluate feasibility of B-20 in the county fueling facility at Markley Street.		Greater Philadelphia Clean Cities Program, Philadelphia Fry-O-Diesel company	
	Use ethanol (E85 or greater) for gasoline county vehicles*	H	M	L	Consider use of E85 in specifications for new vehicles.		Greater Philadelphia Clean Cities Program, Energy Coordinating Agency	Currently, E85 can only be used in flex vehicles. Additionally it is not currently sold at all gas stations. However, according to DEP, most gas station tanks were last replaced in the late 80's and will need replacement again in the next 5 years, at which time it is likely for gas stations to begin storing at least one tank of E85. Currently, there is only one station planned for E85 in the County in Jeffersonville. There will be some additional cost for older cars (likely over 20 years old) to convert to be ethanol capable. Additionally, the quantified reduction potential was calculated using corn E85. If cellulosic E85 becomes available, the reduction potential becomes much greater.
	Convert the county fleet to newer, compact, hybrid, or ethanol-capable vehicles over time*	L	H	M	Evaluate feasibility of using compacts, fuel efficient cars, hybrids, ethanol capable, and electric vehicles when replacing aging vehicles.	Lower Merion School District, Valley Forge National Park, SEPTA, PECCO	DVRPC's Mobility Alternatives Program, Greater Philadelphia Clean Cities Program, Philadelphia Fry-O-Diesel company	
	Promote/subsidize hybrid vehicle ownership among employees	M	M	M	Provide various incentives for fuel efficient vehicle owners such as closer/free parking spaces. Explore options to assist employees in the purchase of more efficient vehicles.		Greater Philadelphia Clean Cities Program, Philadelphia Fry-O-Diesel company,	
TLU 3: Provide Financial Incentives for Actions to reduce Emissions	Adopt an anti-idling policy for county loading/delivery areas	L	H	L	Post signs at loading docks, circulate policy to appropriate staff who drive county vehicles.			
	County to provide matching grants to municipalities and institutions to stimulate creative solutions	L	M	M	Identify funding sources, including feasibility of a green bond, and if open space funds can be used to promote concentrated development that preserves open space.			Can Nox credits or carbon credits be claimed for programs like this? We would need to lay out the benefits of this kind of program.
TLU 4: Implement County and Legislative Regulatory Programs	Provide incentives to employees to live in communities near their work place.	L	M	L	Model after first time home buyer's programs currently being used in the region.	Location Efficient Mortgage programs		Will have an impact on expanding SEPTA, this needs to be clarified- what is near your office? If someone moves closer to their office but still has to drive do they qualify? Or is it that you have to be within walking/biking distance?
	County to use advance notice requirements and other review processes to raise GHG issues up front	M	H	L	Create draft policy regarding the review of all capital funding and development projects requiring state permits to evaluate greenhouse gas impact. Coordinate with state agencies such as DEP, DCED, and PADOT on consistency reviews to identify GHG issues early in the process. Create a coalition to meet periodically and coordinate reviews/policies to advance a cohesive GHG reduction effort.		PADOT, DEP, DCED	
TLU 5: Influence the Number of Vehicle Miles Traveled by Managing Land Use and Site Design	County to review and comment on road improvements, transit extensions, etc to encourage transit friendly design	M	H	L	Create draft policy that outlines coordination with PADOT. This effort should be conducted through the DVRPC involving all partners.		DVRPC	
	Work to establish mixed land use communities with concentrated development and easy access to transit facilities*	M to H	M	M	Create Model ordinances, seminars for muni officials and staff, developers, engineers, real estate lawyers		DVRPC	
	Plan and develop for the concurrent placement of infrastructure and services with well planned development. Discourage 'leap frog' development	M	M	M	Review policy for ranking farms in preservation program in terms of proximity to developed areas and emissions from potential development. ELIZABETH EMLEN TO REVIEW. Emphasize recommendations of County Comprehensive Plan in development and utility reviews		DVRPC	

Agriculture, Forestry, and Waste Management Subcommittee Prioritization of Alternatives							
AFW 1: Promote sustainable agriculture in Montgomery County	Promote and assist farmers markets throughout the county	L	M	L	Promote existing markets. Provide space for local farm sales or farmers markets on county property.	Successful farmers markets exist in Ambler, Norristown, Conshohocken, Telford, Glenside, and Skippack	Southeastern Pennsylvania Resource Conservation and Development Council, Penn State Cooperative Extension, Farm Market Trust
	Educate consumers about the benefits of local and organic farm products	L	H	L			Whitedog Community Enterprises - Fair Food Farmstand
	Procure locally produced farm products for county facilities.*	M	M	L	Evaluate feasibility and legality of revising purchasing specifications	Pennypack Farm CSA	Pennypack Farm CSA, Farm to City, Farm to Philly, Buy Fresh, Buy Local PA Preferred Program, Healthy Schools, Healthy Snacks Program, Fair Food Farmstand
	Promote no-till farming and other cultivation practices that sequester carbon in the soil*	M	M	L	The county should demonstrate these techniques on the farm at Parkhouse and Norristown Farm Park.		MCCD, Penn State Cooperative Extension, NRCS's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
	Require additional conservation measures on preserved farms as a condition of easement purchase.	L	M	L	ELIZABETH EMLEN TO REVIEW		MCCD, Penn State Cooperative Extension, NRCS's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
AFW 2: Increase vegetation, especially trees, through planting programs	Plant and maintain additional tree canopy on county property.*	M	H	L	Plant 10,000 trees on county land over the next 10 years. Amend the Green Field/ Green Towns guidelines to ensure a minimum of 5% of the total funding under the Montgomery County Green Fields/ Green Towns program is spent on tree planting projects by 2013	Treevitalize program	Treevitalize with DCNR, MCPC's Green Fields/Green Towns Program, DCNR Bureau of Forestry
	Develop model urban tree landscapes at public or highly visible facilities.	L	H	L to M	Extensively landscape county parking lots, plant trees in the county court-house plaza, and along the county trail system, plant street trees in front of county buildings. Consider the development of county tree nursery to provide trees for various organizations, or otherwise create a program along the lines of TreeVitalize that will provide affordable trees to all residents		Local Street Tree Commissions
	Promote proper forest management on private lands.	L	H	L	Include promoting sensible management of the deer herd in the county to eliminate the loss of forest undergrowth.		DCNR
	Promote homeowner education on tree planting and afforestation.	L	H	L			Pennsylvania-Delaware Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture, Morris Arboretum, or local gardening centers.
	County to develop a model landscaping and tree preservation ordinance for adoption by municipalities.	N/A**	H	L			
	Advocate and adopt flexible zoning to promote development that maximizes forest preservation.	L	H	L			Is this different from the landscaping and tree preservation ordinances? If so, how?
	Replace lost forested areas removed during the development process. This could be achieved through tree replacement ordinances and education.	M	L	M	Create incentives for infill and redevelopment in existing developed areas to lessen the potential for development in forested areas. Promote appropriate development that maintains existing vegetation. Develop additional tree planting and afforestation programs.		Highlands Coalition, MCPC's Green Fields/Green Towns Program
	County to reduce suburban lawns by promoting municipal code updates and education	N/A**	H	L	Target county land, large institutions and individual residential properties for meadow management or afforestation efforts.		Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association, PWD, Villanova Stormwater Partnership
	Provide education to about naturalizing their property.	L	H	L	Target county land, large institutions and individual residential properties for meadow management or afforestation efforts.		Montgomery County Cooperative Extension Service, Morris Arboretum
	Reduce lawns and enhance naturalized areas	L	H	L		McNeil Consumer Products, McNeil Pharmaceutical, Valley Forge National Historical Park	timeline/amounts in the direct actions? If we are going to include them, shouldn't we include a target numerical goal for all of the actions that have one?
	Promote and install green roofs in developed areas.	L	L to M	M	Provide funding to reduce costs. Provide information to building owners	2.3 acre roof at the Court at Upper Providence Shopping Center	DEP, Temple University
AFW 3: Work to minimize GHG emissions in the waste sector by strongly advocating waste reduction and recycling	Reduce construction and demolition waste*	M	M	L	Promote C&D waste recycling, composting, source reduction, and the promoting reuse and recycling of building products. Promote building demolition approaches, including a used building products exchange facility		
	Provide additional education on recycling to expand participation in available programs.	L	H	L	Create education strategy and material		Waste System Authority of Eastern Montgomery County
	Prepare and enforce model recycling ordinances.	M	H	L to M			Waste System Authority of Eastern Montgomery County
	Increase recycling in all county facilities*	H	M	M	Create education strategy and material		Waste System Authority of Eastern Montgomery County, Pay As You Throw Program, Niche Recycling, Philly Freecycle, Recycle Now, Recycling Alliance of Philadelphia
	Enhance construction waste recycling markets	L	L	M to H	Create education strategy and material		Waste System Authority of Eastern Montgomery County
AFW 4: Promote composting of all plant materials and organic food wastes.	Promote source reduction and waste minimization through education and promotion.*	H	M	L			
	Develop and use food and yard waste composting sites	L	M	M		Two Particular Acres	
AFW 5: Target Sewage Facilities Sector for GHG emissions reduction	Expand organic yard waste recycling and promote the use of compost.	L	H	L	The county should utilize compost at appropriate county sites and make land available for composting facilities. Explore and promote the use of waste digestion technology at the Waste to Energy facility.		Montgomery County Cooperative Extension Service
	Convert to alternative wastewater treatment technologies that produce less greenhouse gas emissions.	L	L	H	Provide information to sewer authorities		PennVest, Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard, DEP's Office of Energy and Technology Deployment (OETD) annual energy use reduction grant program
	Use digester gas as a fuel supply to develop power to fuel wastewater treatment plants in the county.	L	M	H	Provide information to sewer authorities		PennVest, Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard

Energy Use Subcommittee							
EU 1.0 Target all facilities and operations to meet higher standards for energy efficiency	Prepare and implement greenhouse gas inventory for facilities and operations	H	H	H	Determine how to conduct the inventory, and what metric will be applied to measure the success of various GHG reduction initiatives. Benchmark existing buildings using Energy Star Portfolio		World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG Protocol), World Resources Institute, Torrie Smith software
	Adopt a policy that all new construction reduces energy consumption by 38% over conventional construction*	H	M	H	Renovate a County building to LEED EB Silver as a pilot. Target buildings with lowest energy efficiency levels as priorities for retrofits, consider retrofitting other facilities, including county run public housing		LEED NC, Energy Star, National Association of Home Builders Green Home Building Guidelines
	Evaluate each buildings for combined heat and power program (County generated), and convert to renewable energy sources where possible	H	L to M	H			
	Purchase energy efficient products	H	M	M	Modify procurement standards to require energy efficient products such as Energy Star products (EPA has model procurement language)		EPA Procurement language, Energy Star
	Promote and use renewable energy for on site fuel (oil, natural gas and coal) needs*	H	L	H	Examine GHG emissions from existing boilers and evaluate low carbon fuel alternatives (oil, natural gas, biodiesel)	Spring-Ford Area School District operates 4 schools with geothermal heat	
	Promote and purchase electricity from renewable forms of energy*	H	H	M	At least 10% of total County purchased power should be renewable by 2008 and at least 20% by 2010. Additionally, if the Renewable Portfolio Standard passes, this should go above and beyond what that requires		Peco Wind Energy, Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future (Penn Future)
	Require green construction to qualify for county loans, must have certain number of points earned as energy credits	L	M	L	MCPC's Redevelopment Program		
	Explore county tax breaks for green construction	N/A**	L	M			LEED Silver, Energy Star
	Explore the use of bonds to fund green projects	N/A**	L	H	MCPC's Green Fields/Green Towns Program		
	Move green projects to the top of the list for County review (MCPC & MCCD)	L	L	L			
	Develop awards/recognition program for alternative energy applications	L	H	L	MCPC's "Montgomery Awards"		
	Create and adopt a model green building zoning ordinance	M	M	L		Proposed Philadelphia Green Building Ordinance (BILL NO. 070908)	DEF's sample ordinances from Energy Efficiency Plan, Smart communities network
	Fund demonstration projects of energy efficiency and green building	L	L	M to H			DVGBC, EPA assistance
	Reduce the energy consumption in existing buildings by 30%*	H	M	M to H			LEED EB, Energy Star, Energy Coordinating Agency, Smart Energy Solutions, PECCO's Low Income Usage Reduction Program
	Promote a School Incentive Program	L	H	L	Schools compete for awards by achieving the greatest energy use reductions through behavior modifications. Could be modeled after Montgomery County, MD's similar program	Montgomery County, MD	
	Establish a GHG Information Clearinghouse	L	H	L			
	Organize a GHG municipal consortium	L	H	L	DVGBC, EPA		
Identify funding for energy efficiency training programs	L	H	L				
* Denotes any direct action for which we have quantified an estimate of the potential GHG reductions							
** GHG reduction of N/A is listed in reference to county policy. The reductions would result from the actions of others implementing this policy.							