



**ACE PROTECTS**  
Open Spaces



**ACE PRESERVES**  
Water Quality



**ACE PROMOTES**  
Sustainable Energy

### ACE's Vision

*All Arlingtonians are collectively engaged in creating a sustainable community.*

### ACE's Mission

*ACE protects and improves water, air, and open spaces in the Arlington community and nearby areas by promoting stewardship of our natural resources and connecting all citizens to practical solutions to achieve a sustainable lifestyle.*



Energy Masters volunteers Samantha Fletcher, Agnes Cornibert, and Robert Nutter prepare to go to work improving energy and water efficiency.

*Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE)* has been contributing to creating a sustainable community for more than 35 years. We appreciate the tremendous support of our generous donors and volunteers who make our work possible.

We treasure ongoing partnerships in the community that enable us to educate residents about sustainable lifestyle choices and engage stewards in protecting our water, air and open spaces.

This annual report highlights our major accomplishments in 2014-2015.

**Support ACE: Volunteer or  
Become a Member Today**  
*(See Back)*



Listed as one of the best small charities in the region by the 2015-2016 DC Catalogue for Philanthropy.

## ACE by the Numbers

# 2,455

Students **engaged** in hands-on activities connected to stewardship of our planet through ACE environmental programs in Arlington schools.

# 3

Local parks where ACE **improved** the habitat for native species by removing truckloads of invasive plants.

# 31

ACE volunteers **trained** as Energy Masters to assist families in implementing energy efficiency and water conservation improvements.

# 202

Trees **planted** through the Arlington County Tree Canopy Fund.

# 286

Bags of trash **collected** from streets, parks, & streams throughout Arlington by ACE volunteers.

# 80

Arlington families' homes in affordable housing developments **improved** through energy efficiency and water conservation tools.

## ACE PROTECTS Open Spaces By Engaging Volunteers



Jordan, Dorothy, Jason and Adam pick up trash from Four Mile Run in Bluemont Park.

**"It was the messiest, coldest, muddiest, wettest day for a stream cleanup, but we loved it!"** The Patton/Carter family's experience at the ACE Martin Luther King Day event in January 2011 paved a pathway for the entire family to become engaged in community service. What started with a Google search and a connection with ACE to join the National Day of Service has evolved into all four members of the family serving as regular ACE service project volunteers.

Since 2011, the Patton/Carter family has helped out at more than a dozen events, cleaning up trash, removing invasive plants and collecting native seeds. Their commitment to ACE was driven in part by Jordan's enrollment in Washington-Lee High School's International Baccalaureate (IB) program. Volunteering with ACE enables Jordan to help fulfill his service hour requirements. The family also likes that local environmental projects have a global impact, consistent with the goals of IB.

A high school senior, Jordan has taken it a step further. He recently led a cleanup and trash tally for ACE. Jordan says, "I want to continue to volunteer in the community. It gives me great experience and is a leadership opportunity."

Mom Dorothy likes that her family can connect to nature and bond with each other: "The best thing about an ACE service project is that it's a family outing, in the outdoors, helping to improve the community." Dad Jason Carter adds, "Volunteering with ACE teaches kids responsibility."

Adam, now a freshman at Washington-Lee High School, speaks to the long-term benefits of getting involved. "Volunteering helps me be aware of what is going on with nature and pollution."



## ACE PRESERVES Water Quality Through The Northern Virginia Rain Barrel Program



Julie and her daughter signed up for a build-your-own rain barrel workshop as part of Isabella's Girl Scout Cadette project for Troop 6903. They built two rain barrels and took them home, installing one on the house and one on a kids' playhouse. The rain barrels provided one immediate benefit: providing easier access to water in the backyard.

Julie was pleasantly surprised by how engaged her family became. "Rain barrels can be a real family affair. For us, it brought everyone together. All of us did a part of it. Plus, it helps you with gardening, and it can save money."

After 12-year old Isabella helped build the barrel, her sister Francis, age 14, took charge of installing it by going to the hardware store and getting everything needed to hook the barrel up to their downspout. Jackson, age 9, loves to water plants, and Henry, age 2, likes to turn the handle on the spigot!



"Through the Arlington Solar Co-op, we not only got lower prices but invaluable expertise," said Lolan O'Rourke and James Oliver, co-op members in the Cherrydale neighborhood. "For us, it's as much feel good as do good. We're hoping to break even in about 16 years."

## ACE PROMOTES Sustainable Energy Through the Arlington Solar Co-op



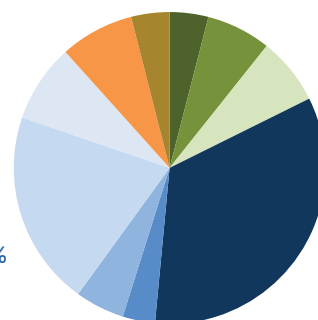
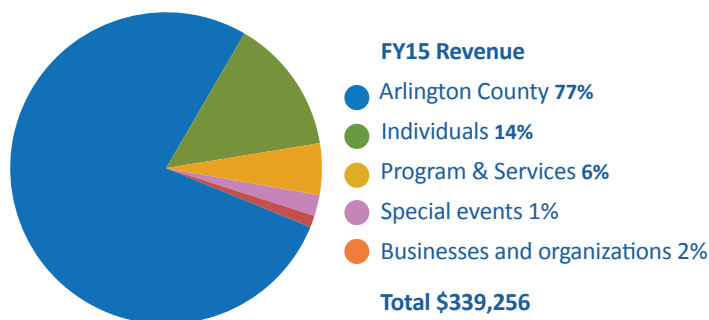
The Arlington Solar Co-op is a local program organized by Virginia Solar Unified Neighborhoods (VA SUN) in partnership with ACE and the Arlington Initiative to Rethink Energy. The solar co-op leverages collective buying power, allowing members to go solar together and get a discount.

The Arlington Co-op members chose Edge Energy to do their installations. Edge Energy is a Maryland-based renewable energy systems installer working throughout the DC metro region. A total of 36 families took part in the Arlington Solar Co-op, with each participant typically getting a 30% discount on their purchase of solar panels through co-op membership. In total, the Arlington Co-op installations translate to over 200 kilowatts of installed capacity.



(left to right) Henry, Isabella, Jackson and Francis Freeman-Moore show off their rain barrel. Photo by Julie Freeman-Moore.

# ACE 2015 Financial Report



## FY15 Expenses

### Environmental Education 18%

- School Projects
- Public Projects
- Outreach

### Community Engagement 70%

- Action Campaigns
- Service Projects
- Green Living Outreach
- Tree Canopy Fund
- Energy Efficiency Programs

### Support 12%

- Management & Governance
- Fundraising

**Total \$368,160**

Financial Report Notes: These numbers are being published before the completed audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015. Final audited figures are available upon request.

## Help ACE Sustain Our Work

ACE appreciates your support of our local conservation programs. We are the only conservation organization working exclusively in Arlington.

Please...

- **SUBSCRIBE** to our e-newsletter and blog
- **GET INVOLVED** ... volunteer!
- **INCREASE** your annual giving
- **BECOME** a monthly donor
- **GIVE A GIFT** of an ACE membership
- **ENGAGE** with us on social media:



Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment

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Arlington, Virginia 22206

703-228-6427

[volunteer@arlingtonenvironment.org](mailto:volunteer@arlingtonenvironment.org)

Combined Federal Campaign #83504

## Thank You! We appreciate the support of our 2014-2015 sponsors, funders and partners:

- AHC, Inc.
- Amicus Green Building
- Arlington Cinema and Draft-house
- Arlington Community Development Fund
- Arlington County Council of PTAs
- Arlington County Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development
- Arlington County Department of Environmental Services
- Arlington County Department of Human Services
- Arlington Initiative to Rethink Energy (AIRE)
- Arlington Public Schools
- Arlington Regional Master Naturalists
- Arlington Thrive
- Barbara Englehart Consulting
- BikeArlington
- BOWL'D
- Casual Adventure / Patagonia
- Claremont Garden Club
- Clean Virginia Waterways
- Climate Reality Project
- Colonial Electric/Annapolis Lighting
- Conway Energy
- Dan Housch
- Dominion Foundation
- Enventive Consulting
- Fairlington Pizza
- Ferguson Foundation
- George Mason University
- Interfaith Power and Light
- Jimmy Potter's Studio
- Kiwanis Club of South Arlington
- Ocean Conservancy
- Organic Edible Gardens
- Our Lady Queen of Peace
- Pete's New Haven Style Apizza
- Pure Media Signs
- Sara Marie Blakely
- The Fifth Fuel
- Trader Joes
- TreeStewards of Arlington and Alexandria
- Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington
- Urban Forestry Commission
- Virginia Cooperative Extension
- Which Wich
- Whole Foods
- Wild Birds Unlimited
- Williamsburg Middle School
- Woman's Club of Arlington