

## JANUARY 2023



### Support Climate-Friendly Healthy Schools



EcoAction Arlington, Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions Arlington Hub, and the Sierra Club Potomac River Group have recently sent two joint letters to the Arlington School Board and the APS Superintendent asking for firm commitments to carbon neutrality, including making the new Arlington Career Center (ACC) high school building all electric for key systems, to protect our children's future and to offer inspiration and experiential learning for students who may one day work in green economy jobs. We urge you to send letters to the School Board, [school.board@apsva.us](mailto:school.board@apsva.us) and Superintendent Duran, [superintendent@apsva.us](mailto:superintendent@apsva.us). To amplify your impact consider signing up to speak at a [School Board meeting](#) or during [School Board Open Office Hours](#).

[Sign up to to advocate for climate action in Arlington Public Schools](#)

[Read more about why we need to urge the County to commit to carbon-neutral schools](#)

# Stand Up for Climate Progress in the General Assembly

A number of legislators at this year's session of the Virginia General Assembly, which starts on January 7, will seek to roll back progress made in the 2020 and 2021 sessions with the [Virginia Clean Economy Act](#), participation in the [Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative](#), [clean car standards](#). While protecting these gains must be the priority, there may be opportunities to advance legislation for solar-ready schools, rate payer reform to prevent utility monopolies from overcharging, and other legislation with bi-partisan support.

[Read more and signup to become part of our effort to fight climate change and advance Arlington's goal for climate neutrality during this session](#)

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## Weigh In on County Budget Priorities

Arlington County is seeking input from citizens on their priorities for the upcoming FY2024 budget. The County Manager is projecting a \$35 million shortfall, so tough decisions will need to be made. [The County Board's guidance](#) has directed the County Manager to provide updates on investments in environmental priorities as part of the process. EcoAction Arlington urges you to participate in the survey and include comments supporting sufficient funding to advance the County's carbon neutrality, natural resources, and other environmental goals and to position the County Government and its residents to be able to take full advantage of federal funding opportunities under the [Inflation Reduction Act](#) and other legislation and federal programs.

▶ TAKE ACTION

[Share your priorities by responding to the 5 questions today](#)

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## Upcoming Events



**EcoAction Arlington Volunteer Social  
Whole Foods Market, Pentagon City  
January 9, 2023  
6:30-8:30 p.m.**

We welcome you and your friends to join us for this free social to learn how you can become more involved in our advocacy work and more about EcoAction Arlington volunteer opportunities.

[Register](#)

**JAN 17 @7:00 PM**

**REIMAGINING OUR WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

**ZERO WASTE**  
BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY

**Moderator**  
Carrie Thompson  
Chair, Arlington Solid Waste Committee

**Speakers**

Sophia Hosain  
Zero Waste Manager  
Baltimore, MD

Andy Smith  
Interim Recycling and Environmental Services Section Manager  
King County, WA

Erik Grabowski  
Chief, Solid Waste Bureau  
Arlington, VA

Leaders in Energy | SIERRA CLUB POTOMAC RIVER GROUP | Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions | **ecoaction arlington**

Reimagining Our Waste Management System  
Virtual Webinar  
**January 17, 2023**  
**7 p.m.**

This program will explore how zero waste municipalities can reduce waste and maximize the diversion of waste from landfills and waste-to-energy facilities for reuse and recycling.

**Register**

**VIRTUAL WEBINAR**

**ELECTRIFYING OUR LIVES FOR BETTER HOMES, HEALTH AND CLIMATE**

Tuesday  
January 31, 2023  
7 p.m.

Sponsored by: **RENEWAL AMERICA** | **SIERRA CLUB** | **ecoaction arlington**

Electrifying Our Lives For Better Homes, Health And Climate  
Virtual Webinar  
**January 31, 2023**  
**7 p.m.**

In this webinar hosted by Energy Masters, Rewiring America will lay out the case for electrification, address common barriers to it, and explain how the financial incentives of the IRA aim to speed this transition.

**Register**

The EcoAdvocate is compiled by the [EcoAction Arlington Advocacy Committee](#).



Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

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Connect with us



EcoAction Arlington's mission is to promote stewardship of our natural resources and practical solutions for a sustainable community. The EcoAction Advocacy Committee engages in public discussion and promotes civic engagement among its members to influence government action to support its mission. EcoAction Arlington is a non-profit and non-partisan organization.

[Volunteer](#) | [Donate](#) | [Website](#)