

Solar Energy at the CCMUA

In a continuing effort to reduce energy costs and make the CCMUA greener, the Authority has installed a new 1.8 million-watt solar panel array that is now in service and providing power to our wastewater treatment plant. The 1.8 million watts of electricity represents approximately 10% of the plant's energy needs. The projected savings are approximately \$300,000 in energy costs during the first year of the project and about \$7 million over the life of the 15 year power purchase agreement.

Go to www.ccmua.org to access more information. The amounts of energy generated today, this week and since installation are all shown. Photos, weather information, and a Real Time Power System Schematic are all provided. The amounts of Carbon Dioxide, Nitrogen Oxide and Sulfur Dioxide avoided by the energy generated by the solar panels are listed. The solar panel monitor is available both on our web site and in our Administration Building lobby.

This solar panel project is the first phase of the CCMUA's overall green energy initiative. Ultimately, the CCMUA's goal is to use 100% green energy within the next five years. The CCMUA is in the process of investigating other alternative and renewable sources of energy, such as geothermal, methane, and additional solar installations.

Camden City Achieves Sustainable Jersey Certification

Sustainable Jersey is a certification program for municipalities in New Jersey. Launched in 2009, Sustainable Jersey www.sustainablejersey.com is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that supports community efforts to reduce waste, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and improve environmental equity. Sustainable Jersey is empowering New Jersey towns to build a better world for future generations. It provides tools, training and financial incentives to support and reward communities as they pursue sustainability programs. New Jersey is the first state in the nation to have a comprehensive sustainability program for communities that links certification with strong state and private financial incentives, and a fully resourced program of technical support and training.

Typically a town will select 10-12 actions from a potential list of over 117 actions that include areas such as a commitment to environmental stewardship, community gardens, supporting local businesses, conservation of energy and water and waste reduction and recycling.

Recommended best practices/actions are vetted with local government officials. "It's quite an accomplishment to become Sustainable Jersey certified," said Pam Mount, Chair of the Sustainable Jersey Board of Trustees. "Our certified communities are leading the way with impressive sustainability initiatives in New Jersey while providing a model for towns across the United States."

Camden was able to use Sustainable Jersey as a focal point to rally non-profit organizations to coordinate with the City and the CCMUA to make progress on a number of fronts. The CCMUA had a major role in helping Camden achieve this certification. Its work in the areas of renewable energy, green jobs, water conservation education, green infrastructure and stormwater management, supporting a community asset map project and participating in a green fair, all contributed to the program. In addition to the City of Camden, Cherry Hill, Gloucester Township, Haddonfield and Haddon Township have also achieved Sustainable Jersey certification.