

# Edmonston

September, 2013

Spotlight on Maryland Smart Energy Communities

## Small Town, Big Effort



Embarking in 2011 on the **path to a more sustainable future**, Edmonston completed an energy audit for their Town Hall. As a result of the audit findings the town upgraded from fluorescent light bulbs to cost-saving energy efficient bulbs, added solar panel installations to the roof, and made stormwater management improvements by installing a rain garden in front of the Town Hall.

## Clean Wind & Sun Powers the Way Forward



A certified **EPA Clean Power Community**, Edmonston satisfies more than 5% of its municipal electricity needs through wind power purchases from Clean Currents or generating energy on-site via solar panels atop City Hall.

## A New Green Street Grows in Edmonston



Another recent initiative in Edmonston is an innovative **Green Street**, which includes bio-retention filters, bike lanes, native street tree plantings, and pedestrian-friendly traffic calming measures along  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles of Decatur Street, the main residential street within the municipality. Additionally, the materials used for the street and sidewalks themselves consist of recycled material, including milled asphalt, concrete and glass.



## Growing Green Streets

Edmonston is pursuing the energy efficiency and renewable energy goals of the **Maryland Smart Energy Communities** program and is currently constructing a new maintenance facility that will include internal LED lighting and geothermal technology.

Once Edmonston adopts the required energy reduction and renewable energy production policies and establishes their energy usage baselines, the town will receive Smart Energy Communities funding for additional projects, which may include the installation of new HVAC systems, energy efficient LED street lights, and energy efficiency upgrades for low-income residents of the municipality.

*The Smart Energy Communities Program offers grant funding to local governments for energy-related projects. Once a local government passes certain policies and energy reduction plans related to energy efficiency, renewable energy, and/or transportation petroleum reduction goals, the municipality or county can apply for grant funding to complete their energy reduction ambitions. For more information see: [www.energy.maryland.gov/govt/smartenergycommunities/](http://www.energy.maryland.gov/govt/smartenergycommunities/)*

For more information about the Smart Energy Communities Program or information about specific municipal or county efforts, please contact:

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