US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

CARY, NORTH CAROLINA
1871

Sustainability In
A Mission-Driven Department

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EPA Climate Showcase Communities Grant

- Focus on sustainability in fire and police services
- Fire Departments are place-based and operate on a 24/7/365 basis.
  - Existing Buildings
  - New Buildings
  - Behavior in those buildings
- Opportunities regarding FD transportation more limited
  - Idling SOP
  - Hybrids in administrative functions

Climate Showcase Communities
Local Climate and Energy Program

EPA Climate Showcase Communities Grant

EPA Climate Showcase Communities Grant

- Share findings in the Fire and Police service on what works—using successes in Cary and other departments
- *Key* partners, Town of Chapel Hill, City of Charlotte, City of Durham, City of Raleigh, Triangle J Council of Governments
- Profile fire house energy performance
- Inspire/challenge others to act

Climate Showcase Communities
Local Climate and Energy Program

The Town of Cary's Station to Station Energy Challenge

- **Fire Department Demographics:**
  - 220 member department
  - 7 fire stations (1 under construction)
  - Town size is 53 mi^2
  - 7,700 calls for service a year
  - 70,900 ft^2 (ranging from 4,200 to 17,000)
  - $168,000/year for electricity + natural gas of stations (FY11)

The Town of Cary's Station to Station Energy Challenge

- **Fire Station Competition Overview**
  - **August 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012**
  - **Winner determined by greatest % reduction at their station compared to last year**
  - **"Station Leaders" volunteered to be facilitators to keep station personnel involved, enthused, and engaged in the challenge.**
  - **Monthly Updates**
  - **Winning station**
    - Catered meal for each shift (donated from local restaurants)
    - A $500 dollar grant for an environmentally-related project of their choosing.
    - And importantly…

The Town of Cary's
Station to Station Energy Challenge

Bragging Rights!

The Town of Cary's Station to Station Energy Challenge

- **Successes**
  - **So far, average 11% reduction in energy use as compared to last year**
  - **One station had a reduction in energy use of 22%**
    - Night lights
    - Consistent thermostat settings across all shifts
    - Tankless water heater (behavior is key)
    - Full load of clothes in washing machines/dryers
  - **Increased Awareness**

The Town of Cary's Station to Station Energy Challenge

- **Lessons Learned/Ongoing Challenges**
  - Fire Department lead effort
  - Allow firefighters to be creative and support where possible with their own ideas and know-how
  - Include billing days as part of the analysis (consider EPA's Portfolio Manager)
  - Keeping firefighters motivated throughout the challenge

The Town of Cary's Station to Station Energy Challenge

- Going Forward
  - The importance of sustaining organizational behavior change beyond the competition
  - Sustainability Manager doing periodic energy conservation talks and/or memos

CHIEF'S ENERGY CHALLENGE

Take the Chief's Energy Challenge!

- Why?
  - Save energy and money
  - Demonstrate leadership in your community and in the fire service
- Goal is 10% reduction by March 2014 and 20% reduction by March 2016
- Recommend that you get started with entering building information into Portfolio Manager now.
- Go to www.chiefsenergychallenge.org to get on the mailing list (in center of the page) so you can stay informed.

Questions?

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