

Program Overview:

Henrico County Public Schools and the county of Henrico recognize that a healthy and sustainable environment is important to the well-being of its citizens. Educating our employees to recognize activities that impact our environment and training them to plan and respond appropriately are primary keys to the success of our organizational commitment to sustainability. Henrico County Public Schools (HCPS) has developed and implemented an Environmental and Sustainability Management System (ESMS) as a management tool to document and measure the organization's environmental performance and sustainability. HCPS, through its Department of Construction and Maintenance, promotes and supports sustainability in its daily operations. Through implementation of the sustainability program, the organization and its employees gain a better understanding of environmental regulatory requirements; minimize risk for environmental liabilities, and save funds by conserving resources. These measurable successes highlight the benefits of promoting sustainability within HCPS. Benefits also include: increasing employee awareness of environmental issues (including community outreach programs in education and watershed stewardship, which staff learn and practice in their communities); developing, implementing, and documenting environmentally sustainable practices; implementing proactive sustainable management systems; and assuring that all students will learn in a healthier learning environment that efficiently and effectively supports the instructional program.