



Energy Spotlight

Detention Center



FAST FACT



The Detention Center has earned an ENERGY STAR rating three times—recognition that the building is a leader in energy performance.

ABOUT AIRE

The Arlington Initiative to Rethink Energy (AIRE) helps our community make smart decisions about energy and supports individual actions to sustain and improve Arlington's quality of life. We are committed to energy practices that will make Arlington a more prosperous, healthful, and secure place to live, work, and play.

AIRE began in 2007 with an ambitious goal to significantly cut greenhouse gas emissions from County government operations by improving energy efficiency in our buildings, vehicles, and infrastructure, and by using clean fuels and green power. We also educate and encourage Arlington residents and businesses to use energy wisely, inspiring daily actions that will make a lasting difference.

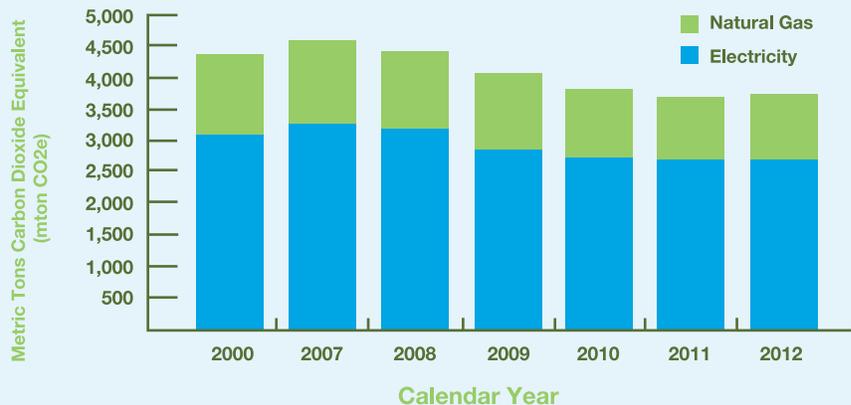
By working together, we can ensure the health of our community for the long term. Come join us!

Visit us online at
www.ArlingtonEnergy.us

THE BUILDING

The Arlington County Detention Center houses a 650-bed jail with 200 full-time employees. Built in 1994, it is one of the County's largest facilities at 434,000 square feet. The building is busy 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Energy-intensive requirements to accommodate several hundred people around-the-clock include continuous ventilation, a high-volume kitchen, and a laundry facility.

EMISSIONS AT DETENTION CENTER, SELECTED YEARS



OUR ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS

In November 2009, the County completed an energy-saving performance upgrade that produced significant reductions in electricity and water use in the Detention Center. ConEd Solutions, our energy service contractor for this task, completed extensive lighting retrofits, replaced virtually all plumbing fixtures, upgraded the building automation system, and installed new heat recovery ventilators. Continued monitoring and maintenance have kept energy use at these reduced levels.

The County has saved more than \$500,000 annually in electricity and water costs as a result of improvements at the Detention Center.



EVERYDAY TIPS

Get an energy audit. No matter what size or style building you live or work in, understanding how you use energy equips you to make better decisions about efficiency investments that yield the most return for your wallet, your comfort, and the environment.

Reduce, reuse, recycle. Consider purchasing goods made from durable, recycled, toxin-free materials with minimal packaging. Reuse, repurpose, donate, or sell unwanted items. Recycle packaging. You'll minimize materials processing, save energy, and prevent toxic materials from getting back into our environment.

Travel smart. Rethink how you get to work and around town. Traveling around Arlington is easy using the network of bike and walk paths, buses, Metrorail, and car-sharing.

Consider green power. Homeowners, businesses, and organizations can choose to buy power from renewable sources such as wind and solar to reduce their carbon footprint and stimulate the market for renewable energy.

Visit us online at www.ArlingtonEnergy.us

Building Energy Report Cards

To find out more about the energy consumption of this and other buildings in Arlington, check out the Building Energy Report Cards on the AIRE website.

Glossary of Terms

Visit the AIRE website to learn more about key terms related to energy use and the equipment in our buildings.

Have a Question? Email AIRE at energy@arlingtonva.us.

VALUE TO THE COUNTY

Combined electricity and water savings amount to almost \$500,000 annually. Total cost for the project, combined with expenditures for the Courts/Police building next door, was \$5.3 million. Simple payback for the project, with these continued savings, will be eight to ten years. Energy use at the Detention Center has decreased 10 percent since 2009 when the performance contract work was completed. We also saw drastic reductions in water consumption. Replacing the plumbing fixtures has annually saved more than 30 million gallons of water a year. These savings are equivalent to removing nearly 175 cars from the road or the carbon sequestered by almost 700 acres of forest in a year.

HOW DO WE RATE?

This building shares some mechanical systems and an underground garage with the Courts/Police building next door. Together, as the Arlington County Justice Center, these buildings have earned the ENERGY STAR label three times (for years 2010, 2012, and 2013), demonstrating continued excellence in energy performance.

FOLLOW OUR LEAD

We hired energy professionals to evaluate the facility, helping the County identify energy leaks in the buildings and allowing us to concentrate on sources of energy loss we could fix quickly.

[Visit the AIRE website for more information about current incentives for energy improvements.](#)



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES