



**County of McHenry
County Administration**

2200 N. Seminary Avenue
Woodstock, IL 60098
Phone 815-334-4221 Fax 815-338-3991
www.co.mchenry.il.us/

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CONTACT: Adam Lehmann, Public Information Officer
McHenry County, IL
PHONE: 815-334-0309

McHenry County Reduces its Carbon Footprint

WOODSTOCK, IL – In the last three years, McHenry County has become an area leader among local governments in energy efficient projects. Since 2007, the County has conducted improvements around its facilities which include a boiler heating plant upgrade, retrofitting of lights, and implementation of the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG).

“Energy efficient projects, such as these, has allowed us to utilize cutting edge technology to reduce our energy costs through environmentally sensitive solutions,” stated McHenry County Board Chairman Ken Koehler.

In 2007, the County completed Phase I of its energy efficiency projects by retrofitting the County boiler heating plant. This will allow the County to save a total of \$152,393 and 32,464 Therms over a 10 year period. In 2008, Phase II of the lighting retrofit to Government facilities saw a project savings of \$22,000 and 1,404, 000 in kWh. The County was able to utilize \$77,000 worth of grants from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and the Illinois Clean Energy Foundation.

In 2009, the County was awarded \$2.5 million through the EECBG program and \$16,000 through a DCEO grant to increase energy efficiency throughout McHenry County Government facilities for its Phase III retrofit. The EECBG program, funded by the America Recovery & Reinvestment Act, was designed to assist eligible entities in implementing strategies to create jobs, reduce total energy use, and improve energy efficiency in county buildings.

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Since 2009, McHenry County has allocated funding from the EECBG to the following projects:

- Division of Transportation - addition of skylights, lighting retrofits, and installation of light occupancy sensors in the garage area;
- County Administration - Installed 54 solar panels on the roof in December;
- Government Center and Administration building - Replaced sodium vapor parking lot lights and exterior wall fixtures with LED high efficiency lighting;
- Government Center - Installed Daylight controls for public corridor lighting Annex A and the Administration building;
- Upgraded large motors on HVAC units with energy efficiency frequency drives;
- Government Center - Upgraded windows;
- Administration Building - Installed educational Green Kiosk;
- Installed in-row cooling in serving room;
- Government Center - Update controls; and
- Government Center, Jail - Retro-commissioning.

For the Phase III projects, the total savings annually to McHenry County will be \$92,907, with 743,916 kWh savings, generate 16,248 kWh, and save 14,805 Therms. The total project has resulted in a reduction of 1,655,888 lbs. of CO₂.

Through the County's energy reduction efforts, its carbon footprint has been reduced by 6,000,000 lbs. of CO₂. For more information on McHenry County's efforts, please visit the project website at <http://www.mchenrycounty-eeebg.net/>

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“McHenry County government is dedicated to providing the highest quality services for the health, safety, and welfare of the County's residents and communities. We foster representative and transparent government to ensure social, economic and environmental justice.”