



COMMISSIONERS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT
Samantha Krepps
Communications Director
717.240.6343 (O); 717.706.0001 (M)
skrepps@ccpa.net

Energy Savings at Cumberland County Nears \$5 Million Over 15 years

Courthouse receives EPA's Energy Star® Award; Only PA Courthouse Honored; Exceeds Savings Expectations by 19%

Carlisle, PA – Committed to maintaining energy efficiency, Cumberland County has saved nearly \$5 million in the past 15 years, and has been awarded the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 2020 ENERGY STAR® Award, making this the fifteenth straight year the county has been recognized for its proactive approach to energy conservation.

The Cumberland County Courthouse is the only courthouse in Pennsylvania to receive the award this year, and is one of only six government courthouses nationwide to earn this recognition. Each year the EPA honors businesses and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to protecting the environment through superior energy efficiency achievements.

"Our Facilities Management Department has exceeded expectations in energy savings by 19 percent," said County Commissioner Gary Eichelberger. "Our expected savings for year 15 was estimated at \$309,036; however, we exceeded the projected amount with an actual saving of \$369,394. This saves energy and protects our environment not only for today, but for the future."

Cumberland County has implemented the following energy saving measures:

- Replacement of the boiler at the Main and Historic Courthouses, and Historic Jail
- Replacement of the cooling tower at the Main Courthouse
- Installation of energy efficient lights
- Installation of energy motion sensors on vending machines
- Installation of water management by way of low flow spigots and toilets

One Courthouse Square ♦ Room 200 ♦ Carlisle, PA 17013 ♦ 717.240.6150 ♦ Fax: 717.240.6448

commissioners@ccpa.net ♦ www.ccpa.net

- Replacement of hot water usage with an ozone system for the laundry at Claremont Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and the County prison
- Installation of an energy management system which provides remote computer access to the county's HVAC systems

The installation of energy efficient lighting and vending machines, low flow faucets and commodes, recycling programs and several other initiatives have lowered the courthouses' green emissions. The reduction in emissions for all county facilities is the equivalent to removing 300 passenger cars from our roads each year over fifteen years.

Overseen by the county's Facilities Management Department, the energy conservation plan was implemented in 2005 and the county enrolled in a Guaranteed Energy Savings Program, with a 15-year guaranteed payback.

Energy Star certified buildings and plants are verified to perform in the top 25% of buildings nationwide. Energy Star, the only energy efficiency certification in the United States, is based on actual, engineered verification of energy performance. On average, Energy Star certified buildings and plants use 35% less energy, cause 35% fewer greenhouse gas emissions and are less expensive to operate without sacrifices in performance or comfort.

Within the first 7 years of implementing, Cumberland County received a complete return on the \$1.9 million investment and continues to see substantial savings of taxpayer dollars in utility costs, while also reducing the impact of greenhouse gases on our environment. Cumberland County was the first county in the state to implement the Guaranteed Energy Savings Program, authorized by Pennsylvania Act 57, also known as the Guaranteed Energy Savings Act.

The Facilities Management Department, a support division for county departments, is responsible for the maintenance and up-keep of more than 28 buildings and properties, maintained or owned by Cumberland County. The department oversees maintenance, janitorial and construction needs.

Cumberland County is the fastest growing county in the Commonwealth and offers the perfect mix of small town, suburban and rural living. Established in 1750, Cumberland County consistently maintains one of the lowest tax and unemployment rates in the state, while providing exceptional services for its more than 250,000 residents. More information on Cumberland County can be found at www.ccpa.net.