

EARTH DAY 2016

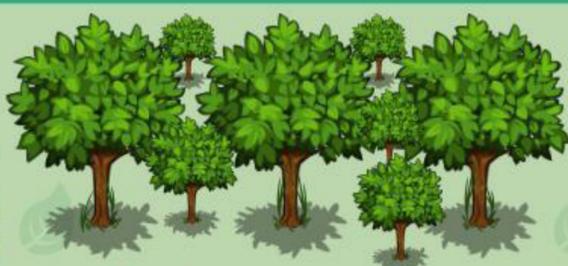


EARTH DAY: APRIL 22, 2016

In honor of Earth Day (April 22) - this brief highlights selected statistics pertaining to energy and the environment for the District of Columbia and a few national references. The data items presented are from several sources including the American Community Survey (ACS) 2014 1-year, District of Columbia Government, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

EARTH DAY NETWORK

According to Earth Day Network, the theme for Earth Day 2016 is *'Lets get planting,'* (earthday.org/2016). The Network states that over the next five years, as Earth Day moves closer to its 50th anniversary, they are calling on us to help them achieve one of their most ambitious goals yet — planting 7.8 billion trees and starting now.



Why Trees?

- ↑ Trees help combat climate change.
- ↑ Trees help us breathe clean air.
- ↑ Trees help communities.

Sustainability

74

Miles of on-road bike lanes in the District with an added 4.5 new miles miles in 2015 (District Department of Transportation).



139,825

Estimated number of street trees in the District in 2015. There were 14,700 street trees planted in FY 2015 (District Department of the Environment).



Number One

The District was number one in LEED certified projects per capita among large cities in 2016 (U.S. Green Building Council). Number one in ENERGY STAR labeled buildings per capita (EPA 2016). Number one in Green Power Community for total amount of renewable energy consumed (EPA, 2016).



3,140,037

Bike Share ridership trips in 2015 system-wide. There were 358 Bike Share stations in the Regional system as of 2015 (District Department of Transportation).



\$2.35 million

Additional funds to the original 4.5 million in 2013, committed by the Mayor in February 2014 for sustainability projects. This brings the total committed sustainability activity funds to almost \$7 million (<http://www.sustainabledc.org/in-dc/projects-and-initiatives/>).



664

Number of LEED certified projects in the District as of April 2016 of which 45 percent were LEED Gold and 11 percent LEED Platinum – this was much higher than the national average for Gold and Platinum projects. In addition, there were 1,043 registered projects in the District (GBIG: <http://www.gbig.org/places/2001>).



Heating and Cooling



153,799

Estimated number of occupied housing units in the District heated by gas in 2014, which is 55.4 percent of all homes. The second highest heating fuel used in 2014 was electricity (110,659 housing units or 39.9 percent). In 2010, a higher number of occupied housing units used gas heat (162,481 housing units or 64.4), and a lower number used electricity (75,313 housing units or 29.8 percent), as compared to 2014 (ACS 2014 1-year).



41

The number of occupied housing units in the District in 2014 that was heated by wood. In 2011, there were 80 occupied housing units in the District heated by wood (ACS 2014 1-year).

Using Energy



171 Trillion Btu

Energy consumption in the District in 2013, with electricity use at over 121.1 trillion, natural gas at 33.8 trillion Btu, and motor gasoline and fuel oil at 14.4 trillion Btu (U.S. Energy Information Administration, State Energy Data System).



76

Percent of retail electricity sales to commercial sector in the District in 2014 and industrial users 2 percent (U.S. Energy Information Administration, State Energy Data System).

14th

The District ranked 14th in the 2015 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard (ranked 21st in 2014). The District scored 23.5 points out of a possible 50 (American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE)).



Commuting to Work



29.3 minutes

Estimated average time for workers age 16 and older in the District spent getting to work in 2014, down slightly from 29.9 minutes in 2013. In 2014, workers age 16 and older in the District spent an average of 27.8 minutes if they drove alone, 30.0 minutes if they carpooled, and 36.4 minutes if they used public transportation (ACS 2014 1-year).



13,330

Estimated number of people in the District who rode a bicycle to work in 2014, about 3.9 percent of workers age 16 and older. This is a significant increase from census 2010 when only 9,288 or 3.1 percent of people in the District rode a bike to work (this growth can be attributed to the bike share program) (ACS 2014 1-year).



44,965

Estimated number of people who walked to work in the District in 2014. This comes out to about 13.1 percent of the District's workforce (ACS 2014 1-year).



DID YOU KNOW?



- ♻ Recycling plastic saves twice as much energy as burning it in an incinerator.
- ♻ Recycling a single aluminum can saves enough energy to power a TV for three hours.
- ♻ Recycling a single run of the Sunday New York Times would save 75,000 trees.

Source: <http://www.recycling-revolution.com/recycling-facts.html>