

ARC Green Communities Measures

Fulton County is certified as a Green Community by the [Atlanta Regional Commission](#) (ARC). The [Green Communities Program](#) is a voluntary certification program that helps local governments reduce their environmental impact through actionable measures. In 2026, Fulton County is applying for recertification by implementing 36 out of 80 possible measures. A description of each measure is provided below.

Measure	Description
1 – LEED Requirements	Fulton County’s Sustainability Plan requires the County to “design and construct all capital projects over 10,000 square feet to meet high performance green building standards such as LEED, Well or Energy Star.”
2 – LEED Buildings	Fulton County currently has 32 LEED-certified buildings.
8 – ENERGY STAR Partner Recertification	Fulton County has been an ENERGY STAR Partner since 1996. Energy efficiency is promoted via the County’s public webpage, its annual employee Earth Day events, and employee newsletter articles.
10 - Streetlights	Fulton County pays for streetlights in and around County building parking lots. The majority of the County’s streetlights are owned by Georgia Power, which primarily uses Dark Sky-compliant, LED streetlights. In 2025 Georgia Power audited the County’s accounts and found that 17 did not use LEDs. Conversion of these streetlight accounts is almost complete
12 – Cool Roof	Fulton County has installed cool roofs on 28 of its facilities, primarily through LEED certification of its libraries. High reflectance roofing materials minimize heat absorption, which reduces the amount of air conditioning needed in the building.
13 – LED Replacements	Fulton County installs LED lighting in all new and renovated buildings, including all 31 libraries.
15 – Lighting Ordinance	In 2006 the County added a night sky ordinance to its Zoning Resolution . The purpose of the ordinance is to minimize the amount of light that is shining into the sky at night.
16 – Renewable Energy	Fulton County has been producing electricity with solar panels since 2021, with the goal that solar will generate 25% of the County’s electricity by 2030. Currently, the county has solar panels on 42 buildings, and the Fulton County website has a solar page where residents can learn about the solar installations and track the electricity produced with a live dashboard.
22 – WaterFirst Community	Every five years, the County earns a WaterFirst Community designation from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority.

24 – MWD Management Plan	The Fulton County Public Works Department complies with the Metro Water District (MWD) Water Resource Management Plan. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division audits the county every five years to verify compliance.
25 – Water Public Awareness	Fulton County’s MS4 permit requires that the county have a public education program to improve water quality in the region. Fulton County’s Education and Outreach Program, managed by the Public Works department, focuses on water quality, water conservation, and pollution prevention. Public Works reaches the community via schools, libraries, senior citizen groups, tours, a public website, and special events.
35 – Community Gardens	Many of Fulton County’s senior centers feature gardens whose produce is often distributed to participants, helping improve food security and increasing access to fresh, unprocessed foods. These spaces serve as educational environments where seniors can learn gardening skills and sustainable practices. Fulton County also hosts two community gardens managed by the UGA Cooperative Extension , where community members can rent plots for their gardening projects.
36 – Farmers Markets	Fulton County partners with the UGA Cooperative Extension to offer the Fulton Fresh Mobile Market , which brings farm-fresh produce, free nutritional education, and cooking demonstrations directly to communities across Fulton County. At the Mobile Market, residents receive free produce bags, helping to address food insecurity and ensuring families have access to healthier food options.
39 – Commute Options	Fulton County offers incentives that contribute to employee commutes with fewer greenhouse gas emissions. These incentives include a discount on monthly MARTA and GRTA cards, as well as a Telecommuting Policy that encourages working from home. Additionally, all Fulton County libraries and most Fulton County buildings have bicycle racks.
40 – Fleet Electrification Policy	Fulton County’s Sustainability Plan has the goal that 25% of the County’s light-duty administrative fleet will be EV or plug-in hybrid by 2030. In 2023 the County completed a Fleet Electrification Plan to evaluate the costs and savings associated with meeting this goal. Currently the county has two plug-in hybrid vehicles, each with their own designated charging station in the Government Center parking garage.
41 – No Idling Policy	Fulton County’s Public and Group Transportation Personnel Policy states that county employees may not idle in a county-owned or leased vehicle for more than 15 minutes.

43 – Alternative Fuels	Fulton County currently has two electric vehicle charging stations in the Government Center parking garage. These charging stations are for two plug-in hybrid fleet vehicles.
44 – Complete Streets	In 2013, Fulton County adopted a Complete Streets Policy that aims to design road projects that accommodate all users, including those who are biking, walking, and using public transit.
45 – Traffic Signals	All six traffic signals that remain in the unincorporated area of Fulton County have been upgraded with LED displays, battery back-up systems, and radar vehicle detection. The county’s Traffic Operations Manager meets monthly with Fulton County cities and GDOT to coordinate traffic signal operation and ensure that traffic is flowing smoothly.
48 – Bicycle and Pedestrian Policies	The County’s Complete Streets Policy specifically addresses accommodating bicycles and pedestrians, committing to infrastructure design and maintenance that will foster a safe environment for these commuters. Since 2013, all of the County’s 31 libraries were renovated or built to include bike racks.
52 – Electric Vehicle-Ready	In 2022, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution 22-0747 stating that all County facilities should have public EV charging stations, where feasible. Six charging stations were installed in 2025: four at Metropolitan Library and two at Animal Services. In 2026, the county issued a Request for Proposals for charging-as-a-service, where a vendor would own, operate, and maintain charging stations on County property.
54 – Recycling Program	Fulton County offers paper, cardboard, plastic, and aluminum/metal can recycling at all government facilities. Recycling is picked up weekly by local hauler Latham Home.
55 – Non-Traditional Recycling	Fulton County recycles ink and toner cartridges, as well as electronics. County maintenance staff collect these items after end-of-use and store them at the Fulton County warehouse until they are auctioned off to be recycled as part of the County’s surplus auction process.
60 – Recycling Drop Off	Fulton County Public Works hosts a Household Hazardous Waste event every fall. The event enables residents to drop off old batteries, small electronic devices, and other types of waste that are difficult to recycle.
61 – HHW Event	Fulton County Public Works hosts a Household Hazardous Waste event every fall in partnership with Fulton County cities. This event helps properly dispose of aerosols, tires, paint, pesticides, and cleaning products.
64 – Recycling and Public	The Fulton County Public Works Public Education and Outreach team includes recycling in its environmental education programs,

Awareness Program	such as the Fall Garden Festival, the Recycled Art Competition, and Shredding Events.
65 – Brownfield Site	Fulton County owns and operates an active methane gas system on a closed landfill site that was converted into an 18-hole golf course (Steel Canyon Golf Club). The County performs regular sampling to ensure the site remains in compliance with regulatory requirements.
67 – Infill Development	Fulton County recently completed construction on two buildings that can qualify as infill development. The Behavioral Health Crisis Center was built on an existing courtyard in between two buildings at the Oak Hill Child, Adolescent, & Family Center. Fulton County Health & Human Services North was converted from a Corona Virus Emergency Response Hub that had previously been an MCI data center.
70 - Revitalization	Fulton County is currently implementing a State Opportunity Zone along Fulton Industrial Boulevard (FIB) to encourage the revitalization of blighted neighborhoods by offering job tax credits to businesses that create two or more new jobs in the area. Fulton County is also working on a Renew the District initiative that involves commercial revitalization along FIB, capital investment, and renewal of the Fulton County Airport. Lastly, the County is working with the FIB Improvement District on their initiatives which include public safety, transportation and infrastructure, landscaping and beautification, and economic development.
72 – Utility Tracking	Fulton County has been using EnergyCAP as its energy data management software since 2017. The format is easy to access and analyze, allowing county staff to quickly compare the current energy use and cost to a 2018 baseline. The County also uses EnergyCAP to identify low performing buildings that might be good candidates for energy and water efficiency upgrades.
74 – Sustainability Plan	The Fulton County Board of Commissioners adopted a Sustainability + Resilience Plan in 2019. The plan was updated in February 2022 with more aggressive goals and a faster timeline. The plan's six priority areas are as follows: climate change mitigation; social equity & smart transit; high-performance county infrastructure; education, outreach, & green jobs training; fostering partnerships; and budgetary appropriation. The County's Energy and Sustainability Manager is tasked with implementing the plan and updating County leadership on the plan's progress.
75 – Youth Engagement	The Fulton County Department of Public Works Public Education and Outreach team provides environmental education for students about pollution prevention, water conservation, water quality, recycling, and environmental stewardship.

77 – Earth Day Events	The Fulton County Sustainability Unit, in collaboration with the Fulton County Department of Public Works, has been hosting Earth Day events for employees since 2024.
78 – Awards Ceremony	Fulton County, in collaboration with the Fulton County Citizens Commission on the Environment, has been hosting an environmental awards ceremony since 2003. The event highlights organizations, projects, and individuals in each County district that exemplify environmental excellence.
79 – Resilience Study	In 2024, Fulton County completed a Resilience Study that identified extreme heat, flooding, and air pollution as the top three climate risk factors for the County. A flyer summarizing the study shares actions that counties, neighborhoods, and individuals can take to minimize these risks.
80 – Resilience Hub	With a grant from the Southeast Sustainable Communities Fund, Fulton County began the process of establishing the County’s first Resilience Hub in 2021. After extensive community input, the County selected the Metropolitan Library to serve as the Hub. The library has hosted programmable thermostat and resilience kit giveaways. In 2021 the building added solar to the roof, and in 2025 the building added a 60 kW battery system. Once the battery operation is approved by Georgia Power, the County will be able to keep the library open even if there is a power outage.