

News



from the Alexandria Sanitation Authority

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Alexandria Sanitation Authority's Annual Report Highlights Progress in Environmental Efforts and Energy Sustainability

(Alexandria, VA) The Alexandria Sanitation Authority today released its 2009 Annual Report, which demonstrated steady and across-the-board progress in mission critical areas, such as reducing the amount of nutrients being released into the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Despite a challenging economy in 2009, ASA also made significant improvements in both energy sustainability and reducing its own carbon footprint, helping Alexandria become a model Eco-city of the future.

As the Authority embarks on its latest facility upgrade to meet tough new environmental regulations, it was also recognized by its peers for its industry leadership and commitment to environmental excellence.

"The progress we achieved in 2009 was particularly gratifying," said ASA General Manager Karen Pallansch. "The numbers we posted paint a very positive story about commitment and achievement. Not only are we significantly reducing the amount of harmful nutrients in our treated wastewater, such as nitrogen, but we are turning them into a valuable natural resource that can be used on Virginia's farms."

The report states that in 2009, ASA:

- ✓ Received and treated 12.5 billion gallons of dirty water
- ✓ Removed nearly *all* nitrogen and phosphorus from the wastewater (92.4% and 99.1% respectively). These nutrients fuel algae blooms that kill life in the Chesapeake Bay watershed
- ✓ Delivered 125 tons of soil amendment product to Virginia farmers
- ✓ Used methane gas produced from the cleaning process as a renewable fuel source to heat its buildings and processes
- ✓ Reduced its energy consumption by 17% since 2006, with a goal to become a "net-zero" energy facility in ten years

ASA has already embarked on its latest upgrade, called SANUP, the State-of-the-Art Nitrogen Upgrade Project, to comply with strict new environmental regulations created to reverse the declining health of the Chesapeake Bay. ASA is committed to make the facility as aesthetically-pleasing as possible, so as not to distract from the City's architectural beauty – just as it did during its last upgrade in 2006.

The ASA 2009 Annual Report is available at www.alexsan.com.

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