



# IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK



Item	Description	Time Frame Ongoing, Short, Medium, Long	Responsible Parties	Potential Partners	Cost Range Estimate \$-\$\$\$	Potential Funding Sources
<b>1. Conservation</b>						
<b>1. Sustain Arlington's tree canopy and natural areas</b>						
1.1.1	Reestablish and maintain at least 40% tree canopy County-wide through conservation and tree-planting programs tailored to local conditions and ecological contexts.	Ongoing	DPR, CPHD, DES	NVCT, NVRC, EcoAction Arlington, nonprofits, VDOT, NPS, NOVA Parks, DOD, DOS, private property owners, County commissions, BIDs, development community	\$\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding, private funding
1.1.2	Ensure 70 percent of Arlington's trees are regionally native by 2035.	Long	DPR, CPHD, DES	NVCT, NVRC, EcoAction Arlington, nonprofits, VDOT, NPS, NOVA Parks, DOD, DOS, private property owners, BIDs, development community	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding, private funding
1.1.3	Establish aspirational tree canopy coverage goals for new public sites.	Short	DPR, APS, CPHD	Private property owners, NOVA Parks, NPS, DOD	\$	Operating budget
1.1.4	Ensure no loss of County-owned natural lands.	Ongoing	DPR, DES	Nonprofits, County commissions	\$	Operating budget
1.1.5	Advance urban forestry and natural resource goals through County public space acquisitions.	Ongoing	DPR, DES	NVCT, private property owners, nonprofits, County commissions	\$\$\$	Capital budget, federal funding, state funding
1.1.6	Reflect FNRP-adopted policies in future Comprehensive Plan elements, sector and area plans.	Ongoing	CPHD, DPR, DES	Nonprofits, County commissions	\$	Operating budget
1.1.7	Expand and formalize the relationship between APS and DPR to ensure school sites meet community objectives for tree canopy and natural spaces.	Medium	DPS, APS	PTAs, nonprofits	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget
1.1.8	Build momentum for the FNRP's policy recommendations through public commitments of support from potential partners.	Ongoing	DPR, DES, CPHD	NVCT, NVRC, EcoAction Arlington, nonprofits, VDOT, NPS, NOVA Parks, DOD, DOS, private property owners, BIDs	\$	Operating budget, private funding
1.1.9	Identify and recruit leaders of large private, institutional, educational and faith-based properties to support the County's environmental goals.	Ongoing	DPR, DES	Private property owners, nonprofits, religious institutions, private schools	\$	Operating budget, private funding

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1.1.10	Monitor and assure adequate care of significant trees on designated historic sites or trees that have intrinsic historical significance.	Ongoing	DPR, CPHD	County commissions, private property owners	\$	Operating budget
1.2 Expand spaces for trees and natural areas						
1.2.1	Seek legislation at the state level that authorizes Arlington County to develop locally-appropriate policies to conserve and manage its natural resources.	Ongoing	DPR, DES, CPHD	Nonprofits, County residents	\$	Operating budget
1.2.2	Establish and implement guidelines for natural infrastructure on public sites.	Medium	DPR, DES, CPHD	Biophilic Cities Network, NPS, NOVA Parks, DOD	\$\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget
1.2.3	Enhance development standards to optimize retention or replacement of tree canopy, natural vegetation, permeable surfaces and biophilic elements.	Short	CPHD, DPR, DES	Development community, Biophilic Cities Network, County commissions, development community, BIDs, private property owners	\$	Operating budget
1.2.4	Continue to work with utility installers (public and private) to reduce impact to trees from trenching and other soil disturbance.	Ongoing	DPR, DES, CPHD	Utility companies	\$	Operating budget, private funding
1.2.5	Examine how prevalence of turf grass on private and public property impedes achievement of FNRP and related stormwater management goals.	Medium	DPR, CPHD, DES, APS	VDOT, NPS, NOVA Parks, DOD, DOS, private property owners, BIDs	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget
1.2.6	Provide technical assistance to owners – including HOAs and institutions – who wish to add natural landscape and biophilic features to their property.	Short	CPHD, DES, DPR	Private property owners, EcoAction Arlington, nonprofits, Virginia Cooperative Extension	\$	Operating budget, private funding
1.2.7	Deliver programs and projects in a manner that supports equitable access to natural infrastructure.	Short	DPR, DES	EcoAction Arlington, NOVA Parks, NPS, DOD	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget

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1.2.8	Review and refine tree retention and replacement rules to address ecosystem services provided by trees.	Medium	DPR, CPHD, DES	Private property owners, BIDs, County commissions	\$	Operating budget, capital budget, private funding
1.2.9	Address County environmental priorities through additional site development requirements and compliance options.	Long	CPHD, DPR, DES	County commissions, private property owners	\$	Operating budget, private funding
1.2.10	Review and strengthen tree-planting and establish guidelines and standards of care where appropriate.	Medium	DPR, CPHD	County commissions, private property owners	\$	Operating budget, private funding
1.2.11	Evaluate roads and rights-of-way to identify opportunities for reducing impervious surfaces and expanding plantable space.	Medium	DES, DPR	VDOT, Federal Highways	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding
1.2.12	Conduct a systematic inventory of land encroachments that threaten to degrade public lands.	Long	DPR, DES, CPHD	Private property owners	\$\$	Operating budget
1.2.13	Test and deploy a site certification system, such as Sustainable Sites Initiative (SITES) or LEED Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND), for public and private projects (including APS).	Medium	CPHD, DPR, DES	Private property owners, BIDs, APS, Developers	\$	Operating budget, capital budget
1.2.14	Offer training to contractors and tree-care companies to ensure compliance with best practices for planting and maintenance of trees.	Medium	DPR, CPHD, DES	Contractors, nonprofits	\$\$	Operating budget, private funding
<b>1.3 Assess and account for all the benefits of trees and natural areas</b>						
1.3.1	Incorporate ecosystem valuation methods that capture known ecosystem values of existing trees and natural areas into County planning.	Long	DPR, DES	County commissions, ISA	\$\$	Operating budget
1.3.2	Determine how the "community value" of trees can be incorporated into site plan reviews and approvals.	Medium	CPHD, DPR, DES	ISA	\$	Operating budget

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1.3.3	Strengthen developer requirements to provide multi-year maintenance of trees and natural resources on site plan projects.	Short	CPHD, DPR	County commissions, private property owners, development community	\$	Operating budget
1.3.4	Ensure that successive owners of property are aware of key landscape features and maintenance requirements.	Long	CPHD, DPR	Property owners, developers	\$	Operating budget
1.4 Foster and strengthen Arlingtonians' commitment to conservation of trees and natural resources						
1.4.1	Expand and enhance the guidance the County provides to residents on appropriate tree care and natural resource management practices, including invasive species, the value of native planting, conserving and expanding stream buffers, night sky protection and wildlife benefits.	Long	DPR, DES	Nonprofits, Virginia Cooperative Extension	\$	Operating budget, private funding
1.4.2	Review and select existing national and local programs that support County environmental education and volunteer stewardship goals.	Medium	DPR, DES	County commissions, nonprofits	\$	Operating budget, private funding
1.4.3	Build on existing partnerships to recruit and train community, cultural and faith-community leaders to serve as nature ambassadors and proponents of grassroots conservation	Medium	DPR	Nonprofits, civic associations, faith community	\$	Operating budget, private funding
1.4.4	Work with APS to identify and, where needed, assist in planning and landscaping areas suitable for outdoor learning on existing and new school sites.	Medium	APS, DPR	PTAs, nonprofits	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget
1.4.5	Increase environmental education opportunities by expanding partnerships with APS and nonprofit organizations.	Long	APS, DPR	PTAs, nonprofits	\$	Operating budget, private funding

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1.4.6	Explore ways to expand the green jobs workforce and career development programs, supported by a multi-sector coalition.	Long	AED, APS, DPR	Nonprofits, local businesses, educational institutions	\$	Operating budget, federal funding, state funding, private funding
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## 2. Climate Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience

### 2.1 Allocate resources to climate-vulnerable hot spots

2.1.1	Direct resources to neighborhoods underserved by existing tree canopy, ecosystem services, or access to natural areas.	Short, Ongoing	DPR, CPHD, DES	Civic associations, private property owners, developers	\$\$-\$\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding, private funding
2.1.2	Explore a County initiative that positions tree and natural area conservation as a high-priority public health issue, implemented by a consortium of local nonprofits, including local hospitals.	Long	DPR, CPHD	Nonprofits, health care providers, civic associations	\$\$	Operating budget, state funding, private funding

### 2.2 Maximize use of trees and other green infrastructure to support climate resilience

2.2.1	Consider revisions to development policies that maximize energy conservation and cooling.	Medium	CPHD, DPR, DES	County commissions, private property owners, development community	\$	Operating budget
2.2.2	Examine ways that Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) might initiate or accelerate the greening of their neighborhoods.	Short	AED, DPR, DES	BIDs, private property owners, development community	\$	Operating budget, private funding

## 3. Biodiversity

### 3.1 Support healthy ecological communities of native plants and wildlife

3.1.1	Expand natural lands in the County.	Long	DPR, DES, CPHD	NVCT, NVRC, nonprofits, VDOT, NPS, NOVA Parks, DOD, DOS, private property owners, County commissions, BIDs, development community	\$\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding
3.1.2	Update, maintain and report on the inventories of natural resources and wildlife on County-owned lands.	Short	DPR	NVCT, NVRC, nonprofits, volunteer organizations	\$\$	Operating budget
3.1.3	Identify additional management categories for natural public lands to enable the application of appropriate conservation measures and maintenance strategies.	Medium	DPR	NVRC, NVCT, NPS, DOD, NOVA Parks	\$	Operating budget

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3.1.4	Protect and support sensitive populations of plants and wildlife.	Ongoing	DPR, DES	NVCT, NVRC, nonprofits, VDOT, NPS, NOVA Parks, DOD, DOS, private property owners, County commissions, BIDs, development community	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding, private funding
3.1.5	Develop a meadow management plan.	Short	DPR	County commissions, non-profits, other jurisdictions	\$\$	Operating budget
3.1.6	Adopt a native plant requirement for public and private sites to expand use and retention of local and regionally native plants.	Short	CPHD, DPR, DES, APS	Development community, nonprofits, other jurisdictions	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget
<b>3.2 Manage threats to ecological health and integrity from invasive and native species</b>						
3.2.1	Update Arlington's invasive species management strategy.	Medium	DPR	County commissions, nonprofits, private property owners	\$	Operating budget
3.2.2	Participate in partnerships for invasive management.	Ongoing	DPR	National Capital PRISM, NPS, NOVA Parks VDOT, DOD, DOS, NPS	\$	Operating budget, state funding, private funding
3.2.3	Sustain momentum already made in invasive management.	Ongoing	DPR	Nonprofits, volunteer organizations	\$ - \$\$	Operating budget, capital budget
3.2.4	Enhance and expand invasive plant detection and removal programs.	Short	DPR	National Capital PRISM	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget, private funding
3.2.5	Support policies restricting the sale and use of invasive plants.	Long	DPR, CPHD, DES	Development community, private property owners, BIDs	\$	Operating budget
3.2.6	Monitor and manage native species with the potential to harm ecological health and integrity.	Ongoing	DPR, DES	National Capital Prism, nonprofits, volunteer organizations	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding, private funding
<b>3.3 Establish a County-wide natural infrastructure and conservation connectivity network</b>						
3.3.1	Document existing habitat on private and public lands and identify connective corridors.	Ongoing	DPR, CPHD, DES	Private property owners, NVCT, other jurisdictions	\$\$	Operating budget
3.3.2	Identify a suite of incentives and actions to support natural infrastructure and connectivity on private land.	Ongoing	DPR, DES, CPHD	Private property owners, NVCT, other jurisdictions	\$-\$\$\$	Operating budget, federal funding, state funding, private funding

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3.3.3	Identify biodiversity, natural infrastructure and connectivity management opportunities on all underutilized or unplanned public lands, regardless of ownership.	Medium	DPR, DES	NPS, NOVA Parks VDOT, DOD, DOS, NPS	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding
3.4 Restore and manage water resources with a holistic, ecological approach						
3.4.1	Prioritize stream restoration opportunities that address multiple goals.	Ongoing	DES, DPR	County commissions, nonprofits, civic associations	\$\$-\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding
3.4.2	Develop a Pond, Seep, Spring and Wetlands Management Plan.	Short	DPR, DES	County commissions, private property owners, NOVA Parks, NPS	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding
3.5 Foster biodiversity in the build environment						
3.5.1	Reduce light pollution.	Short, Ongoing	CPHD, DPR	Development community, Biophilic Cities Network, County commissions, development community, BIDs, private property owners	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding, private funding
3.5.2	Strengthen the guidance of the bird-friendly material outlined in the Green Building Incentive Policy.	Medium	CPHD, DPR	Development community, Biophilic Cities Network, County commissions, development community, BIDs, private property owners	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding, private funding
3.5.3	Implement best practices for sustainable natural surface trails.	Short	DPR	Nonprofits, NVRC, NVCT, NPS, Nova Parks	\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding, private funding
4. Operations						
4.1 Set explicit outcome-oriented performance measures for maintenance activities and schedules for regular assessment						
4.1.1	Monitor changes in tree canopy every 3–5 years, or more frequently if technology improves and costs decline.	Ongoing	DPR, DES	USFS, Chesapeake Bay Network	\$\$	Operating budget
4.1.2	Establish long-term cooperative relationships for data gathering.	Long	DPR, CPHD	Nonprofits, other jurisdictions	\$\$	Operating budget

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4.1.3	Publish a web-based map of the County's current tree canopy as assessments are performed and report regularly on canopy changes.	Ongoing	DPR, DES		\$	Operating budget
4.1.4	Report annually on implementation progress.	Ongoing	DPR	County commissions, nonprofits	\$	Operating budget
4.1.5	Update qualitative data about the County's urban forest through continued plot-based surveys.	Ongoing	DPR	Nonprofits, volunteer organizations	\$\$	Operating budget
4.1.6	Conduct staggered (non-tree) flora and fauna inventories on 5–10-year cycles.	Ongoing	DPR	Nonprofits, volunteer organizations	\$\$	Operating budget
4.1.7	Enlist and train residents to participate in monitoring flora and fauna.	Ongoing	DPR	Nonprofits, volunteer organizations, civic associations	\$	Operating budget, private funding
4.1.8	Conduct surveys on high-impact organisms and existing/emerging pests to inform management.	Ongoing	DPR	Nonprofits, volunteer organizations	\$\$-	Operating budget, capital budget
<b>4.2 Develop and enhance partnerships with independent entities outside the County's jurisdiction</b>						
4.2.1	Continue to develop and enhance partnerships with organizations that already operate in the County.	Ongoing	DPR, CPHD, DES	Nonprofits, volunteer organizations	\$	Operating budget, private funding
4.2.2	Continue to develop and review regional partnerships.	Ongoing	DPR, CPHD, DES	Nonprofits, volunteer organizations, NPS, DOD, VDOT, other jurisdictions	\$	Operating budget
4.2.3	Formalize partnerships with MOUs.	Ongoing	DPR, DES, CAO	NPS, VDOT, DOD, NOVA Parks	\$	Operating budget
<b>4.3 Support and expand the capacity of partner organizations to coordinate recruitment, training and mobilization of volunteers</b>						
4.3.1	Strengthen coordination with organizations that volunteer in the County to share information, plan jointly and maximize the impact of volunteer efforts for natural resources.	Ongoing	DPR	Nonprofits, volunteer organizations	\$	Operating budget, private funding
4.3.2	Improve tracking of volunteer efforts and expand recognition programs.	Short, Ongoing	DPR	Nonprofits, volunteer organizations	\$\$	Operating budget, private funding
4.3.3	Formalize volunteer roles for maintenance, restoration, education and leadership.	Short	DPR, DES	Nonprofits, volunteer organizations	\$	Operating budget, private funding

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4.3.4	Continue to recognize and reward exceptional performance by organizations and individuals at the neighborhood and County levels.	Ongoing	DPR	Nonprofits, volunteer organizations	\$	Operating budget
4.4. Adopt regular, cyclical maintenance schedules for street trees and natural resources						
4.4.1	Move from “reactive” to “proactive” maintenance of publicly owned natural assets, outside of extreme storm events and other emergencies.	Ongoing	DPR	USFS, VDOF	\$	Operating budget
4.4.2	Establish a regular cyclical maintenance schedule.	Ongoing	DPR	USFS, VDOF	\$\$	Operating budget
4.4.3	Inform and educate constituents about the nature and extent of maintenance activities. Publish basic maintenance schedules so they are visible to employees and constituents.	Ongoing	DPR, DES		\$	Operating budget
4.5 Seek long-term sustainable funding to support forestry and natural resource management activities						
4.5.1	Pursue funding support for urban forestry and natural resource management activities through the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).	Ongoing	DPR, DES		\$\$\$	Capital budget
4.5.2	Identify activities that would benefit from longer-term consistent funding.	Ongoing	DPR, DES		\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget
4.5.3	Assess tools to calculate the value of Arlington’s green assets that can then be used for County budgeting.	Ongoing	DPR, DES	ISA, other jurisdictions	\$	Operating budget
4.5.4	Explore multiple sources of funding – federal, state and private – to cover higher costs for tree planting, maintenance and natural area conservation on public land and rights-of-way in underserved neighborhoods.	Ongoing	DPR, DES	USFS, VDOF, VDOT	\$	Operating budget, capital budget, federal funding, state funding, private funding
4.6 Practice and promote environmental responsibility in maintenance operations						

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4.6.1	Create, review and refine existing standard operating practices (SOPs) and consider consolidating them into a single guide.	Medium	DPR, DES	Virginia Cooperative Extension, other jurisdictions	\$\$	Operating budget
4.6.2	Reduce negative impacts to constituents, natural areas and wildlife.	Ongoing	DPR, DES, CPHD		\$\$-\$\$\$	Operating budget, capital budget
4.6.3	Develop and regularly refine best management practices (BMPs) that promote environmental responsibility.	Ongoing	DPR		\$\$	Operating budget

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