

Call for Energy Masters in Arlington

Since 2011, the community organization Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE) has been sponsoring the award-winning Energy Masters program as a way to create a more energy-efficient and sustainable community. ACE co-founded this program with the [Virginia Cooperative Extension Service](#) and [Arlington Thrive](#). ACE trains corps of volunteers in energy efficiency and water conservation techniques and in community education and outreach.

ACE is recruiting a new group of volunteers to begin training this fall. The six-session program will be held on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. between September 30th and November 4th, and on Saturday, October 24th. Held at the Fairlington Community Center, the training will offer three tracks so you can tailor the experience to your own time and talents:

- Energy Coach (community education and outreach)
- Energy ACE (hands-on improvements)
- Energy Master (community/outreach education and hands-on improvements)

Once trained, the corps of community volunteers will contribute 40 hours of community service in Arlington and--new in 2015-2016--Alexandria over the course of a year, at which point they become a certified Energy Master. Interested high school and college students may also participate with reduced volunteer requirements.

These community service hours may include:

- Making hands-on improvements in affordable housing units that increase energy and water efficiency
- Educating residents and their families to encourage behavior change for sustained impact
- Delivering educational programs to community groups and students at local schools
- Providing educational information and energy and water conservation tool kits to residents who are struggling to manage utility costs

To date, more than 120 volunteers have been trained and performed thousands of hours of community service to improve the lives of more than 400 families living in affordable housing. You can read more about the program's impact on the [ACE web site](#).

There's a \$65 fee for the training, but needs-based waivers are available. To learn more and apply today, visit <http://ArlingtonEnvironment.org/Energy>. You can also email ACE with questions at energy@arlingtonenvironment.org.