

Early Bird Benchmarking

Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in its effort to support the new Benchmarking Law is offering an Early Bird Benchmarking program to recognize building owners who benchmark early.



How to Become an Early Bird

Benchmark your building in Portfolio Manager, including the building profile and energy use data covering all of 2014, and report to the County by July 1, 2015.

Learn more. Visit the new DEP Benchmarking Website (<http://bit.ly/depbenchmarking>) for information on:

- The county's benchmarking law
- Data you need to begin benchmarking
- How to access utility data
- Portfolio Manager technical resources
- Strategies to improve energy performance

July 1, 2015
Benchmark Early
Receive Recognition

The Worm: Benefits for Early Bird Benchmarkers

The early birds get the worm! In addition to being set up and **ready for the real deadline** and having the opportunity to **improve your efficiency ahead of disclosure**, Early Bird Benchmarkers also receive a host of **recognition rewards**.

- **County Recognition event Fall 2015: *More details to come!***
- **Greater access to DEP staff** for questions as you benchmark
- **Recognition of your building** on the DEP Benchmarking Website, the Montgomery County Energy News, and a County press release.
- **Priority for inclusion in the "BENCHMARKED" Blog Series** where we profile your building and benchmarking effort.

Fine Print

- Building owners are encouraged to notify DEP (energy@montgomerycountymd.gov) of their intent to participate in order to receive information and alerts on reporting for the Early Bird deadline (information will also be online); this program is voluntary and intent to benchmark early will not be publicized. A building that states intent to benchmark but does not report by the Early Bird deadline will not be disclosed nor penalized.
- Participation in this program does not alter the requirements of the benchmarking law. Reporting early will not change the disclosure schedule of any building. Building data will be disclosed on the 2nd year of official benchmarking deadlines.
- Any building can benchmark early for recognition, regardless if they are covered under the Benchmarking Law, 2-14.
- To receive the recognition of the Early Bird program, buildings must report by July 1, 2015. This report will require building profile data and the full 2014 year's worth of energy data. This may require more than 12 bills worth of energy data.
- The Early Bird Benchmarking program is a voluntary recognition program and does not offer any monetary prize to building owners that benchmark early. Further, this program serves as a pilot for County processes and the benchmarking process itself. DEP will offer extra support during this pilot program and will seek feedback from participants to improve future processes.
- For information on the Benchmarking Law, visit <http://bit.ly/depbenchmarking>.
- Questions? Feel free to reach out to Michelle Vigen, energy@montgomerycountymd.gov.