

# Hamilton County's Facilities Department Recognized as a Leader in Energy Management and Sustainability

The publication *Buildings* has recognized the Hamilton County Facilities Department in its September 2009 edition as a Leader in Energy Management and Sustainability.

The publication recognizes Hamilton County and eleven other organizations in its "Who's Who 2009." The publication cites these organizations for "practices in energy management and sustainability that have resulted in significant reductions in energy usage and operating costs."

County Facilities earned recognition by taking action to reduce its environmental impact while lowering costs.

"Hamilton County Facilities reduced its greenhouse-gas emissions by 2,715 tons in 2008," says Ralph Linne, County Facilities Director. "This is a seven percent reduction compared to our base year of 1997 for buildings under control

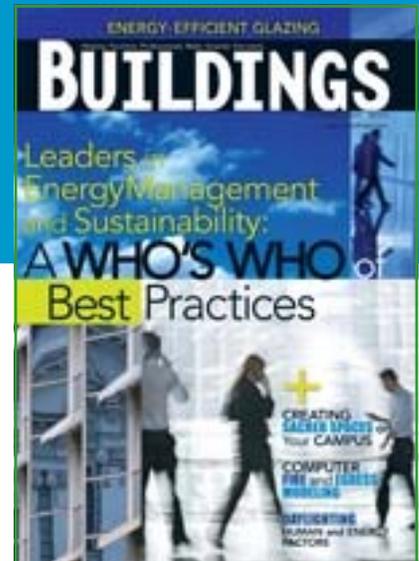
of the facilities department."

Since 1998, Hamilton County's efforts towards energy reduction have saved an average of \$364,000 annually — approximately \$4 million total.

Actions County Facilities has taken to incur these savings in energy include:

- Conducting a monthly review of electric, gas, and water usage.
- Eliminating inefficient use of energy systems.
- Scheduling night and weekend setback in all buildings where tenants are not using the space during those times.

County Facilities continues to explore additional options for using energy wisely and reducing costs. Linne would like to use the savings that result from the energy program to hire a full-time energy manager.



"This recognition is a great honor for all of the employees in the Facilities Department," says Linne. "I am proud of my staff. This shows the taxpayers of Hamilton County that they are receiving the highest quality of work for their taxes."

To read the Buildings article, please visit this link:

<http://www.buildings.com/Magazine/ArticleDetails/tabid/3413/ArticleID/8809/Default.aspx>

At this link, the article titled, "Reducing Use and Waste" provides more detail about Hamilton County's efforts.