Founded in 2002 by residents who shared a concern about the rapid, unchecked sprawl emanating from Atlanta toward Newton County, the Center for Community Preservation and Planning, located in Covington, GA, offers a neutral environment where citizens, leaders, and stakeholders gather to understand and create unique approaches to managing growth and change. Charged with planning for and managing growth in a responsible, environmentally sustainable manner, the Center has been committed to and passionate about green living since its inception.

Given their budget size of less than $500,000, the Center was only required to match $2,600. The Center, however, spent a total of approximately $16,000 on all of the projects plus additional green efforts, dedicating nearly $11,000 of their own funds to the efforts. As a result of their efforts, the Center has seen incredible savings.

Kay B. Lee, Executive Director of the Center is thrilled with the results. “At a time when energy costs are rising, we have seen our costs decrease dramatically between 2010 and 2012,” said Lee.

By participating in the Initiative and in Green Champion convenings, meetings where representatives of nonprofits who received GoodUse assessment or implementation awards gather to share information, resources and lessons learned, the Center staff and surrounding community members have benefited tremendously. Increased knowledge of green building materials and best practices among the Center staff and contractors, suppliers and vendors in Newton County.

SITE DETAILS
Awarded $5,300 in Implementation funding (2010)

IMPROVEMENTS
Replaced water heater with tankless model
Installed high efficiency lighting systems
Replaced toilets with low flow fixtures
Sealed and repaired ducts
Conserving green areas to protect clean water
Concentrating development to build compact communities
Planning public infrastructure to maximize public investment

IMPACT
Increased knowledge of green building materials and best practices among the Center staff and contractors, suppliers and vendors in Newton County.

Exposed Newton County residents to the concepts and importance of green building.

Increased knowledge of how to communicate about green efforts and how to leverage GoodUseto garner additional funding.