

# Building Community-First Infrastructure

The Microsoft Community-First Infrastructure initiative centers on being a good neighbor in the communities where we build, own, and operate our datacenters.

1

**We'll pay our way to ensure our datacenters don't increase your electricity prices.**

- Pay utility rates that are high enough to cover our electricity costs
- Collaborate with utilities on plans to add to the electricity we will need
- Innovate to make our datacenters more efficient
- Advocate for public policies needed for affordable, reliable, and sustainable power

2

**We'll minimize our water use and replenish more of your water than we use.**

- Reduce the amount of water our datacenters use
- Replenish more water than we use
- Provide greater local transparency
- Advocate for public policy that helps minimize water use

3

**We'll create jobs for your residents.**

- Invest in partnerships to train local construction workers
- Expand our Datacenter Academy program to train more individuals for ongoing operations roles
- Encourage policymakers to support new job opportunities

4

**We'll add to the tax base that funds local hospitals, schools, parks, and libraries.**

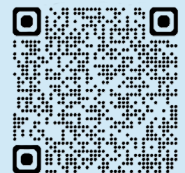
- We won't ask municipalities to reduce their local property tax rates for datacenters
- We'll support policies to invest the added taxes we pay in the vital services the community cares about

5

**We'll strengthen your community by investing in local AI training and nonprofits.**

- Partner with schools, community colleges, and universities to provide AI training
- Support adults with AI tools and skills through AI learning hubs in local libraries
- Support AI skills training for businesses
- Invest in local nonprofits

Scan this QR code to learn more about the **Microsoft Community-First Infrastructure** initiative



# Our Community-First work is already underway across America



## Paying our own way

In Iowa, we partnered with West Des Moines Water Works to **fund a municipal water tower and aquifer storage well**, adding system reliability and flexibility for future needs.

We fully funded major water and wastewater infrastructure in Mecklenburg County, Virginia, **doubling capacity at two water treatment plants and one wastewater treatment plant**.



## Replenishing more water than we use

We're **restoring wetlands and improving agricultural drainage practices** along the Des Moines River upstream of Des Moines, Iowa, to reduce nutrient runoff, lower flood risk, and improve water quality.

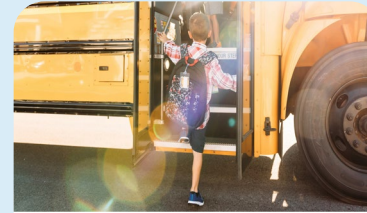
We're partnering with Tribal nations and local water managers in Arizona on projects that **recharge groundwater and reduce water losses** in the Lower Colorado River Basin, one of the most water-stressed regions in the US.



## Creating local jobs

Datacenters in Loudoun, Mecklenburg, and Prince William counties in **Virginia employ ~1,180 people as of 2025** and new builds will support **5,190 construction jobs and 21.2 million workhours**.

Central Washington datacenter construction and operations generate approximately **\$134 million in annual labor income**.



## Adding to the tax base

**West Des Moines** datacenters have supported approximately **\$182 million in city street and utility improvements**, according to city officials.

In 2024, Microsoft paid \$26.4 million in **Central Washington** property taxes, representing **14.8% of all property taxes in Douglas and Grant counties**.

In 2025, Microsoft was the **#1 highest** taxpayer for the City of **Cheyenne, Wyoming**.



## Investing in training

To support local workforce training and career pathways into datacenter and IT roles, we established the Microsoft Datacenter Academy and **funded datacenter academy scholarships and programs** across 36 education partners in 26 locations.

Learn more about Microsoft datacenters at [local.microsoft.com](https://local.microsoft.com)

