

Climate Smart Communities Profile



City of Troy

March 2014

Program Overview

The Climate Smart Communities (CSC) program is a New York State initiative to help local communities reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, prepare for effects of climate change and save taxpayers money. The program is designed to address 10 focus areas, or "pledge elements," outlined in the CSC Pledge: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/53013.html>.

New York State is offering technical support to communities that have adopted the CSC Pledge. This profile provides a stepping stone for identifying a technical support service package to help the City of Troy progress through the 10 pledge elements (see below).

Detailed information on actions completed, in progress, and identified for future action is provided in the tables on the following pages. If a table is missing for a particular pledge element, it means that the CSC program does not have a record of actions taken to address that element.

Local Government Facts:

Adopted Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Pledge: 2012

CSC Pledge Elements Addressed: 7 out of 10

Total Actions Completed: 12

Government Type: City

County: Rensselaer County

Region: Capital District

Population: 50,129

Climate Smart Communities Pledge Elements:

1. *Pledge to Combat Climate Change by Becoming a Climate Smart Community*
2. *Set Goals, Inventory Emissions, Move to Action*
3. *Decrease Energy Demand for Local Government Operations*
4. *Encourage Renewable Energy for Local Government Operations*
5. *Realize Benefits of Recycling and Other Climate Smart Solid Waste Management Practices*
6. *Promote Climate Protection Through Community Land Use Tools*
7. *Plan for Adaptation to Unavoidable Climate Change*
8. *Support a Green Innovation Economy*
9. *Inform and Inspire the Public*
10. *Commit to an Evolving Process*

Pledge Element 1: Pledge to Combat Climate Change by Becoming a Climate Smart Community

Action	Status	Description
Adopted CSC Pledge	Completed	The City adopted the pledge in 2013.

Pledge Element 3: Decrease Energy Demand for Local Government Operations

Action	Status	Description
Upgraded wastewater treatment facilities	Completed	An energy efficiency study of the Waste Water Treatment Plant was completed and implementation of newer, energy efficient equipment was initiated in 2011 and completed in 2012. The Water Treatment Plant has been undergoing an upgrade to the sludge collection equipment.
Energy Audit conducted	Completed	Siemens conducted an energy audit of City buildings about 6 years ago (prior to City Hall offices being relocated). Facilities were upgraded as a result of that audit.
Fleet Efficiency Measures	Identified	The City is investigating the best way to increase fleet efficiency. Intervid is also being researched as an option to keep track of mileage driven.

Pledge Element 5: Realize Benefits of Recycling and Other Climate Smart Solid Waste Management Practices

Action	Status	Description
Construction material recycling program	Identified	The Troy Local Development Corporation is working with Hudson River Natural Products Recycling to coordinate taking the City's discarded construction materials for recycling.
Curbside Compost Program	Identified	Troy partnered with Watervliet and Schenectady on a CFA application to start a composting program. The City has the funding and space to jumpstart this program within City limits. They are approaching this program as a way to reduce tipping fees, which are nearing \$1.2 million a year.
Hazardous Waste Disposal Events	Completed	The City hosts annual hazardous waste disposal events on Earth Day.
Single Stream Recycling Program	Completed	The City adopted single stream recycling in October 2010.

Pledge Element 6: Promote Climate Protection Through Community Land Use Tools

Action	Status	Description
Adopted a Comprehensive Plan for the Community	In progress	The City of Troy received a grant in 2013 to update their comprehensive plan. The City is interested in incorporating sustainability principles into the plan.
Street Tree Committee	Completed	Troy has a Street Tree Committee that works in partnership with the Capital District Community Gardens.
Complete Streets Policy	Completed	The City worked with Transport Troy to adopt a Complete Streets Policy in 2012.

Pledge Element 7: Plan for Adaptation to Unavoidable Climate Change

Action	Status	Description
Property Acquisition in Flood Prone Areas	Completed	The City received funding from FEMA to purchase properties that are flood prone areas.
Riverfront Park Design	Completed	The newly designed and constructed Riverfront Park was designed to deflect flood waters from the Hudson River.

Pledge Element 8: Support a Green Innovation Economy

Action	Status	Description
Troy Waterfront Farmers' Market	Completed	Troy Waterfront Farmers' Market is a non-profit organization that is made possible through a partnership with the City of Troy. Every Saturday, more than 70 vendors participate in the Farmers' Market along a closed down street in Troy.

Pledge Element 9: Inform and Inspire the Public

Action	Status	Description
Earth Day Events	Completed	The City hosts an Earth Day Event every year, which includes a clean-up and distribution of yard waste bags, t-shirts, etc.
Annual Clean-Ups for Tomhannock Watershed	Completed	In May 2013, 40 volunteers joined Rensselaer Land Trust, Capital District Community Gardens' Produce Project and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for a stream and preserve cleanup at the John B. Staalesen Vanderheyden Preserve along the Wynants Kill.
Stormwater Pollution Awareness Campaign: Only Rain in the Drain	Identified	Auto Recyclers' Program for stormwater management is to prevent oil, grease, antifreeze and other material from mixing with rainwater in storm drains.

Pledge Element 10: Commit to an Evolving Process

Action	Status	Description
Protect Tomhannock Watershed	Identified	The Rensselaer Land Trust is interested in helping protect the Tomhannock Watershed.

For more information about the City of Troy's climate protection efforts, please contact: Bill Dunne at (518) 279-7166



The Climate Smart Communities Program is jointly sponsored by six New York State Agencies: the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), Department of State, Department of Environmental Conservation, Department of Health, Department of Transportation, and Public Service Commission.