

Climate Smart Communities Profile



Town of Cairo

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 Town of Cairo 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: 2009

CSC Pledge Elements Addressed: 4 out of 10

Total Actions Completed: 4

Government Type: Town

County: Greene County

Region: Capital District

Population: 6,610

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 Town of Cairo adopted the Climate Smart Communities Pledge in May 2009.

Pledge Element 3: Decrease Energy Demand for Local Government Operations

Action	Status	Description
Conduct energy audits of local government buildings	Completed	An energy audit was conducted in 2013 by Central Hudson.

Pledge Element 4: Encourage Renewable Energy for Local Government Operations

Action	Status	Description
Conduct a Feasibility Study for Solar Farm	Identified	Cairo is considering the development of a solar farm on a Town-owned property at a former quarry off of Route 145 to generate enough electricity to power all municipal facilities.
Installed Geothermal Heating System	Completed	The Town installed a geothermal heating system as part of the library renovations in the summer of 2012.

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

Action	Status	Description
Recycling for Town Residents	Completed	The Town offers free recycling for a variety of items and offers a Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics collection event every year.

For more information about the Town of Cairo's climate protection efforts, please contact: Doug Ostrander at dostr4111@gmail.com



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.