

Climate Smart Communities Profile



Town of East Greenbush

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 East Greenbush 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: 2010

CSC Pledge Elements Addressed: 6 out of 10

Total Actions Completed: 8

Government Type: Town

County: Rensselaer County

Region: Capital District

Population: 16,473

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 East Greenbush adopted the Climate Smart Communities Pledge in 2010.

Pledge Element 3: Decrease Energy Demand for Local Government Operations

Action	Status	Description
Upgrade Wasterwater Treatment Facilities	In progress	The Town is adding on to the existing wastewater treatment plant and incorporating energy efficiency upgrades.
Conducted an Energy Audit	Completed	The Department of Public Works conducted an energy audit for their facility through NYSERDA funding.
Recycling offered in Town Hall	Completed	Recycling bins are located in Town Hall.

Pledge Element 4: Encourage Renewable Energy for Local Government Operations

Action	Status	Description
Installed Solar Panels	Completed	In 2011, free-standing solar panels were installed at the wastewater treatment plant and roof-mounted panels were installed on the DPW garage through ARRA funding.

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

Action	Status	Description
Yard Waste Collection	Completed	The Town has a residential yard waste program.
Offer Single-Stream Recycling	Completed	Single-stream recycling is offered to residents.

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

Action	Status	Description
Sustainable Design Guidelines	In progress	The Town is developing design guidelines for Routes 4 and 9 that will include Smart Growth and Complete Streets elements.

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

Action	Status	Description
Community Amenities Plan	Completed	The Town adopted a Community Amenities Plan to provide a mix of recreational and cultural amenities, park improvements and a multi-purpose trail system which connects neighborhoods, schools, and other centers of activity.

Pledge Element 10: Commit to an Evolving Process

Action	Status	Description
Joined Stormwater Coalition	Completed	The Town joined the Rensselaer County Stormwater Coalition: http://renscostormwater.com/

For more information about the Town of East Greenbush's climate protection efforts, please contact: Meghan Webster at (518) 694-4011



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.