



Climate Smart Communities Certification Report

 BRONZE CERTIFIED

This is the Climate Smart Communities Certification Report of Dutchess County. Dutchess County is a bronze certified Climate Smart Community.

Dutchess County was certified on September 26, 2019 with 122 points earned from 21 completed actions. Listed below is information regarding Dutchess County's Climate Smart Communities efforts and materials associated with its certified actions.

The certification for Dutchess County will expire on August 31, 2024.

Contact Information

The designated Climate Smart Communities contact for Dutchess County is:

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Dutchess County was approved for in 2019 appears below. Note: Standards for the actions below may have changed and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Additionally, points associated with actions prior to 2013 certifications may not be accurate.

1. Build a climate-smart community.

1.1 Pass a Resolution Adopting the CSC Pledge

4 Points

Program Summary: No description was provided.

PDF: [CSCRESOLUTIONDUTCHESS2009.PDF](#)

PE1 Action: CSC Task Force

20 Points

 Bronze Mandatory

Program Summary: County Executive Molinaro and Chairman Pulver appointed 16 community members to serve on the Dutchess County Climate Smart Communities Task Force in Fall of 2018. The members include community leaders, as well as individuals working in innovative fields leading current efforts to undertake Climate Smart actions and represent a diverse and talented collection of individuals committed to reducing the County's overall energy usage, greening its supply and making it more resilient to the unavoidable impacts of climate change. Documentation includes a County announcement, which includes a list of Task Force members with affiliations, an excel file with Task Force member names, affiliation and contact information and copies of meeting minutes and sign in sheets from the 12/20/18 and 3/28/19 meetings.

PDF: [COUNTY ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES TASK FORCE.PDF](#)

PDF: [CSC-TASK-FORCE-MEETING-MINUTES-20181220.PDF](#)

EXCEL: [CSC TASK FORCE UPDATED WO ADDRESSES OR EMAIL.XLSX](#)

PDF: [DC CSC TF MEETING SIGN IN 20181220.PDF](#)

PDF: [DC CSC TF MEETING SIGN IN 20190328.PDF](#)

PDF: [DCCSC-TASK-FORCE-MEETING-MINUTES-20190328.PDF](#)

PE1 Action: CSC Coordinator

10 Points

 Bronze Mandatory

Program Summary: The CSC program is designed to encourage both climate smart actions on behalf of the municipal governments and the community at large. Given this dichotomy, Dutchess County named Co-coordinators to lead this effort in fall of 2018: Steve MacAvery (Chairman of the DCEMC) and Brad Barclay (D C Dept. of Planning and Development's Environmental Planner). <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Planning/Climate-Smart-Communities.htm#Con3>

PDF: [CLIMATE SMART MEMO 11-23-18.PDF](#)

PE1 Action: National/Regional Climate Program

3 Points

Program Summary: Dutchess County is participating in the NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities Program: <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Clean-Energy-Communities/CEC-Map>

4. Shift to clean, renewable energy.

PE4 Action: Renewable Energy Feasibility Studies

3 Points

Program Summary: In 2017, CCE Dutchess County completed a study for Organic Waste Reduction in Dutchess County, that included a feasibility study for anaerobic digestion of organic waste materials for onsite energy generation. The Executive Summary for the full study is attached, as is, the Task Report that includes the anaerobic digestion feasibility study component. A copy of the full report can also be provided upon request.

WORD: [TASK 5.1 SUMMARY OF ORGANICS RECYCLING TECHNOLOGIES AND BUSINESS MODELS FOR DUTCHESS COUNTY FINAL REVISED 2017-03-21.DOCX](#)

PDF: [NYSERDA CGC EXEC SUMMARY.PDF](#)

PE4 Action: Power Purchase Agreement for Renewables

9 Points

Program Summary: See attached pdf. for the DC County Legislature resolution for the PPA agreement and supplemental resource appendices to the resolution (all in the same pdf file)

PDF: [TESLA LEASE RESOLUTION 2018264.PDF](#)

5. Use climate-smart materials management.

PE5 Action: Government Solid Waste Audit

2 Points

Program Summary: A government solid waste audit was performed as part of the 2013 update to the County Solid Waste Management Plan "Rethinking Waste". See attached supporting documentation. This informed the County on waste management practices and initiatives and helped achieve greater efficiencies and cost savings.

PDF: [RETHINKING WASTE.PDF](#)

PE5 Action: Recycling Program for Public Places & Events

2 Points

Program Summary: Dutchess County received a grant in 2014 to have recycling at Bowdoin and Wilcox Dutchess County parks. The County received 25 new recycling bins through funding from Dr. Pepper Snapple Group/ Keep America Beautiful Park Recycling Bin Grant Program. The bins are 34 gal. durable bright blue bins. The initiative to get recycling bins into County parks and public places is implementation of the "Rethinking Waste" plan and helps meet the County goal to reach a recycling rate of 60% by 2021. It also promotes recycling through public awareness. See press release link here: <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/County-Executive/37474.htm>. The County also placed recycling bins at the popular Walkway over the Hudson (see supporting documentation picture).

IMAGE: [WALKWAY OVER THE HUDSON RECYCLING BINS.JPG](#)

PE5 Action: Compost Bins for Residents

2 Points

Program Summary: Compost bins are available for purchase to residents on the Dutchess County Division of Solid Waste Management's website link here: <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Solid-Waste-Management/Composting-Solid-Waste-Management.htm>. Also see supporting documentation outreach material for residents.

PDF: [COMPOST-BIN-FLYER.PDF](#)

6. Implement climate-smart land use.

6.2 Incorporate Smart Growth Principles into Land-use Policies and Regulations

6 Points

Program Summary: Dutchess County Dept. of Planning and Development is a member of the Greenway Compact Program, and supports and administers the Compact Program for Dutchess County. The Greenway Compact Program is a voluntary community planning approach supported by the state for the 13 counties in the Hudson Valley region. Greenway Compact members are eligible for state grants, planning assistance, certain state liability protections, and other benefits. Dutchess County communities have already received more than \$1.8 million in Greenway-related grants. The Greenway program is entirely voluntary, respects local home rule, and relies on incentives and guidelines rather than any new regulations or requirements. The Greenway Compact promotes intermunicipal cooperation on five complementary goals: Natural and cultural resource protection; Economic development including agriculture, tourism, and urban redevelopment; Public access and trail systems, including a Hudson River Greenway Trail; Regional planning; and Heritage and environmental education. To implement the program, Dutchess County created Greenway Connections, a highly-illustrated, easy-to-use sourcebook of inspiring ideas, how-to guidelines, and case study examples that are designed to help local officials and citizen groups make better decisions on improving our surroundings. It also describes the types of projects that are eligible for Greenway funding. The Guides offer detailed recommendations on a variety of current planning topics, from retrofitting commercial strips, saving farmland, designing conservation subdivisions, and creating walkable centers, to site specifics on signs, parking, lighting, and landscaping. See more information here: <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Planning/Greenway-Connections-Guide.shtm> Greenway Guides: <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Planning/Greenway-Guides.htm>

PE6 Action: Complete Streets Policy

4 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: Dutchess County has a Complete Streets website with supplemental information (<https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Transportation-Council/Walking-Bicycling-Resources.htm>). The County also goes above and beyond by utilizing a Complete Streets Checklist, demonstrating how the policy is actively in use and promoted (see supporting documentation). Also see supporting documentation of the Complete Streets resolution passed on 10/13/2016 by the Dutchess County legislature, and meeting minutes from when the policy was approved.

PDF: [DUTCHESSCOUNTY-PASSEDCOMPLETESTREETSRESOLUTION&POLICY_041920181246.PDF](#)

PDF: [DUTCHESS COUNTY COMPLETE STREETS CHECKLIST- 2019_010720191145.PDF](#)

PE6 Action: Planning & Infrastructure for Bicycling & Walking

10 Points

Program Summary: Dutchess County has a Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan titled "Walk Bike Dutchess. The Plan identifies strategies to make walking and bicycling better transportation options for more people. It provides policy and design guidance to municipalities and other agencies to help improve conditions for walking and bicycling, focusing on access to schools, transit, parks, and other activity centers. It also provides design guidelines for walking and bicycling facilities and recommends education, encouragement, enforcement, and evaluation programs to improve safety and promote walking and bicycling. The County adopted the Plan in 2014. <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Transportation-Council/35786.htm> See this link for the full plan : <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Transportation-Council/Walking-Bicycling-Resources.htm#Con3> An executive summary is provided as supporting documentation. The County has developed and supports maintenance of an online interactive Bicycle Parking locator for Dutchess County (see supporting documentation screen shot, and viewable here: <https://gis.dutchessny.gov/bicycleparking/> Also see more information at this link: <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Transportation-Council/Walking-Bicycling-Resources.htm#Con3> Dutchess County maintains and promotes multiple rail trails including the Walkway over the Hudson, the Dutchess Rail Trail (<https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Parks/Dutchess-Rail-Trail.htm>), and the Harlem Valley Rail Trail (<https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Parks/harlem-valley-rail-trail.htm>). The County also recently launched a Parks & Trails interactive website to help visitors and residents locate the hundreds of miles of trails in the County to connect with nature (<https://gis.dutchessny.gov/parks-and-trails/>), the County places visible signage on rail trails (see supporting documentation for photo example). As part of the Greenway Compact, Dutchess County helps support municipalities in receiving Greenway Grants for building more walkable communities (<https://www.iloveny.com/thebeat/post/greenway-grants-support-better-access-and-walkable-communities-10000-each-for-hyde-park-and-tivoli-projects/>).

PDF: [WALK BIKE DUTCHESS EXEC SUMMARY.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [DC BICYCLE PARKING LOCATOR SCREENSHOT.PNG](#)

IMAGE: [RAIL TRAIL SIGNAGE EXAMPLE.JPG](#)

PE6 Action: Alternative-fuel Infrastructure

12 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: See attached for Dutchess County Clean-Fleets Certification Form, with documentation that there are 4 EV Level 2 stations, all available for public use. See web link for a press release from 7/16/18 announcing three of the four stations as operational and available for public use. The Press Release explains that the fourth station would be operational later that summer (<https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/County-Executive/34127.htm>).

EXCEL: [DUTCHESS COUNTY CLEAN-FLEETS-CERTIFICATION-FORM.XLSX](#)

PE6 Action: Natural Resources Inventory

8 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: The Dutchess County Natural Resources Inventory (2010) can be found at this link: <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Planning/Natural-Resource-Inventory.htm>

7. Enhance community resilience to climate change.

PE7 Action: Hazard Mitigation Plan Updates

3 Points

Program Summary: File was too large to upload. See the 2016 Dutchess County Hazard Mitigation Plan with Municipal annexes at this link: <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Emergency-Response/Hazard-Mitigation-Plan.htm>

8. Support a green innovation economy.

PE8 Action: Farmers' Markets

3 Points

Program Summary: Dutchess County collaborates with organizations such as Cornell Cooperative Extension and Dutchess Tourism to promote farmers markets and support the local agriculture economy in Dutchess County: <https://dutchesstourism.com/listing/farmfresh/farmersmarkets>

PE8 Action: Financing Program for Building Energy Efficiency

7 Points

Program Summary: Attached is RESOLUTION NO. 2018099 LOCALLAWNO. 3 OF2018,A LOCALLAW TO AMEND THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY LOAN PROGRAM IN THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS and a screenshot of the EIC Participating Municipalities webpage that shows Dutchess County as an active participant in EnergizeNY.

PDF: [LOCAL LAW RESOLUTION FOR A MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT PACE FINANCING.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [ENERGIZENY_PACE_PARTICIPATINGMUNICIPALITIESMAP \(002\).PNG](#)

9. Inform and inspire the public.

PE9 Action: Energy Reduction Campaign

5 Points

Program Summary: See EnergizeNY participation on Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development website (<https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Planning/environment.htm>) and supplemental document showing the County's participation in the EnergizeNY participating municipalities map.

IMAGE: [ENERGIZENY_PACE_PARTICIPATINGMUNICIPALITIESMAP \(002\).PNG](#)

PE9 Action: Local Climate Action Website

3 Points

Program Summary: 1. Dutchess County Environment Webpage, which describes the County's efforts related to climate change: <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Planning/environment.htm> 2. Dutchess Goes Green Webpage describes how residents and local businesses can participate: <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Planning/dutchess-goes-green.htm> 3. Goals of the Dutchess Goes Green initiative: <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Planning/dutchess-goes-green.htm#con3>

PE9 Action: Social Media

3 Points

Program Summary: Dutchess County Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/DutchessCoGov/?epa=SEARCH_BOX

WORD: [SOCIAL MEDIA_SCREENSHOTS.DOCX](#)

10. Engage in an evolving process of climate action.

PE10 Action: Partnerships with Other Entities

3 Points

Program Summary: Dutchess County supports the Hudson Valley Greenway Compact Program. <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Planning/Greenway-Connections.htm> The Greenway Compact Program is a voluntary community planning approach supported by the state for the 13 counties in the Hudson Valley region. Greenway Compact members are eligible for state grants, planning assistance, certain state liability protections, and other benefits. Dutchess County communities have already received more than \$1.8 million in Greenway-related grants. The Greenway program is entirely voluntary, respects local home rule, and relies on incentives and guidelines rather than any new regulations or requirements.