



Climate Smart Communities

November 2015

City of Troy

CSC 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 impacts of climate change and save taxpayer dollars. The program is designed to address 10 focus areas outlined in the [CSC 10 Pledge Elements](#) (see below).

This CSC profile outlines the City of Troy's progress through the 10 pledge elements. 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 pledge element.

The [CSC Certification](#) program provides local governments with a comprehensive framework to guide climate action and enables high performing communities to achieve recognition for their leadership. Each pledge element below is accompanied by a [CSC Certification Manual](#) that recommends initiatives and resources for getting started. Click on any of the pledge elements for additional information.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT FACTS:

Adopted Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Pledge: 2012

CSC Pledge Elements Addressed: 7 out of 10

Total Actions Completed: 16

Government Type: City

County: Rensselaer County

Region: Capital District

Population: 50,129

Climate Smart Communities Pledge Elements [Click links to view CSC Certification Manual]

1. [Pledge to be a Climate Smart Community](#)
2. [Set Goals. Inventory Emissions, Plan for Climate Action](#)
3. [Decrease Community Energy Use](#)
4. [Increase Community Use of Renewable Energy](#)
5. [Realize Benefits of Recycling and Other Climate-Smart Solid Waste Management Practices](#)
6. [Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions Through Use of Climate-Smart Land-Use Tools](#)
7. [Enhance Community Resilience and Prepare for the Effects of Climate Change](#)
8. [Support Development of a Green Innovation Economy](#)
9. [Inform and Inspire the Public](#)
10. [Commit to an Evolving Process of Climate Action](#)

Pledge Element 1: Pledge to be a Climate Smart Community

Action	Status	Description
Adopted CSC Pledge	Completed	The City adopted the pledge in 2013.
Sustainability Task Force	Completed	Mayor Lou Rosamilia and City Council President Rodney Wiltshire appointed six individuals to the city's Sustainability Task Force, which has been established to help identify and review current climate change issues facing the City of Troy and propose plans of action to address them. The Sustainability Task Force was originally created as the Joint Task Force on Sustainability and Climate Smart Practices in Community Planning.

Pledge Element 3: Decrease Community Energy Use

Action	Status	Description
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.
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.

Pledge Element 4: Increase Community Use of Renewable Energy

Action	Status	Description
Remote Net Metered Solar Project	In progress	In 2015, the City of Troy initiated a process to install a remote net metered solar array.
Solarize Campaign	In progress	A group of volunteers began Solarize Troy, a bulk purchasing program, in 2014 and ran the first outreach campaign in the Capital District. In 2015, Solarize Troy received funding under NYSERDA's Community Solar Program and recently ended another successful campaign. It is anticipated that Solarize Troy will run additional campaigns in upcoming years.

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

Action	Status	Description
Curbside Compost Program	In progress	Troy partnered with Watervliet and Schenectady on a CFA application to start a commercial composting pilot program as a way to reduce waste tipping fees, which are nearing \$1.2 million a year. The pilot will take place across 2 neighborhoods and will include about 600 businesses.
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.
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.
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.

Pledge Element 6: Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions Through Use of Climate-Smart Land-Use Tools

Action	Status	Description
Street Tree Committee	Completed	Troy has a Street Tree Committee that works in partnership with the Capital District Community Gardens.
Adopt the New York State Unified Solar Permit	Completed	In 2014, the City of Troy adopted the New York State Unified Solar Permit.
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.
Complete Streets Policy	Completed	The City worked with Transport Troy to adopt a Complete Streets Policy in 2012.

Pledge Element 7: Enhance Community Resilience and Prepare for the Effects of 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.
NY Prize Phase 1 - Microgrid Feasibility Study	Completed	Neighbors Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) and Samaritan Hospital in Troy are both looking to provide their campus with resilient and reliable power during normal operations and utility outages. The proposed microgrid would augment an existing steam system with combined heat and power on RPI's campus, to provide up to eight MW of power. The system would provide electricity and thermal output to the campus, electricity to Samaritan Hospital, and possibly to a fire station and various county office buildings. Samaritan Hospital would be able to maintain normal operation and RPI would be able to take in members of the community to provide shelter.

Pledge Element 8: Support Development of 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.
Join the Energy Improvement Corporation	Completed	In October of 2015, the City of Troy joined the Energy Improvement Corporation to finance energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades in residential and/or commercial properties. This program is part of the Energize NY (PACE) Benefit Financing Program.

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.

Pledge Element 10: Commit to an Evolving Process of Climate Action

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



**Climate Smart
Communities**

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.