



Climate Action Plan (CAP) for Addison County: Overview

The Climate Action Plan (CAP) for Addison County intends to:

- Provide a much-needed blueprint for broad, community-supported reduction of local greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, to be measured against CEAC's biennial Greenhouse Gas Inventory.
- Present decision-makers and the public with practical steps that can be taken locally to reduce Addison County's GHG emissions.
- Identify and improve existing and future opportunities for businesses and create new "green jobs" for individuals.
- Build upon and be complementary to the climate work that is already being done in Addison County by local individuals, businesses, and organizations.

GHG Reduction Goal

Reduce community-wide GHG emissions by 50% below 2017 levels by 2030.

GHG Reduction Pathways

- Reduction
- Fuel Switching
- Sequestration
- Offsetting

Strategic Goals (or "Strategies")

Specific statements of direction that expand on the overall GHG reduction goal and guide decisions about future public policy, community investment, and actions.

Actions

Detailed items to implement to accomplish the Strategic Goal

Based on the potential reductions included in the CAP, CEAC recommends the following as an initial CAP goal in Addison County:

To reduce community-wide GHG emissions by 50% below 2017 levels by 2030 in alignment with both the State of Vermont and Paris Climate Agreement emissions reduction goals.

The CAP's Strategies are specific statements of direction that will help meet the overall GHG emissions reduction goal. Strategies were identified and organized by the three largest GHG emitting sectors in Addison County:



Buildings & Energy



Transportation & Equipment



Agriculture & Forestry

Each Strategy has its own list of more specific "Actions" to implement to accomplish the Strategy. CEAC used the following criteria to develop and assess the CAP's Actions:

1. Is it likely to be supported by community partners? Is it politically feasible?
2. Will implementation advance equity within the community? Does it address the needs of vulnerable or historically marginalized populations?
3. When implemented, would it be game-changing in terms of reducing GHG releases?



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Sector-Specific GHG Reduction Pathways:

Buildings & Energy

-  Switch building heat and industrial processes from fossil fuels to electricity.
-  Make new and existing buildings more energy-efficient to build and operate.
-  Increase local production of energy that is not dependent on fossil fuels.

Transportation & Equipment

-  Reduce consumption of fossil fuels by equipment and vehicles.
-  Accelerate switching equipment and vehicles from fossil fuels to zero-carbon options.

Agriculture & Forestry

-  Reduce GHG emissions from livestock operations.
-  Increase the storage of carbon in soil.

CEAC is seeking public input throughout March 2022 to inform the development of the final CAP, which is expected to be released in April 2022. Please visit our website for the full draft CAP, public meeting schedule, public comment form, FAQ, and other resources.