

CSG Monthly Update for TB Workshop Meeting- June, 2022

1. We analyzed the usage and cost data from the EV Charger to determine how much to charge customers after the 2 years of free electricity is over on June 1, 2022. Per this analysis, we proposed that customers be charged 35 cents per kWh and this was accepted by the Town Board. The EV sign indicating free charging was removed. We are discussing ways to approach EV Charger maintenance and servicing.
2. We have been doing climate smart outreach in Plattekill and Shawangunk. We are hopeful that Plattekill will become a climate smart community.
3. We held the annual Riverkeeper Sweep on 5/7. We had 4 canoe paddlers and 49 land volunteers, including Girl Scout Troops 60125 and 60142. Totals at the 6 sites: 2,470 lbs. of garbage that includes 27 tires, a bed frame, roofing, barrels, chairs, tarps, culvert pipes, and 24 bags of garbage!
4. In collaboration with Parks & Rec, we held an Arbor Day celebration on 5/21 at Town Hall. We received the Ulster County Arbor Day grant to obtain trees and mulch. Lowe's, Rosedale Nursey, and Bloom donated supplies and support. There were tree poems, musical guests, mulching, and Supervisor Majestic proclaimed it Arbor Day!
5. Through a grant from NYSDEC for Trees for Tribes program, we planted 370 trees and shrubs on the bank of the Walkill River adjacent to the Gardiner landfill park on 5/21. This program is designed to plant trees along stream corridors to prevent erosion, increase flood water retention and protect water quality.
6. We are coordinating with Ulster County to make the Ulster County Fair more green and sustainable.
7. We have achieved 4 High Impact Actions in the Clean Energy Communities Program, making a \$5000 grant available to us for green projects. We have decided to use some of the money on EV Charger finances and the rest on building audits, designed to help businesses and municipal buildings become more energy efficient. Once we have all the details, we will submit for these grant funds.
8. We are updating Gardiner's GHG Emissions Inventory.
9. We continue to move forward with LED streetlight conversion with NYPA and Central Hudson. This will result in lower costs and decreased GHG emissions.
10. We continue to advocate with the Danskammer Coalition against the Danskammer project.
11. We have joined ICLEI, a network of governments focused on sustainability; they are providing us tools to complete our Community GHG Emissions Inventory. We have organized a sub-committee to complete this inventory and hope to present the results to the Town Board in the coming months.
12. We are continuing to move forward with CCA implementation.
13. Per legal guidance, there are challenges with a solar array co-existing with parkland at the Transfer Station, so the solar array project is currently on hold.
14. Our monthly meetings use the ZOOM platform and links for the meeting be found on the Town of Gardiner website or our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/climatesmartgardiner/>