

CSG Monthly Update for TB Workshop Meeting- January, 2021

- 1) Signage for sponsors and parking for the EV Charging Station has been installed.
- 2) We are registering with NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities Program. If we complete requisite climate smart actions through this program and attain "Clean Energy Community" status, we will be able to apply for grants through this program.
- 3) We are considering formal CSG bylaws, orientation process for Taskforce members, and ethics code.
- 4) We will be collaborating with UCRRA on their Zero Waste Seminar Project, to raise awareness of the environmental impacts of single use plastics, and how waste reduction and reuse can be practical strategies for pollution prevention.
- 5) We signed a petition to Governor Cuomo and NYS Legislative leadership urging them to end nonessential fossil fuel subsidies in NY in the 2021-2022 budget.
- 6) We are helping to promote a virtual showcase of experts on energy efficiency and green energy options, as well as applicable grants and incentives, coordinated by New Paltz Climate Action Coalition, called "Warm Up to Winter: An Energy Showcase" on 1/14/21, from 6-7:30PM.
- 7) We are working on constructing a solar array at the landfill and have connected with potential developers to assess its feasibility.
- 8) We are collaborating with the Cornell Cooperative Extension to complete a Climate Smart Resiliency Tool, designed to help Gardiner adapt to climate change. Brent Gotsch and Melinda Herzog will present this project at our monthly Taskforce meeting. David Dukler is helping them locate relevant documents for this project.
- 9) We plan to join ICLEI, a network of governments focused on sustainability, in January and thank the Town Board for providing the funds for this membership; they will provide us tools to complete our Community GHG Emissions Inventory.
- 10) We are considering ways to switch Gardiner's streetlights to LEDs and have been consulting with James Brigagliano to discuss ways to include Dark Skies concepts; we are currently auditing streetlights.
- 11) We are working with Joule on the next steps in the CCA process, since we now have an MOU with them.
- 12) We are working with the Ulster County CSC to disseminate CCA to Ulster County municipalities.
- 13) We are tabulating completed Climate Smart Communities actions in order to apply for Climate Smart Communities Bronze Certification and increased access to grant opportunities.
- 14) We are collaborating with the ECC and Open Space Commission on the Gardiner Natural Resource Inventory.
- 15) We created annual reports process for the public and Town Board on CSG's activities for 2018 and 2019. These are posted on the Town of Gardiner website. We will create a revised annual summary format for 2020, according to Climate Smart Communities criteria. This summary will be available shortly for the Town Board and public.
- 16) Due to Coronavirus, many community projects, such as Trees for Tribes and Go Green Expo, are postponed; we are having our monthly CSG Taskforce meetings via teleconference for the time being. Our monthly meetings use the Microsoft Teams platform and links for the meeting be found on the Town of Gardiner website or our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/climatesmartgardiner/>