

CSG Monthly Update for TB Workshop Meeting- May, 2022

1. We achieved Bronze Certification status in the CSC Program in 2021. We hope to complete requisite climate smart actions to achieve Silver Certification status by 2026.
2. 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.
3. 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 have proposed that customers be charged 25 cents per kWh. However, per ChargePoint, there may be some increased software billing charges, so we are analyzing this new information and considering whether the proposed charges (25 cents per kWh) may need to be increased as well.
4. We have been doing climate smart outreach in Plattekill and Shawangunk. We are hopeful that Plattekill will become a climate smart community.
5. We are coordinating with Open Space Commission and ECC to discuss an NRI Local Law, pending the completion of the Comprehensive Plan. This local law would make Gardiner's NRI a foundation for land development.
6. We will be participating in the annual Riverkeeper Sweep on 5/7 at 9AM, where we help clean the Wallkill River and recycle trash.
7. We are collaborating with Parks & Rec for an Arbor Day celebration on 5/21 at 1PM at Town Hall. We received the Ulster County Arbor Day grant to obtain trees and mulch. Lowe's, Rosedale Nursey, and Bloom are donating supplies and support.
8. We received a grant from NYSDEC for Trees for Tribs program to plant 370 trees and shrubs on the bank of the Wallkill River adjacent to the Gardiner landfill park on 5/21 at 9AM. This program is designed to plant trees along stream corridors to prevent erosion, increase flood water retention and protect water quality.
9. We are coordinating with Ulster County to make the Ulster County Fair more green and sustainable.
10. 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.
11. We are updating Gardiner's GHG Emissions Inventory.
12. We continue to move forward with LED streetlight conversion with NYPA and Central Hudson. This will result in lower costs and decreased GHG emissions.
13. We continue to advocate with the Danskammer Coalition against the Danskammer project.
14. 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.
15. We recently met with Joule and CCA pricing now seems more favorable, so we moved forward with public information sessions at Town Hall, as well as virtually. Both virtual and in-person sessions were offered on 4/9 at 1PM and 4/25 at 7PM. A virtual only meeting was offered on 4/28 at 7PM.
16. 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/>