

## CSG Monthly Update for TB Workshop Meeting- April, 2021

- 1) Per solar array at TOG landfill, we are considering what the acreage parameters would need to be for a potential RFP for developers, as well as concordance with current TOG Solar Law.
- 2) We will be participating in the annual Riverkeeper Sweep on 5/1, where we help clean the Wallkill River and recycle trash.
- 3) We received a \$1000 grant with the NYS Urban Forestry Council and are collaborating with Parks & Rec for an Arbor Day celebration on 4/24 at Majestic Park.
- 4) We received a grant from NYSDEC for Trees for Tribes program to plant 300 trees and shrubs on the bank of the Wallkill River adjacent to the Gardiner landfill park on 5/8. This program is designed to plant trees along stream corridors to prevent erosion, increase flood water retention and protect water quality.
- 5) Anilla Cherian, Clean Energy Communities Coordinator with Hudson Valley Regional Council, along with Margo Thompson, will present to the Town Board on April 6<sup>th</sup> regarding the NY Stretch Energy Code and Unified Solar Permit.
- 6) We are outreaching other municipalities to facilitate participation in the CSC program.
- 7) We are collaborating with the Cornell Cooperative Extension to complete a Climate Smart Resiliency Tool, designed to help Gardiner adapt to climate change. They will be meeting with the Town Board and other municipal officials to complete their assessment.
- 8) We are working to update Gardiner's GHG Emissions Inventory to include 2020 data.
- 9) We continue to work on LED Streetlight conversion options. Central Hudson will be conducting an audit and providing us cost per lamp.
- 10) We have joined ICLEI, a network of governments focused on sustainability; they will provide us tools to complete our Community GHG Emissions Inventory and we have organized a sub-committee to complete this inventory. The GHG Inventory training will begin May, 2021 and run until November, 2021, when we hope to complete the inventory.
- 11) We are working on revisions to the CSG tab of the TOG website, to make it more comprehensive and meet criteria for CSC "points."
- 12) Joule offered the second of at least 3 CCA presentations for the public on 3/16/21. A recording of this presentation will be made available on the Town of Gardiner website. These presentations help educate the public about CCA and offer a Q&A period. Their next presentation will be on 4/3. We are also considering adding a community solar opt-out option to our CCA program, where Gardiner residents would be able to take advantage of 10% off their electric bill through community solar, in addition to savings from our CCA project.
- 13) We registered 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. We may need to consider a Town resolution to annually assess municipal GHG emissions or update the Town Unified Solar Permit to be eligible for this grant.
- 14) We are tabulating completed Climate Smart Communities actions in order to apply for Climate Smart Communities Bronze Certification and increased access to grant opportunities. We plan to apply for Bronze certification in July, 2021.
- 15) Due to Coronavirus, many community projects, such as the Go Green Expo, are postponed; we are having our monthly CSG Taskforce meetings via teleconference for the time being. 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/>