

CSG Monthly Update for TB Workshop Meeting- July, 2021

- 1) Regarding a solar array at TOG landfill, we are developing an RFP for developers and hope to present a plan to Town Board for review soon.
- 2) We met with David Church, who is consulting with Gardiner on the Comprehensive Plan, at our last CSG Taskforce Meeting, and discussed potential climate smart, environmentally sustainable updates to the Plan.
- 3) We are considering ways to take advantage of DEC Climate Smart Communities grants, which recently opened and are due by the end of July. These are grants for actions to adapt to climate change or achieve CSC certification, where the municipality contributes 50% (money or in-kind labor) and the DEC chips in the other 50%.
- 4) We are partnering with Ulster county officials to showcase “green” vendors/education at the Ulster County Fair.
- 5) We unanimously voted to accept a new member to our Climate Smart Gardiner Taskforce, Steve Mazzuca. We are excited that he has joined our group!
- 6) We supported a letter recommending that the NYS Teachers Retirement System divest from fossil fuel investments.
- 7) We are considering ways to utilize low carbon concrete for the basketball court at Majestic Park.
- 8) We collaborated with Supervisor Majestic to disseminate information about the CSC program to supervisors of local municipalities.
- 9) We are working to update Gardiner’s GHG Emissions Inventory to include 2020 data.
- 10) We continue to work on LED Streetlight conversion options. Central Hudson completed their audit, and we will present to the Town Board in July to discuss redesign and conversion options.
- 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. The GHG Inventory training recently began and will run until November, 2021, when we hope to complete the inventory.
- 12) In collaboration with Emily, TOG Assistant to the Supervisor, we made significant revisions to the CSG tab of the TOG website, to make it more comprehensive and meet criteria for CSC “points.” Thanks, Emily!
- 13) We recently received unfortunate news about the CCA pricing being offered to Gardiner. We are now waiting on other municipalities to join our Joule CCA bloc and monitoring CCA pricing, so we can offer the best green deal to residents. We are also hoping to add 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.
- 14) We sent in our application for Bronze certification in June, 2021. A lot of work went into this application and its contents. We should hear back from the NYS DEC in August, 2021. We want to thank the community and Town Board for their participation in this effort.
- 15) 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/>