

CSG Monthly Update for TB Workshop Meeting- June, 2023

1. We are coordinating with the Cornell Cooperative Extension re: the Disaster Preparedness Outreach Project. They will assist Gardiner in publicizing available local resources in the event of a disaster.
2. The Town of Gardiner received the ECO Action Champion Award for leadership on clean energy use, sponsored by the Community Choice Aggregation Administrators of New York. There is a great article about this award in the 5/24/23 issue of Hudson Valley One, with Supervisor Majestic and Town Councilman Franco Carucci pictured!
3. The Coordinator of Climate Smart Gardiner is stepping down. We are working to recruit a new Coordinator to promote a smooth transition.
4. We are promoting the Gardiner Library's "Bags to Benches" project, where residents can bring plastic bags, film, and wrap to the library, transfer station and New Paltz High School. 500 lbs. of plastic will be transformed by Trex into a bench for the library. Incredibly, the community reached the 500 lb. goal in 2 months! The library will continue to collect plastic and start another formal challenge in September.
5. We had our annual Gardiner Riverkeeper Sweep on 5/6. This was an opportunity for residents to pitch in a clean-up the Wallkill River and surrounding land, as well as recycle some of the garbage we found. We also provided maintenance to the 670 trees planted at Gardiner Park. A special thanks to the volunteers, Highway Department, Town Board and our local sponsors, Yard Owl and Hoot Owl Restaurant!
6. We continue to move forward with LED streetlight conversion with NYPA and Central Hudson. This will result in lower costs and decreased GHG emissions.
7. We are coordinating with Greenway, a company that helps keep events to "zero waste," as well as other stakeholders, to discuss events where we can partner, such as the Ulster County Fair and Gardiner Day.
8. We continue to advocate with the Danskammer Coalition against the Danskammer project.
9. We are working on ways to help the Ulster County Fair educate folks about climate smart actions, as well as reduce waste from the event.
10. We are continuing to move forward with CCA implementation. The Town Board decided to go with of the bids Joule, our CCA administrator, obtained and letters were sent to residents, informing them of their options. Jeff Domanski, representing Hudson Valley Community Power and Joule, gave a presentation on 6/1 to residents and answered questions about this offering.
11. 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/>