

Climate Smart Communities Certification Report

 BRONZE CERTIFIED

This is the Climate Smart Communities Certification Report of Yorktown, Town (Westchester). Yorktown, Town (Westchester) is a bronze certified Climate Smart Community.

Yorktown, Town (Westchester) was certified on July 08, 2022 with 148 points earned from 25 completed actions. Listed below is information regarding Yorktown, Town (Westchester)'s Climate Smart Communities efforts and materials associated with its certified actions.

The certification for Yorktown, Town (Westchester) will expire on September 30, 2027.

Contact Information

The designated Climate Smart Communities contact for Yorktown, Town (Westchester) is:

Name:	MATT SLATER
Title:	SUPERVISOR
Address:	363 UNDERHILL AVENUE YORKTOWN HEIGHTS, NY 10598

Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Yorktown, Town (Westchester) was approved for in 2022 appears below. Note: Standards for the actions below may have changed and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Additionally, points associated with actions prior to 2013 certifications may not be accurate.

1. Build a climate-smart community.

1.1 Pass a Resolution Adopting the CSC Pledge


4 Points

Program Summary: No description was provided.

PDF: [CSC PLEDGE](#)

PE1 Action: CSC Task Force

20 Points

 Bronze Mandatory

Program Summary: The formation of the Climate Smart Communities Task Force was established January 7, 2020 by the Yorktown Town Board. Yorktown residents that are members of the Task Force include Swarna v Pujari (CEO of TouchLight Innovations), Robert DeAngelis (President of Yorktown100 and on the Board of Directors of CURE100), Keith Holmes (Managing member of SK Energy), Paul Moskowitz (Member of Yorktown Advisory Committee on Open Space), and Sarah Wilson (Member of Executive Committee of Sierra Club Lower Hudson Group) with Town Supervisor Matthew J. Slater as Town Board liaison. The Task Force meets the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. The meetings are recorded and posted publicly. In the attached May and June meeting attendance documents a hyperlink to the posted meetings can be found.

PDF: [RESOLUTION - JANUARY 7, 2020 CREATION OF CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE.PDF](#)

PDF: [RESOLUTION - FEBRUARY 18, 2020 CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE.PDF](#)

PDF: [CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES TASK FORCE - TOWN WEBSITE.PDF](#)


PDF: [CSC TASK FORCE 2020-2021 MEETING CALENDAR.PDF](#)

PDF: [CSC MAY 12, 2021 MEETING ATTENDANCE.PDF](#)

PDF: [CSC JUNE 9, 2021 MEETING ATTENDANCE.PDF](#)

PE1 Action: CSC Coordinator

10 Points

 Bronze Mandatory

Program Summary: In the resolution, adopted February 18, 2020 by the Town of Board of the Town of Yorktown, Swarnav Pujari was appointed Chairman of the Climate Smart Communities Task Force of the Town of Yorktown

PDF: [CSC TASK FORCE COORDINATOR RESOLUTION.PDF](#)

PDF: [CSC MAY 12, 2021 MEETING ATTENDANCE \(1\).PDF](#)

PDF: [CSC JUNE 9, 2021 MEETING ATTENDANCE \(1\).PDF](#)

PE1 Action: Partnerships with Other Entities

3 Points

Program Summary: The Town of Yorktown has partnered with Sustainable Westchester to provide and educate residents with vetted solar-power opportunities that will lead to financial savings and a positive environmental impact. As of August 1st, 2020, per the resolution passed by the Yorktown Town Board authorizing Town Supervisor Matt Slater to sign an agreement with Sustainable Westchester, 335 residents of Yorktown have enrolled in the Community Solar program offered by Sustainable Westchester.

PDF: [RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH SUSTAINABLE WESTCHESTER.PDF](#)

PDF: [YORKTOWN COMMUNITY SOLAR UPDATE FEB. 3, 2021.PDF](#)

PDF: [YORKTOWN PARTNERS W_ SUSTAINABLE WESTCHESTER - AUG.17, 2020.PDF](#)

2. Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action.

PE2 Action: Government Operations GHG Inventory

16 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority



Program Summary: A Town of Yorktown GHG Inventory for Government Operations for 2020 was performed by the Climate Smart Communities Task Force. A revised and updated version of the report has been uploaded.

PDF: [REVISED YORKTOWN CSC GHG INVENTORY FOR MUNICIPAL ONLY 210918.DOCX.PDF](#)

PDF: [CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES TASK FORCE_TOWN OF YORKTOWN NEW YORK.PDF](#)

PE2 Action: Community GHG Inventory

16 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: A Town of Yorktown Community GHG Inventory for 2020 was performed by the Climate Smart Communities Task Force. A revised and updated version of the report has been uploaded.

PDF: [CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES TASK FORCE_TOWN OF YORKTOWN NEW YORK.PDF](#)

PDF: [TOWN OF YORKTOWN ENTIRE TOWN EMISSIONS 220301.DOCX.PDF](#)

3. Decrease energy use.

PE3 Action: Interior Lighting Upgrades

1 Points

Program Summary: In May 2019, the Town of Yorktown upgraded the interior lights at the John C. Hart Memorial Library. Of the 354 lights located in the building 75% of the 2 bulb T 12 four foot troffers and 86 high hats with regular bulbs to LED lights (4 ft. troffers) were converted to 4 ft. troffer LED lights.

PDF: [INTERIOR LIGHTS INVOICE.PDF](#)

PDF: [INTERIOR LIGHTING - TOWN BUILDINGS SQUARE FEET.PDF](#)

PE3 Action: Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy

2 Points

Program Summary: On January 12, 2021, the Yorktown Town Board adopted an energy efficiency and green procurement policy to recognize the Town's responsibility to encourage environmentally responsible purchasing by all of its departments. The policy allows the Town to consider the energy efficiency and long term savings in energy costs, the use of recycled products, the environmentally sensitive use of cleaning and maintenance products, and the environmental impact of the Town's decisions when purchasing equipment or contracting services. This policy adds to the Town's current Procurement Procedure and Policy adopted February 14, 2017.

PDF: [ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND GREEN PROCUREMENT POLICY](#)

PDF: [PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE AND POLICY](#)

5. Use climate-smart materials management.

PE5 Action: Recycling Bins in Government Buildings

3 Points

Program Summary: At the January 5, 2021 Yorktown Town Board Meeting, the Town Board adopted a resolution stating that a recycling bin shall be placed wherever there is a trash bin, including in common areas and at every employee workstation. In office areas, recycling bins may be shared among desks. The document attached is an inventory of waste and recycling bins and includes pictures of each type of location.

PDF: [TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION - JAN. 5TH, 2021 - WASTE BINS IN GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.PDF](#)

PDF: [WASTE BINS IN GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.PDF](#)

PE5 Action: Community Repair

4 Points

Program Summary: The first Yorktown Repair Cafe was held in July of 2018. Since that time, the cafe was planned to be held four times a year. There have been 8 total repair cafe events held in Town so far, as COVID canceled two of these events in 2020. The events are held by volunteers, however the events are promoted on the Town's website. Yorktown's Repair Café is part of Repair Café Hudson Valley. Yorktown's repair location and upcoming events are listed on the Hudson Valley website. Data sheets for attendees and repaired items are also attached below. To date of 358 items brought for repair, 235 items have been completely repaired and reused.

PDF: [YORKTOWN REPAIR CAFE EVENTS](#)

PDF: [YORKTOWN REPAIR CAFE ATTENDEE DATA](#)

PE5 Action: Residential Organic Waste Program

6 Points

Program Summary: The Organic Yard Waste Facility located in the Town of Yorktown is the center for collecting and processing organic yard waste and thereafter making it free for all Town residents to pick up as woodchips. Additionally, the site is a depot for biodegradable paper leaf bags, branches, logs, and Christmas trees. A community-wide curbside pick-up yard waste program has been implemented to pick up Christmas trees, leaf bags and tied branches twice a year. A drop-off food waste program was established in conjunction with the County of Westchester. The agreement with the County is pending full execution however, the attachment provides the sections completed by the Town of Yorktown. Pictures have also been provided of the area where the Food Scraps bins will be located. The bins have been purchased as shown by the attached order confirmation. The Town is waiting to receive the delivery.

PDF: [ORGANIC YARD WASTE FACILITY - TOWN OF YORKTOWN NEW YORK.PDF](#)

PDF: [2021 CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION - TOWN OF YORKTOWN NEW YORK-1.PDF](#)

PDF: [COLLECTION SCHEDULES FOR LEAF BAGS AND TIED BRANCHES - TOWN OF YORKTOWN NEW YORK.PDF](#)

PDF: [NOT FULLY EXECUTED - REFUSE DISPOSAL IMA - RESIDENTIAL FOOD SCRAP TRANSPORTATION & DISPOSAL PROGRAM.PDF](#)

PDF: [FOOD SCRAP PROGRAM.PDF](#)

PDF: [ORDER CONFIRMATION - FOOD SCRAPS.PDF](#)

6. Implement climate-smart land use.

PE6 Action: Smart Growth Policies

1 Points

Program Summary: The purpose of the Planned Design District Overlay Zones is to promote smart growth principles by providing incentives for utilizes such principles in proposed projects within the zones. The overlay zones are being proposed for the hamlet businesses centers in town to encourage redevelopment of existing sites and in-fill within these "downtown" type areas where infrastructure is already available. The attached enabling legislation is the basis for which each of the specific overlay zones will be added as they are approved.

PDF: [LOCAL LAW CREATING DESIGN DISTRICT OVERLAY ZONES](#)

PE6 Action: Unified Solar Permit

5 Points

Program Summary: The Town of Yorktown's Unified Solar Permit application was approved by NYSERDA on June 16, 2021.

PDF: [NYSERDA UNIFIED SOLAR PERMIT APPROVAL 06/16/2021](#)

PDF: [NYSERDA TOWN OF YORKTOWN SCORECARD](#)

PDF: [TOWN OF YORKTOWN UNIFIED SOLAR PERMIT APPLICATION](#)

PE6 Action: Policies for Local Food Systems

2 Points

Program Summary: The Town of Yorktown was a farming community that includes 8 active farms, 7 of which produce food to the local community and local restaurants. A listing of all of these farms can be found on the Town's website: <https://www.yorktownny.org/community/farms>. In 2020, the Town sponsored and promoted on the town's social media accounts, a Fall Farm Weekend that encouraged residents to visit each of the farms. In 2021, the Town sponsored the relocation of the Omni Garden of Hope onto town owned parkland because its previous location was no longer available. This community garden is made up of individual volunteers and community groups that have helped build the new garden which will supply food to food pantries. In addition, in 2001 the Town adopted a Farmland Preservation Overlay District that acknowledges the significance of farming in the town and provides a mechanism for its future preservation if they become subject to development pressure.

PDF: [FEBRUARY 2, 2021 OMNI GARDEN OF HOPE.PDF](#)

PDF: [GARDEN OF HOPE COMMUNITY GARDEN.PDF](#)

PDF: [FARMS OF YORKTOWN.PDF](#)

PDF: [FARMLAND PRESERVATION OVERLAY DISTRICT](#)

PE6 Action: Infrastructure for Biking and Walking

5 Points

Program Summary: The Town of Yorktown created a Bicycle Routes Plan within its Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2010. Since that time, the Town has pursued connecting missing sections of bike paths and trailways. This past year the town successfully opened the Mohansic Trailway, which links the North County Trailway to FDR State Park. In addition, the Yorktown Trail Town committee has been working with the town to install new signage to indicate the trail ends and parking.

PDF: [PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE FOR BICYCLING & WALKING](#)

PDF: [TOWN OF YORKTOWN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - CHAPTER 3 TRANSPORTATION](#)

PE6 Action: Local Forestry Program

7 Points

Program Summary: The Town of Yorktown has had a tree ordinance since December of 2010. The current law was amended in December of 2019 and is attached. Although the town's law discusses a town-wide forest management plan, at the time the first tree ordinance was adopted, the town had already begun working on a Forestry Plan for the Turkey Mountain Nature Preserve dated December 2011. Turkey Mountain Nature Preserve consists of over 150 acres of town owned parkland. In January 2013 a Watershed Forestry Plan was completed for the Sylvan Glen & Granite Knolls Park Preserves. The preserves consists of approximately 542 acres of town parkland. In addition, Yorktown has participated in the NYSDEC Trees for Tribes Program since 2015, planting of more than 85 trees. See the attached photos of Trees for Tribes planting days.

PDF: [LOCAL LAW - PRESERVATION OF YORKTOWN'S TREES AND WOODLANDS](#)

PDF: [2020 TREE CITY USA LETTER TO TOWN](#)

PDF: [TURKEY MOUNTAIN NATURE PRESERVE WATERSHED FORESTRY PLAN](#)

PDF: [SYLVAN GLEN & GRANITE KNOLLS PARK PRESERVES WATERSHED FORESTRY PLAN](#)

PDF: [NYS TREES FOR TRIBES PROGRAM](#)

7. Enhance community resilience to climate change.

PE7 Action: Climate-resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan

4 Points

Program Summary: The Town of Yorktown discusses climate change throughout the attached Hazardous Mitigation Plan (HMP). In collaboration with other municipalities in Westchester County, the Town of Yorktown participated in a county-run effort to develop a HMP. This was completed in December of 2021. The Town's HMP concentrates on actions that can be implemented prior to a disaster to reduce or eliminate damage to property and people as well as an action plan that will be implemented to achieve a more resilient community. In Table 9.23-16 Hazard Ranking Input, the following natural hazards were identified as the three highest ranking of potential natural hazards: severe storm, flood, and severe winter storm. These rankings served as a foundation for our analysis of specific mitigation initiatives the Town would like to pursue in the future to reduce the effects of hazards. The proposed hazard mitigation initiatives are outlined on Table 9.23-20.

PDF: [ADOPTIONS LIST WESTCHESTER CO.PDF](#)

PDF: [JANUARY 11, 2022 ADOPTION 2022 COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.PDF](#)

PDF: [TOWN OF YORKTOWN HMP.PDF](#)

PDF: [WESTCHESTER COUNTY INITIAL APPROVAL LETTER 01112021.PDF](#)

PE7 Action: Cooling Centers

6 Points

Program Summary: Town of Yorktown uses the Albert A. Capellini Community & Cultural Center (Capellini Center) located at 1974 Commerce Street, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598 and the John C. Hart Memorial Library (Hart Library) located at 1130 East Main Street, Shrub Oak, NY 10588 as Cooling Centers. The sites are activated as needed. The centers were not used in 2020 due to COVID restrictions. The Jefferson Valley Mall was used instead because it provided more space for social distancing. The last time a Town owned building was activated as a Cooling Center was in July 2019 due to severe weather and power outages. The Capellini Center was opened on Saturday, July 20, 2019 from 8:30 am – 8:00 pm and Sunday, July 21, 2019 from 12:00 pm – 8:00 pm. In previous years the center was utilized over night. On June 28, 2021, the Town activated the Hart Library and the Jefferson Valley Mall as cooling centers due to an excessive heat wave through Wednesday, June 30th. The Town will activate the Capellini Center for overnight stays should power outages occur. See attached press release. The Town advertises the opening of the Cooling Centers on the Town Website, on all Town related Facebook Pages including the Parks & Recreation Department's Facebook Page and the Yorktown Police Department's Facebook Page, the Town's Twitter, and the Town's Instagram accounts. The Yorktown Police Department also sends alerts using the NIXLE emergency notification system.

PDF: [TOWN OF YORKTOWN COOLING CENTER](#)

PDF: [COOLING CENTERS OPEN IN YORKTOWN - JUNE 28, 2021](#)

8. Support a green innovation economy.

PE8 Action: Buy Local/Buy Green Campaign

2 Points

Program Summary: To support local farms, the Town of Yorktown launched the First Annual Fall Farm Week end on November 7-8, 2020. The Town worked with farmers and the Chamber of Commerce to develop a marketing campaign to attract visitors to all eight food producing farms located in the Town. Flyers, both paper stock and laminated, as well as larger posters were printed and delivered to each farm to promote the event. Farmers were also emailed digital flyers to share by email and on their websites and social media accounts. The Town listed the event on its Community Calendar. In addition, the Yorktown Parks & Recreation Department created a Yorktown Fall Farm Weekend Passport Contest with the goal to visit and explore as many of the farms as possible over the two-day event. Each farm would then stamp the passport to confirm the visit. The Town and Chamber of Commerce shared visits to several of the farms leading up to the event on social media and made Facebook Live video posts at the farms during the event. Yorktown's Fall Farm Weekend was listed in Westchester Magazine's website Things To Do in Westchester section and featured in an article in the Journal News. Yorktown hopes Fall Farm Weekend will be an annual event to celebrate Yorktown's farms.

PDF: [YORKTOWN'S FALL FARM WEEKEND 2020](#)

PE8 Action: PACE Financing

15 Points

Program Summary: On July 16, 2019, the Town of Yorktown updated its C-PACE financing program law to reflect the current Energize NY Open C-PACE Financing Program as attached in the documents below. The Town's first project was at the Shrub Oak International School which closed on October 22, 2020. This information was submitted to the NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities Program on June 24, 2021.

PDF: [ENERGIZE NY OPEN C-PACE FINANCING PROGRAM - PH & ADOPTION.PDF](#)

PDF: [ENERGIZE NY OPEN C-PACE FINANCING PROGRAM.PDF](#)

PDF: [MINUTES - ENERGIZE NY C-PACE.PDF](#)

PDF: [PACE MUNICIPALITIES LIST.PDF](#)

PDF: [SHRUB OAK CASE STUDY - NY - EE.PDF](#)

PDF: [C-PACE NYSEDA SUBMISSION CONFIRMATIONS.PDF](#)

PE8 Action: Community Campaigns

3 Points

Program Summary: The Town of Yorktown completed a Community Campaign for Community Solar under NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities program.

PDF: [COMMUNITY SOLAR - COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNS.PDF](#)

9. Inform and inspire the public.

PE9 Action: Climate Change Education & Engagement

4 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

Program Summary: The Yorktown Climate Smart Communities Task Force has adopted the attached Education & Engagement Plan.

PDF: [YORKTOWN CSC EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN.PDF](#)

PE9 Action: Local Climate Action Website

3 Points

Program Summary: The Climate Smart Communities Task Force has a page on the Town of Yorktown website that shares information about the members and mission of the task force while also showcasing important documents and presentations for residents to review.

PDF: [CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES TASK FORCE - TOWN OF YORKTOWN NEW YORK.PDF](#)

PE9 Action: Social Media

3 Points

Program Summary: The attached document highlight the social media posts that were shared on the Town of Yorktown's Facebook and Instagram accounts as well as the Town website.

PDF: [SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITE POSTS #1.PDF](#)

PDF: [SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITE POSTS #2 .PDF](#)

PDF: [SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITE POSTS #3.PDF](#)

11. Innovation

Innovation: New Innovative Actions

3 Points

Program Summary: As described in NYSERDA's Energy Storage Roadmap, energy storage is a critical component of decarbonizing the electric supply in New York and creating a more resilient and reliable electric grid. On September 15, 2020, the Town of Yorktown Town Board adopted a local law adding a Special Use Permit to the Town Code titled Battery Energy Storage Systems. Based on NYSERDA's model law, this law allows and lays out the procedures for approval of both Tier 1 and Tier 2 battery storage facilities. On December 21, 2020, the Town of Yorktown Planning Board approved the first Tier 2 Battery Energy Storage System that will store 5,000 kW/15,000 kWh AC. The system will be stored in 5 containers on the rear of an already developed property behind an existing auto body. More information about the project is online: <https://www.yorktownny.org/planning/yorktown-energy-storage>

PDF: [LOCAL LAW 10 2020 - BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS.PDF](#)

PDF: [RES #20-27 - YORKTOWN ENERGY STORAGE 1 LLC.PDF](#)