

Climate Smart Task Force- Putnam Valley
Wednesday, September 9, 2026 · 6:30pm – 7:30pm

General Updates

- Ina has an ongoing conflict which is causing her to step down.
- The Town will be applying for a HAB grant with Peekskill
- The Town is reviewing resumes for the Comprehensive Plan committee. The committee will aim to include Climate Smart elements into that plan.
- [Conservation Grants – Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District](#)
 - PCSWCD staff are available to conduct site visits for free. The group discussed the following ideas for future projects and potential applications:
 - Nature-based Shorelines
 - Source Water Protection
 - Educational nature space at Roaring Brook Trail Head or Oregon Corners to feature the confluence of Oscawana brook and Peekskill Hollow Brook
 - Prevention of invasive species
 - Rain garden to prevent flooding
- Looking ahead to winter (Extreme Weather and Resiliency)
 - The committee will work with the Town to educate about warming centers, as well as publicize through the website and Town alerts

The Committee reviewed the following Actions, from shortest deadline to longest.

PE6: Electric Vehicle Charger Grant

- The project will be completed by the end of September
- The Town is working on finalizing documentation, units have been ordered and are on their way, and NYSEG will do a site visit this week.
- The two dual-port chargers will now be installed in the Parks and Rec lot using the same utility pole as planned.

PE8: Buy Local, Buy Green Campaign:

- Saturday, November 28, 2026 is Small Business Saturday. Climate Smart can work on a campaign to showcase local businesses
- Ideas for developing a local resources map: In addition to small businesses and local stakeholders, the map might include Parks, trailheads, biking trails, public fishing access, farms, farmers markets

PE5: Waste Management

- **Large Events**
 - Recycling bins will be placed at Town Day and the CCE table will host a food scraps bin and education
 - The Food Scrap Recycling Committee will work to develop a policy for events moving forward
- **Recycling Bins in Gov't buildings**
 - The Committee will reach out to the Town to develop a policy requiring the placement of recycling bins wherever there is a trash bin. Signage and training will need to follow.

- **Food Scraps Recycling (FSR)/organic materials management:**

- The Fourth Grade Compost Crew began their first full year of collecting scraps in the cafeteria. The FSR team will investigate the option to expand to other grades
- Next FSR meeting 9/13 9:30am at PV Library

PE2: Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action.

- Government Buildings Energy Audit/Benchmarking:
 - Propose a Benchmarking resolution, including the use of Portfolio Manager, in order to track and reduce energy usage
 - To implement the above action, the Town would enroll in [Energy Star Portfolio Manager](#).
 - NYSEG smart meters and ENERGY STAR automatically link for free, reducing staff labor and increasing efficiency
 - Abigail has offered to help onboard and input data into the platform
- Greenhouse Gas Inventory (GHG)
 - Allison has reached out to NYSEG for additional billing history to complete the 1.2025-1.2026 snapshot of energy use
 - The complete inventory and report are planned to be available by January, 2027
- [Community Climate Action Plan](#) (CAP)
 - Once the Inventory is done, the CAP is the plan to itemize actions to reduce GHG and energy expenditure across municipal accounts
 - This is an extensive project which would work in tandem with the Comprehensive Plan

PE4: Community Solar

- Allison will investigate the status of Community Solar for Town properties.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm.

The next meeting will be on 10/7 at 6:30pm via Zoom

Submitted by Allison Hague