

PE1: Partnerships with Other Entities

The Saranac Lake Climate Smart Community Task Force consists of partnerships with several regional institutions that have significantly contributed to CSC efforts. Included below is 1) a screenshot of the website that lists the different institutions and organizations that contribute to the Task Force, 2) a description of exactly how each institution has contributed, and 3) meeting minutes from Task Force meetings.

1. Website screenshot listing active **Task Force members** and the partner institutions/organizations they represent:

Saranac Lake Climate Smart Communities Program

Overview

The Village of Saranac Lake is one of New York's newest Climate Smart Communities (CSC), and the first community in Franklin and Essex County to enter the program. The Village of Saranac Lake has joined the network of New York communities engaged in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and improving climate resilience.

The Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Certification program provides local governments with a robust framework to guide climate action and enable communities to achieve recognition for their leadership matched with community goals. The Village of Saranac Lake has joined over 200 participating communities, within New York State, to engage their citizens and local governments on best practices for mitigating and adapting to climate change.

The goals of the CSC program are to engage and educate local governments in New York State, provide a robust framework to guide their climate action efforts, and recognize their achievements as they make progress. Participation in the program is free and voluntary; there are no fees or legal requirements. The program is designed to encourage ongoing implementation of actions that reduce greenhouse gas emission and help communities adapt to the effects of climate change.

Read more about the CSC program [here](#).

Get Involved!

The CSC Task Force meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 4-5pm in the Village Board Room at 39 Main Street. Check the [calendar](#) for the next meeting date. All meetings are open to the public.

Follow our progress and learn how to reduce your own household or business' emissions on the [climatesmartsl Instagram](#) page.

Saranac Lake CSC Completed Actions

Action Item	Description

[Climate Smart Communities in NY State](#)

[View our Earth Week Presentation on our Current Progress](#)

CSC TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Erin Griffin, Task Force Coordinator, The Wild Center

Steve DeHond, Community Stakeholder, Liaison to Tri-Lakes 350.org

Katherine Glenn, Sustainability Coordinator for Paul Smith's College

Harry Gordon, Community Stakeholder, Architect

Kristel Guimara, Professor for North Country Community College

Cassandra Hopkins, Staff person for Village of Saranac Lake

Tucker Jakobe, Senior Student at Saranac Lake High School

Jamie Konkoski, Community Development Director for Village of Saranac Lake

Patrick Murphy, Board of Trustees for Village of Saranac Lake

Cedar Young, Senior Student at Saranac Lake High School

Becca Halter, Community Stakeholder

Carolyn Koestner, Community Stakeholder

Link to the webpage: <https://www.saranaclakeny.gov/index.php?section=projects-module&projectsection=14&project=123>

2. Description of Partner Institution/Organization Contributions

The Wild Center: Erin Griffin, the CSC Task Force Coordinator, is also the Youth Climate Program Manager at The Wild Center. When the CSC Task Force was established, Erin received approval from The Wild Center to work on Task Force activities for no more than 2 hours/week as a part of her job. The Wild Center continues to support the Task Force through staff support and coordination which has proven essential to the success of the Task Force.

Paul Smith's College: Kate Glenn, Sustainability Coordinator/Faculty at Paul Smith's College, has been an active member of the Task Force since it was formed. She has worked to develop class projects that align with Climate Smart Community actions. Documentation for the Farmers Market and Alternative Energy Infrastructure actions were researched and compiled by Paul Smith's College students. Further actions were going to be incorporated into additional classes, but those plans were disrupted due to COVID-19. Additionally, Kate has contributed knowledge and expertise to the Energy Benchmarking and Greenhouse Gas Inventory projects, based on her experience managing parallel initiatives for Paul Smith's College. Kate has also participated in several community outreach events on behalf of the CSC Task Force, and even donated a gallon of Paul Smith's College maple syrup to the winner of a CSC social media contest.

North Country Community College: Kristel Guimara, Instructor at North Country Community College, has been an active member of the Task Force since it was formed. Kristel identified a grant opportunity to fund a student intern to serve on the CSC Task Force and submitted a proposal with assistance from Task Force Coordinator Erin Griffin. Unfortunately, the proposal was not funded, but the process assisted Kristel with identifying other opportunities for student engagement at NCCC. Kristel has also assisted with drafting language for the CSC website and assembling documentation for certification.

Saranac Lake High School: A teacher, Katie Morgan, and 2 high school students, Cedar Young and Tucker Jakobe are active members of the Task Force. Cedar and Tucker manage the CSC Instagram account and communicate with several Task Force members to develop posts and other content for the account. The students have been instrumental in reaching younger audiences in Saranac Lake with information about CSC initiatives. Katie Morgan has acted as a student mentor and ensures that the students feel engaged and heard on the Task Force.

Tri-Lakes 350.org: Steve Dehond is a community member who is active in the Tri-Lakes 350.org group. Steve ensures that the CSC Task Force and the Tri-Lakes 350.org groups are aware of each other's initiatives and looks for areas of collaboration when possible. Steve has played a significant role in spreading the word about Task Force events with the wider community and encouraging participation at events.

3. CSC Task Force Meeting Minutes



5/6/2020, 4-5pm - Virtual Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Harry Gordon, US Green Building Council
Kate Glenn, Paul Smith's College
Katie Morgan, Saranac Lake High School
Patrick Murphy, Village Trustee
Jamie Konkoski, Village staff
Steve Dehond, Tri-Lakes 350.org
Becca Halter, community stakeholder
Carolyn Koestner, community stakeholder
Cedar Young, Saranac Lake High school student
Kristel Guimara, North Country Community College
Erin Griffin, The Wild Center
Cassandra Hopkins, Village staff

Notes

Announcements

- new people joining the meeting: Carter from Blue Line Composting
- NYSERDA looking for info on future ClimAid report
- SL community gardens is looking for board members, pass along info to anyone interested

Walk Through Certification Timeline

- make a template for certification docs
- describe expectations for each column in the spreadsheet

Walk through process for assisting with double-checking documentation

- have task force members sign up on google sheet for which actions they would like to check

PDF is the preferred format

Standardized template for pdf docs - font, header or footer

Jamie to make a graphic/word template that we will use for all documents. Jamie will choose a font style/size. Arial or calibri, size 11.

Erin to add these instructions to the Drive

Updating Our Task Force Member List - Village Board to vote on updated slate of Task Force members and re-up Erin's appointment as coordinator

Change names in the Google Drive to action names that match the CSC actions



4/15/2020, 4-5pm - Earth Day Event Check In, Virtual Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Harry Gordon, US Green Building Council	Cedar Young, Saranac Lake High school student
Kate Glenn, Paul Smith's College	Kristel Guimara, North Country Community College
Katie Morgan, Saranac Lake High School	Erin Griffin, The Wild Center
Patrick Murphy, Village Trustee	Cassandra Hopkins, Village staff
Jamie Konkoski, Village staff	Tucker Jakobe, Saranac Lake high school student
Steve Dehond, Tri-Lakes 350.org	
Becca Halter, community stakeholder	
Carolyn Koestner, community stakeholder	

Agenda

- Event Outreach: social media, facebook event, email, sending to other CSC groups, other?
- Review a Draft Presentation (I'll share this with everyone this afternoon)
 - adding more GHG inventory slides?
 - Plan for Announcing the Drawdown Ecochallenge winner
 - How to have people contribute to CAP?
- Review technology and Facebook Live - who can do tech support during the presentation
 - join a half hour early to go over logistics

Minutes

Presentation feedback:

- Elaborate more on completed actions
- Add photo of farmers market
- Add photo of biking/walking infrastructure
- Screenshot of the website

Harry present slides 16-19

Cedar present social media slide

Cassandra can do website and benchmarking slides

Jamie, Cassandra and Becca are working on narrowing down the climate action list and figuring out a way to get audience participation

Cedar asking if Rachel wants to be a panelist

Kate donating a gallon of maple syrup

Outreach

- going out in Paul Smiths Sustainability newsletter/social media
- Erin reach out to Enterprise - Griffin and see if they want to do a press release
gkelly@adirondackdailyenterprise.com
- Steve sharing with all the environmental groups
- Kate sharing with NCPD



4/1/2020, 4-5pm – VIRTUAL Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Harry Gordon, US Green Building Council

Kate Glenn, Paul Smith's College

Katie Morgan, Saranac Lake High School

Patrick Murphy, Village Trustee

Jamie Konkoski, Village staff

Steve Dehond, Tri-Lakes 350.org

Becca Halter, community stakeholder

Carolyn Koestner, community stakeholder

Cedar Young, Saranac Lake High school student

Kristel Guimara, North Country Community College

Erin Griffin, The Wild Center

Cassandra Hopkins, Village staff

Tucker Jakobe, Saranac Lake High School student

Agenda:

- 1) Check in to see how everyone is doing
- 2) Look at points - looks like we can easily get to 120 without the Earth Day Event
- 3) Virtual GHG Inventory Presentation?
- 4) Discuss Ditch Your Car social media campaign - thoughts around timing/geographic scope

Minutes

Questions:

-if actions expire, do they still count towards cumulative points

-stick with July 3 applications deadline

Earth Day

-Sunrise doing a call in to Elise Stefanik

-3pm Thursday the 23rd

Group decided to move forward with a virtual Earth Day event similar to the in-person event we had originally planned. Erin to work on a draft presentation. Cedar to announce the high school environmental club's Drawdown Eco-challenge winner. The group will meet in 2 weeks to review final details for the presentation.



3/4/2020, 4-5pm, Harrietstown Hall

Attendance

Kate Glenn, Paul Smith's College
Cassandra Hopkins, Village staff
Cedar Young, Saranac Lake High School student
Tucker Jakobe, Saranac Lake High School student
Erin Griffin, The Wild Center
Steve Dehond, Tri-Lakes 350.org
Harry Gordon, US Green Building Council
Patrick Murphy, Village Trustee

Guests:

Becky Halter
Carolyn Koestner
Griffin - Enterprise reporter
Rick Shapiro, Village Trustee

Agenda:

- 1) Guest introductions
- 2) Thompson from Sunrise - do we want to collaborate with them?
- 3) Update on progress towards points
- 4) Overview of Earth Day Event
 - a) Confirm agenda
 - b) Look at to-do list

Minutes:

Is one of the groups going to put out a coordinated calendar about all the Earth Day events?
Steve is going to work on that with 350.org.

Ditch Your Car social media campaign - meeting next Tuesday sometime, March 10

Fleet Inventory update - Jamie has most of it filled out. Dustin from DPW is working on coming up with additional metrics. Fleet Efficiency Policy will take longer than the July 3 deadline

Solid waste audit - Kate working on it in their class. End of March - beginning of April. Have them present at the Earth Day event.

Cassie and Kate are going to update benchmarking to the most current year.

Kate and Steve are going to look at how they might partner about distributing reusable Paul Smiths College bags.

Carolyn is a master gardener and recycler and is willing to help with waste reduction campaign.

Earth Day Event Ideas - Zero waste event. Kate offering to do composting and bring it to Moonstone. Maybe we can have a raffle with sustainability prizes?

Bag swap - bring your reusable bags you don't want anymore and swap with other people

Display the stats from the high school Drawdown Ecochallenge at the event. Cedar and Tucker can't make the Earth Day event.

Tucker volunteering to make a flier - Erin to email Tucker the details to put on the flier

Do we want a CSC logo?

Instagram - asking people to repost on their accounts to build audience

-send ideas of what to post and accounts to repost to Cedar/Tucker

-Erin to send something about the compost dropoff

-next meeting - brainstorm posts about the GHG inventory