

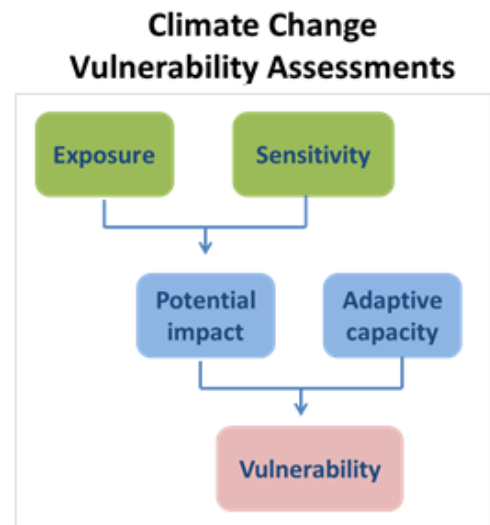
Volume 1
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Sept 1, 2019

New Paltz Climate Smart Newsletter

If you have not completed the vulnerability survey yet – please do it now! See the link below.

New Paltz Assesses Climate Vulnerability

Climate change presents threats to New Paltz and the Town and Village may already be experiencing some of those impacts. As I write this newsletter Hurricane Dorian is pressing down on the eastern seaboard. To prepare for the future and ensure New Paltz remains a resilient and safe community, the Town and Village are developing a Climate Vulnerability Assessment throughout 2019. The assessment focuses on Town and Village operations and assets, but depends on community members like you to help identify what aspects of New Paltz may be susceptible to climate hazards—and how adaptable or ready our community is to face them. This activity will help advance New Paltz commitments toward the New York State Climate Smart Communities certification program.



The survey will take you about 10 or 15 minutes to complete. Because climate change can impact many aspects of our community, the questions are grouped into community systems, such as for food, sources of energy, transportation and housing, and jobs. Your answers are entirely based on your perceptions alone (there are no right or wrong answers). Your responses will remain completely anonymous to be combined with answers from your neighbors who participate in the survey to inform New Paltz's Climate Vulnerability Assessment. You can skip any question, or mark that "you don't know", as well as provide explanations after the end of each section. Your thoughts will inform the development of the Town and Village's climate adaptation strategies.

<https://forms.gle/X8iirMnGKRdKRRKpo8>

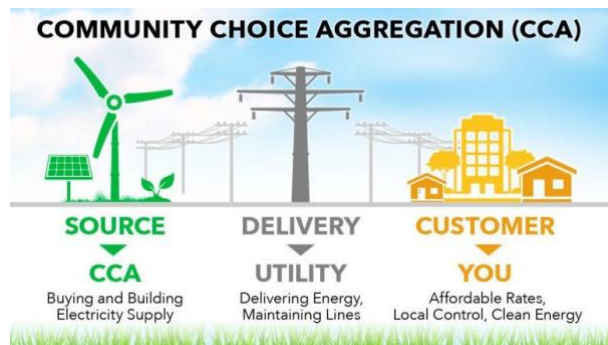
Please share and encourage your friends and neighbors to complete the survey too. The direct link to this survey can also be found on the Town and Village of New Paltz

Getting Ready for New Paltz's CCA

I have had the pleasure to be on the CCA committee for New Paltz, and we had an exciting meeting last night that shows we are getting close! There will be lots of options for everyone in terms of our new, less expensive and greener energy, but lots of my friends have been asking me what to do if they are currently on an ESCO, like Green Mountain or Clean Choice Energy.

First off to everyone...don't let letters or calls from Clean Choice Energy fool you—they are NOT our CCA. Their prices are much higher, especially after your introductory period ends, so hang tight a couple more months for the Joule Community Energy letter which will introduce our CCA. (Clean Choice has been playing a bit dirty to sign extra customers up in the meantime). If you are already an ESCO member, do your best to get out of your contract soon. I don't recommend you spend extra money to do so, so please check your individual contract. I had Clean Choice. Energy, and I called them to cancel, which I could do because my term was over. They were slow about the cancellation though, so I also called Central Hudson, who helped me to change back to their regular service very quickly. Do your best to get back to being a standard Central Hudson customer to make CCA sign up automatic, and easier, so you can take advantage of our great price and community benefits.

If you can't get out of your contract, no worries. If you don't want to pay the fee, just wait until the period expires, then cancel it and call Joule to sign up individually later for the CCA later. Bigger businesses also will have to call in if they would like to consider joining, as they won't automatically be signed up. Finally, if you are having any thoughts of joining community solar, that is fantastic, but also wait until our CCA letter arrives and you will be able to do everything at once. Joining together will help us see community rewards when the time comes!



For more information, please attend our next CCA info sessions:
Thursday, September 12th, 7:00 – 8:30 pm
New Paltz Community Center

Laura deNey
New Paltz resident

Food Waste Composting

Stakeholders Meeting: Thursday Sept 5th at 5:00 pm
Ulster County Legislative Chambers, Ulster County Office Building,
244 Fair St., 6th Floor, Kingston, NY 12401

After several months of revising and refining this proposed Local Law intended to help divert food waste for reuse, composting or other beneficial use, there is a final **STAKEHOLDERS MEETING** to discuss Proposed Local Law 5 of 2019 - A Local Law Amending The Code Of The County Of Ulster To Include Mandatory Food Scraps Composting By Large Generators. Please attend if you can.

Tuesday September 3rd Climate Change Solutions Meetup

"Honey I shrunk the lawn!"

Reduce the Carbon Footprint of Your Yard

6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at SUNY New Paltz Student Union atrium

At this Meetup we will learning why shrinking your lawn is climate smart and several ways to go about doing that. We have a presenter but also ask that people bring their ideas and experiences to share as well.



Our primary presenter will be Laura Wyeth, horticulturist and biology instructor at SUNY New Paltz. In addition to caring for the campus greenhouse and introducing students to the wonderful world of plant life, she has been helping to develop a campus Biodiversity Initiative, which includes attaining Bee Campus USA certification. She is excited to share what she has learned on this topic of converting previously mowed areas of grass to a meadow on the SUNY campus. There will be an opportunity to actually see this project on campus. Come prepared to take a five minute walk out to the newly created meadow.

Complete Streets Training Date Change

The New Paltz Bicycle Pedestrian Committee along with New Paltz Climate Smart in cooperation with the New York Bicycling Federation is sponsoring an all day Complete Streets Training. The date has been changed to Monday September 30th so we do not conflict with the community wide build of the Hasbrouck Park playground the previous week. Municipal leaders will be creating our new Complete Streets policy and learning about the implementation process. If you are interested in learning more or attending this workshop, please contact Janelle Peotter at 920-883-1788. Space is limited.

New Paltz Climate Smart Task Force

Changes Meeting Location

Our Task Force meets every month on the third Monday of the month. This month's meeting is Monday September 16th at 7:00. Normally we meet at the Village Hall in the main meeting but due to construction issues there, we will be meeting in the Town Hall for the foreseeable future. We welcome new members as there is much to do! Even if you can't attend these monthly meetings, there are eight action groups doing activities beyond meetings. Please call Janelle Peotter at 920-883-1788 or email her at janellepeotter@gmail.com for more information.

Youth Climate Strike

Liz Elkin's daughter Thalia is organizing a climate strike on Friday September 20th from 3:45 to 4:45 pm at the Elting Library corner. Please come out and support our youth activists!

Climate Solutions Summit and Zero Emissions Parade

On Saturday September 21st from 9am-5pm the Climate Solutions Summit will be held at SUNY New Paltz, 1 Hawk Drive, New Paltz. The lead organizer is New Yorkers for Clean Power in conjunction with several others including New Paltz Climate Smart and the Climate Action Coalition. This 3rd annual Climate Solutions Summit aims to build a larger movement that is prepared to take action for climate solutions. The summit is an opportunity for organizers and people from all communities across the region to come together to share projects, case studies, resources, experiences and skills to tackle climate change and implement solutions. Visit climatesolutionssummit.org to register for this year's summit. As part of National Drive Electric Week we will be concluding the summit at with the second annual Zero Emissions Parade and Green Vendor Fair sponsored by New Paltz Climate Smart and the Climate Action Coalition. We are looking for drivers of electric cars and other zero emissions vehicles including bicycles and pedestrians to participate in the parade which will be through the SUNY New Paltz Campus. Please contact Janelle Peotter at 920-883-1788 or email Samrat Pathania samratpathania@gmail.com for more information.



National Drive Electric Week™

New Paltz Climate Action Coalition, New Paltz Climate Smart,
and Central Hudson Gas & Electric present...

the **2nd** Annual New Paltz

**Saturday
September 21
2019**

ZEP!

**ZERO
EMISSIONS
PARADE**

Curious about electric cars?
Join us for the best Electric Car Show
in the Hudson Valley!
Meet local, friendly EV owners and learn
about the wide range of electric cars
available.

**Want to be part of the parade?
Join us with your EV, bicycle, skateboard,
or walking shoes at one of these points:**

**ZEP is a zero
emissions parade
that celebrates
the ongoing
transition away
from fossil fuels
towards a clean
energy society.**

2:30pm- EVs gather at Tops Plaza

3:00pm- EVs leave Tops Plaza and drive together down Main St. to SUNY campus

3:30pm- EVs, bicycles, & pedestrians leave West Parking lot (40) (next to Athletic Center)

4:00pm- Grand culmination of EV parade, Climate Solutions Summit, and Green Vendor
Fair at the Glass Pyramid (Student Union Building)

For more information and to sign up, contact:

newpaltzclimateaction@gmail.com or Samrat @ 845-419-3786

Repair Cafe

One of the eight action groups for New Paltz Climate Smart is called the “6 R’s”: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repair, Repurpose, Recycle. We would like to feature a very special asset we have here in our community: the Repair Café! If you have never gone, you must check it out! Note that the next Repair Café in New Paltz is September 28th. See below for more details.



Free repairs by experts... who are also your neighbors

	Esopus Esopus Library 128 Canal Street, Port Ewen	11-3
Sept. 7	Ossining Ossining Community Center 95 Broadway	11-3
	Millbrook Millbrook Library 3 Friendly Lane	10-2
Sept. 8	Gardiner Gardiner Library 133 Farmers Turnpike	1-4
Sept. 13	Castleton-on-Hudson Farmers & Artisans Market	4:30-7:30
	Phoenicia St. Francis de Sales, Parish Hall 109 Main Street	11-3
Sept. 14	Pleasantville St. John's Episcopal Church Sunnyside Ave. off Bedford Road	10-3
	Middletown Middletown Thrall Library 11 Depot Street	10-1
Sept. 21	Warwick Senior Center behind Town Hall 132 Kings Highway	10-2
	Rhinebeck Rhinebeck Town Hall 80 E. Market Street	12-4
Sept. 28	New Paltz United Methodist Church Main & Grove	10-2