

Climate Action Plan Development Process

There are many resources available for municipalities looking to reduced carbon output. The town of Auburn is currently exploring one resource in particular, the International Council of Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) 5 Milestone Program. This program provides a framework for efficiently and effectively implementing a Climate Action Plan.



Long term benefits

Long-term benefits include, but are not limited to:

- Increased health within the community
- Economic boost for local businesses and residents
- Reduction in town budget spent on fossil fuel and natural gas costs
- Maintenance of Auburn's diverse ecosystem

We would appreciate if you could follow the link below to complete a short survey.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?formkey=dHl6aXBYWHdXcFlxMVI2cTRmMGVzLXc6MQ>



Climate Action Plans

Town of Auburn Climate
Action Plan
What it is and how it will benefit
the community



What is a Climate Action Plan?

A Climate Action Plan (CAP) is a comprehensive roadmap that outlines the specific actions that a city or town can take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. A CAP is built upon the information compiled by carbon emission databases and generally focuses on those activities that can achieve the greatest emission reduction in a cost effective manner.



How will this benefit my community?

Economy

When it comes to Climate Action Plans it can at times be difficult to see past the initial costs, however, these expenses can be reduced if one knows where to look. The federal and state governments have been providing individual municipalities with various funding opportunities to reduce or eliminate the budget stress that is initially brought on by developing CAPs. It is our objective to research and make available to the town of Auburn as many funding opportunities as possible. Also, in the long-run, statistics show that many communities experience economy boosts after CAP implementation.

Health

If no action were taken to reduce carbon output in the community, pollution levels would increase, eventually causing health problems especially in the young and elderly. Increases in atmospheric pollution cause an increase in ground level ozone. Studies have shown an increase in health problems related to the heart, lungs, and brain including asthma and COPD due to ground level ozone.

Implementation of a CAP and of actions to reduce carbon output in Auburn would significantly reduce the chance of these health problems occurring.

Environment

The northeastern states have been dealing with the ramifications of climate change for decades now. It is estimated that by the year 2100 the climate of Massachusetts will be similar to that of South Carolina. This, in turn, would cause extreme changes in the northeastern ecosystems and agricultural industries. The reduction in colder seasons that will come with this climate change will cause the insect populations to explode and insect-borne diseases such as the West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) to spread.