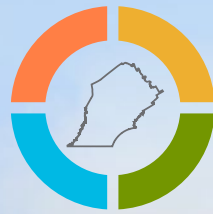


CHESTER COUNTY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

ADOPTED IN 2021



OBJECTIVES AND
ACTIONS FOR



COUNTY GOVERNMENT



COMMUNITY-WIDE



**EXECUTIVE
SUMMARY**

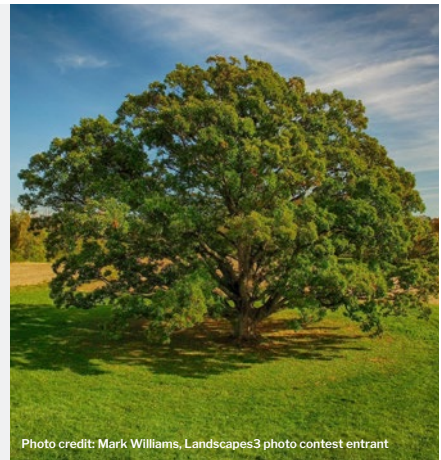
THE CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY

Chester County considers climate change one of the most significant environmental challenges of the 21st century. It poses a threat not just to Chester County’s natural resources, but also to the economy and community health.

Action to address climate change presents opportunities for creating a healthier, safer, and more equitable zero-carbon world. Chester County can address climate change in ways that improve public health, save money, reduce risk, increase energy security, create jobs and foster social equity. The plan provides a blueprint for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing energy efficiency at county government facilities and community-wide.

VISION FOR CLIMATE ACTION

*Chester County’s vision for Climate Action is to reduce the county’s contribution to global climate change and equitably improve the health and well-being of the community by: **reducing** greenhouse emissions through government leadership and collaboration, **mitigating** impacts of climate change through resiliency and planning, and **transitioning** to clean and sustainable energy generation.*

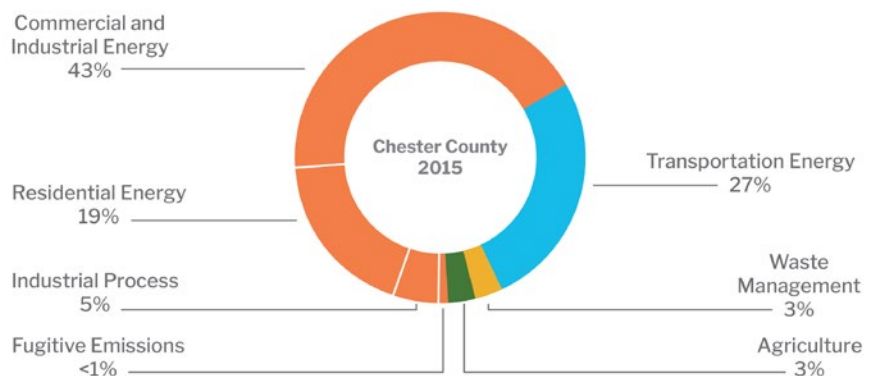


GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION GOAL

80%
reduction of GHG emissions from 2005 levels by 2050.



The Chester County Climate Action Plan sets a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent from 2005 levels by 2050. This goal applies not only to county government, but the greater Chester County community. It aligns with the Pennsylvania Climate Action Plan 2021, as well as the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission’s long range plan for our region.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Sector



Source: Chester County’s GHG 2015 GHG emissions were provided by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

OBJECTIVES

The plan identifies 17 objectives based on the four primary sources of emissions. These objectives relate to either  County Government or  Community-Wide.

Buildings and Energy



County Government

- A. Increase energy-management capabilities.
- B. Increase building energy efficiency.
- C. Incorporate sustainable design into County buildings and facilities.
- D. Transition to renewable energy.



Community-Wide

- E. Promote sustainable energy, energy efficiency, and communications.
- F. Establish and support an Environmental and Energy Advisory Board.

Transportation and Land Use



County Government

- A. Reduce employee commuter vehicle miles traveled.
- B. Optimize the County fleet.
- C. Encourage low/no carbon travel.



Community-Wide

- D. Encourage smart growth balanced with land preservation.
- E. Promote efficient commuting and transit options.
- F. Encourage no/low emissions travel and transportation actions.

Waste Management



County Government

- A. Increase County Operations waste diversion.



Community-Wide

- B. Increase county waste diversion and other best practices through partnerships and collaborations.

Agriculture, Food, and Forestry



County Government

- A. Manage County open spaces responsibly.



Community-Wide

- B. Grow and preserve open spaces.
- C. Support local food production, the agricultural community, and sustainable agricultural practices.

TAKING ACTION

Everyone has a role in combating climate change, and accordingly, the plan includes nearly 150 actions to meet the 17 objectives. The following parties have a leading role in implementing these actions. Please contact the Chester County Planning Commission to discuss how you or your organization can help implement the plan.

County Government

Agricultural Development Council (Ag Council)
Commissioners
Conservation District (CCCD)*
Community Development
Emergency Services (DES)*
Environmental & Energy Advisory Board (EEAB)
Facilities*
Finance/Risk Management
Health (CCHD)
Parks and Preservation* (formerly Parks and Open Space)
Planning Commission*
Procurement
Water Resources Authority (CCWRA)*
Chester County Recycling Committee and GoGreen Chesco

Municipalities

Municipal government
Chester County Association of Township Officials (CCATO)*

Regional Planning

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC)

Transportation Agencies

Public transit, transportation management associations, PennDOT

Utilities*

Energy, sewer, water

Businesses*

Chester County Economic Development Council (CCECD), the Chambers

Land Trusts & Conservancies*

Environmental Advocacy Groups*

Solid Waste Authorities

Chester County (CCSWA) and Southeastern Chester County (SECCRA)

Education

School districts, private schools, universities, technical and post-secondary schools

Other Federal and State Agencies

National Park Service, PaDEP, PaDCNR

Historic Preservation Network

Citizens*

Residents and other volunteers

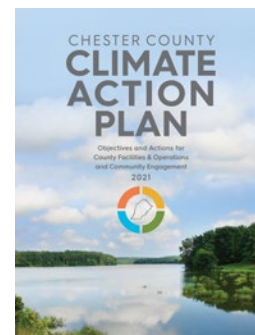
* Groups represented on Chester County's Environmental & Energy Advisory Board (EEAB)



Please contact the **Chester County Planning Commission** with questions.

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610.344.6285

THE PLAN



Read the full plan including the recommended actions:
www.chescoplanning.org/Environmental/ClimateAction.cfm ▶

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Chester County Clean and Sustainable Energy ▶

www.chescoplanning.org/UandI/CleanEnergy.cfm

DVRPC Energy & Climate Resources ▶
www.dvrpc.org/energyclimate/resources

PA Climate Action Plan ▶
www.dep.pa.gov/citizens/climate/Pages/PA-Climate-Action-Plan.aspx

PA Department of Environmental Protection on Climate Change ▶
www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/climate/Pages/default.aspx



The Chester County Climate Action Plan was adopted by the County Commissioners on October 7, 2021.

Chester County Commissioners

Marian Moskowitz
Josh Maxwell
Michelle Kichline