

Village of Montour Falls Government Operations Climate Action Plan: 2021-2026





As the Village of Montour Falls Mayor, I am leading the way in aggressive efforts to help ensure our community environment is clean and safe for our residents and visitors by proactively managing the impacts of climate change on our community and its economy. We are a Climate Smart Community, and I am working hard with our Village Board and community members of the Sustainability Committee in achieving our goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase resiliency and enhance the overall quality of life not only in Montour Falls but our region.

I recognize and I am grateful for the commitment of local partners like the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schuyler, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins, and a special thank you to Sr. Environmental Scientist Katherine Herleman of WSP USA who like many others around the state has supported my undertaking addressing the climate issues we face today and help our community achieve our ambitious clean energy goals. I pledge to continue to work for a cleaner and greener community for future village generations and the environmental health of our region.

James P. Ryan, Mayor

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Todd Knobbe, Clean Energy Communities Program
Elizabeth Watson, Schuyler County Public Health
Michelle Benjamin, Schuyler Hospital

Table of Contents

Climate Smart Communities Resolution	4
Executive Summary	5
Goals and Targets for Emissions Reduction and Sustainable Actions	6
1. Facilities and Grounds	6
2. Transportation	6
3. Purchasing	7
4. Sustainable Materials Management	7
5. Protection of Natural Resources	7
6. Public and Employee Engagement	7
7. Mentoring by Example	7
8. Promotion Green Economic Development	7
Current Climate Protection Initiatives	8
Accomplished, Ongoing, and Initiated Projects, Actions, and Policies	8
Municipal Policies and Resolutions	11
Where We Are Now	12
Natural Gas Consumption in Municipal Facilities	13
LED Streetlight Conversion	13
Climate Action Plan Initiatives	14
1. Facilities and Grounds	14
2. Transportation	15
3. Purchasing	17
4. Sustainable Materials Management	18
5. Protection of Natural Resources	19
6. Public and Employee Engagement	20
7. Mentoring by Example	22
8. Promotion of Green Economic Development	23
Implementation Plan	25
1. Facilities and Grounds	25
2. Transportation	26
3. Purchasing	27
4. Sustainable Materials Management	29
5. Protection of Natural Resources	29
6. Public and Employee Engagement	30
7. Mentoring by Example	32
8. Promotion of Green Economic Development	33
Next Steps	33

Climate Smart Communities Resolution

Village Trustee Philip Smith moved and Village Trustee Steven Lawton seconded that

WHEREAS, the Village of Montour Falls (hereinafter “local government”) believes that climate change poses a real and increasing threat to our local and global environments and is primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, the effects of climate change will endanger our infrastructure, economy and livelihoods; harm our farms, orchards, and ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy-independent and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, and resilient infrastructures; and

WHEREAS, we believe the scale of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions required for climate stabilization will require sustained and substantial efforts; and

WHEREAS, we believe that even if emissions were dramatically reduced today, communities would still be required to adapt to the effects of climate change for decades to come,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Village of Montour Falls, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities pledge, which comprises the following ten elements:

- 1) **Build a climate-smart community.**
- 2) **Inventory emissions, set goals, a plan for climate action.**
- 3) **Decrease energy use.**
- 4) **Shift to clean, renewable energy.**
- 5) **Use climate-smart materials management.**
- 6) **Implement climate-smart land use.**
- 7) **Enhance community resilience to climate change.**
- 8) **Support a green innovation economy.**
- 9) **Inform and inspire the public.**
- 10) **Engage in an evolving process of climate action.**

AYES: Trustee Chicone, Trustee Lawton, Trustee Smith. NOES: None. Resolution carried.

I, ALYSSA HAMMOND, Clerk-Treasurer of the Village of Montour Falls in the County of Schuyler, State of New York, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing annexed extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Board of Trustees of said Village duly called and held on June 21, 2018 has been compared by me with the original minutes as officially recorded in my office in the minute book of said Board of Trustees and is a true, complete and correct copy thereof, and of the whole of said original minutes as far as the same relate to the subject matter referred to in said extract.

Alyssa Hammond, Clerk-Treasurer

Village of Montour Falls

Dated: June 25, 2018

Executive Summary

As a result of its commitment to the NYSDEC Climate Smart Communities pledge passed in June 2018, the Village of Montour Falls (“The Village”) has adopted a variety of comprehensive policies, undertaken improvements to its facilities as well as designed long-term funding strategies for large improvements being planned, and increased staff coordination within and between its various departments to reduce waste of both energy and materials and improve energy efficiency.

The Village’s Government Operations Climate Action Plan (CAP) lays out the foundation for a five-year plan from 2021 to 2026 which covers Village efforts related to GHG emissions reduction and provides information on ongoing and current projects, proposed projects, and sustainable climate action goals through 2026. The CAP provides details and a timeline on how the Village will measure progress toward meeting the sustainable climate action goals, including the reduction of greenhouse emissions.

The goals and projects found in this plan are designed to meet two major initiatives:

1. Build upon past initiatives to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions
2. Implement strategies to [meet its stated goal of obtaining 100% of municipal energy needs from renewable sources no later than the year 2050.](#)

The Village of Montour Falls Government Operations Climate Action Plan is the culmination of over two years of research, policy adoptions, Climate Smart Communities actions, and community input. The plan is funded in part by a grant from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Climate Smart Communities Program. It has been completed and approved by the Montour Falls Sustainability Committee and the Village Board of Trustees. This plan would not have been possible without the dedication of the Climate Smart Communities Coordinator and the Cornell Cooperative Extension Team.

This project has been funded in part by The Climate Smart Community Grant Program, Title 15 of the Environmental Protection Fund through the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

Goals and Targets for Emissions Reduction and Sustainable Actions

The CAP includes complementary campaign efforts (not directly tied to GHG emission reductions) more broadly related to Village sustainability goals. These campaigns have either started in 2020 or will begin in 2021. The complementary campaigns are related to energy reduction, waste reduction, and buying local. Throughout 2021 and 2022, the Montour Falls Sustainability Committee will be developing and implementing a Greenspace Plan (Sustainable



Practical Actions and Civic Engagement), a comprehensive plan which provides an opportunity for public outreach, education, and collective action.

The Village of Montour Falls CAP Goals are intended to provide a coordinated approach to integrating sustainability and measurable sustainable practices with significant environmental outcomes into Village government operations between 2021-2026. It represents part of the Village's continuing efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and addresses the risks associated with climate change for the health, safety, and well-being of Village residents, the local economy, and both local and global natural resources. The CAP Goals are divided into eight key categories. Several of the Goals also have GHG Emission Reduction Targets which specifically state actions that are achievable within 5 years of the CAP's adoption. Progress made in each of these categories will be documented in the CSC Annual Progress Report.

1. Facilities and Grounds

- 1.1 Continuation of Ongoing Strategies for Decreased Natural Gas and Electricity Consumption
- 1.2 Brownfield Site Land Re-Use Feasibility Study
- 1.3 Retrofit of Wastewater Lift Stations for Onsite Solar Power Generation

2. Transportation

- 2.1 Continuation of Fleet Efficiency Policy Implementation
- 2.2 Continuation Fleet Right-Sizing Through July 2025

2.3 Development and Implementation of a Village-wide Complete Streets Plan

3. Purchasing

3.1 Continuation of Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy Implementation

3.2 Continuation of Renewable Energy Adoption Policy Implementation

4. Sustainable Materials Management

4.1 Development and Implementation of a Village-wide Food Waste Reduction Program

4.2 Conduct Study to Determine Methods for Reduction of Solid Waste Entering Solid Waste Stream and the GHG Reduction for Each Method

4.3 Development and Implementation of a Village-wide Battery Recycling Program

4.4 Continued Implementation of Demolition and Construction Waste Policy

5. Protection of Natural Resources

5.1 Levee Certification Study leading to Levee Recertification

5.2 Development of Dredging Plan for Village Marina

5.3 Conduct Village-wide Climate Vulnerability Assessment

6. Public and Employee Engagement

6.1 Development and Implementation of a Community GHG Reduction Education Program for Local Businesses

6.2 Adoption of Commercial GHG Emissions Reporting Policy for Local Businesses

6.3 Development and Implementation of a Village-wide Food Waste Reduction Program

6.4 Public Outreach Through Public Events (Montour Falls Harvest Festival, etc.)

6.5 Maintenance of Sustainable Montour Falls Webpage

6.6 Creation of Consistent Social Media Presence

7. Mentoring by Example

7.1 Outreach to all Schuyler County Municipalities Through the Council of Governments and Personal Interactions

7.2 Participation in the NY State Land Use and Local Government (LULG) Advisory Committee

8. Promotion of Green Economic Development

8.1 Support Initiatives to Develop Businesses and Jobs that are Part of the Green Economy

8.2 Implement Environmentally-Friendly Building Codes to Promote Green Development

8.3 Protect and Develop Natural Areas to Promote Green Tourism and Conservation

8.4 Support Initiatives to Promote Clean Heating and Cooling, and Green Energy Sourcing

Current Climate Protection Initiatives

Beginning in 2017 and continuing through 2020, the Village of Montour Falls has completed several major projects and actions to inventory and reduce GHG emissions. The village has also implemented policies that will lead to increased reduction in GHG emissions.

Accomplished, Ongoing, and Initiated Projects, Actions, and Policies

2017

- The Village engaged CCA administrator MEGA in a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) contract which is intended to the electricity bills of residents who choose to participate. The Village opted for lower-cost, mixed-generation but considered 100% renewable generation for future contract negotiations.

2018

- April
 - The Village became the first designated [NYSERDA Clean Energy Community](#) in Schuyler County.
 - Benchmarking energy use for all municipal buildings
 - [Adopt the Unified Solar Permit](#) in order to streamline safe, consistent code inspection and reduce costs to applications
 - Install a public Level 2 electric vehicle charger
 - Attend a free, NYSERDA-sponsored energy code enforcement course to ensure code enforcement officers understand permitting practices for newer clean energy technologies
- June
 - The Village passed the [NYSDEC Climate Smart Communities pledge](#).
- July
 - The Village submitted the NYSDEC Climate Smart Communities (CSC) certification grant application after becoming the first registered CSC in Schuyler County in mid-June.
- August
 - The Village conducted a complete lighting audit with Lime Energy and opted to expand interior LED lighting upgrades from the Fire Station to all municipal buildings pending the outcome of its NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities grant.
- October
 - The Village successfully applied for a \$50,000, no-cost-share NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities grant. The grant covers the following project components :
 - Energy efficiency improvements and clean energy HVAC upgrades to the Village Hall

- Replacement of all NYSEG-owned streetlights with LED bulbs
 - Replacement of all interior and exterior lights with LED bulbs in the following areas: The Village Hall building; the Department of Public Works building; the Seneca well-site and pump station; the municipal campground and marina.
 - The Village authorized the creation of a Village Sustainability Committee to include a member of the Village Board, the Department of Public Works supervisor, a resident, and a subject matter expert exempt from residency requirements.
- December
 - Clean Energy Communities Coordinator Katherine Herleman conducted a Level II ASHRAE audit of the Village Hall with support from Taitem Engineering’s energy audit team at no-cost, funded via the Cornell Cooperative Extension’s Southern Tier municipal energy audit pilot.
 - The Village was awarded an [NYSDEC Climate Smart Communities grant](#) in the amount of \$8,998 – only one of three municipalities in the Southern Tier. The funded projects included:
 - Completing “Climate Smart Communities certification actions related to planning, analysis, and policy development that focus on three goals: reducing greenhouse gas emissions in both government operations and the community, assessing climate vulnerability, and producing educational materials that will assist other Schuyler County communities with climate change preparedness”.

2019

- March
 - The Village began its CSC certification projects. The Village Sustainability Committee held its first unofficial quarterly meeting.
- April
 - The Village completed several CSC actions, as per the NYSDEC CSC certification grant: Fleet Inventory, Fleet Efficiency Policy. The Village received the draft of the Government Operations Greenhouse Gas Inventory from the Cornell Cooperative Extension.
- May
 - The Village was awarded an NYSDEC MWRR (Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling) grant focused on food scraps recycling and food rescue (for donation to needy parties).CCE Schuyler was named educational food scraps recycling education campaign sub-contractor. Staff at CCE Schuyler and CCE Tompkins began the following CSC certification actions: Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and Natural Resources Inventory.

- May
 - The Village adopted the following resolutions related to CSC certification actions intended to reduce GHG emissions:
 - [Fleet Efficiency Policy](#), including an annual requirement to inventory [Fleet Vehicle Usage and GHG Inventory](#)

- June
 - The Village adopted the following resolutions related to CSC certification actions intended to reduce GHG emissions:
 - [Complete Streets Policy](#)
 - [Demolition and Construction Waste Policy](#)
 - [Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy](#)
 - [Renewable Energy Adoption Policy](#)
 - The Village Sustainability Committee held its first official quarterly meeting on June 6th. It held a second meeting to review the CSC certification package draft on June 20th.
 - The Village committed to conducting an energy reduction campaign targeting municipal operations, businesses, and residents with NYSERDA-sponsored programming administered via [Community Energy Advisor Phil Cherry](#) as part of the [Community Energy Engagement Program](#).

- December
 - The Village was awarded a NYSDEC Climate Smart Communities Grant to conduct a Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Levee Recertification Study
 - The Village was awarded a Complete Streets Planning Grant from Empire State Development. The grant will be used to fund the development of a Complete Street plan that will include strategies for improved lighting, increased pedestrian and bicycle access to downtown, and infrastructure improvements.

2020

- June
 - Official kick-off of the Food Scraps Reduction Program in partnership with CCE Schuyler. The program will run for 24 months with the following goals:
 - Reduction of the quantity of food and organic food scraps from entering the waste stream
 - Clean the Village Recycling Stream to ensure the marketability of recycled products and position the Village to move to a drop-off model for clean recyclables and compostables.

- October
 - Ribbon cutting and official full operation of the new joint Wastewater Treatment Plant with Watkins Glen (Catherine Valley Water Reclamation Facility).
 - the Village adopted the Heat Emergency Plan. The Heat Emergency Plan

became part of the Village of Montour Falls Emergency Plan and is a contingency plan for Extreme Heat Events. The purpose of the Plan is to prepare the Village and residents to prevent serious illness due to heat-related illnesses in village residents. This Village-based heat emergency plan targets vulnerable individuals who are considered most at risk for heat-related illness.

- November
 - Designation of a Village Wide Food Scrap Recycling Location. The location has receptacles for food scraps from village residents. The receptacle will be emptied and composted on a weekly basis.

- December
 - Completion and adoption of the Community GHG Inventory.
 - Completion and adoption of the Government Operations Climate Action Plan

Municipal Policies and Resolutions

The Montour Falls Village Board of Trustees passed the following policies and Village resolutions between 2018 and 2019 to inform and shape the Village's official actions on sustainability and GHG reduction.

2018

- June
 - The Village of Montour Falls adopted the [NYSDEC Climate Smart Communities pledge](#), signaling the Village's commitment to sustainability action

2019

- May
 - The Village adopted the following resolutions related to CSC certification actions intended to reduce GHG emissions:
 - [Fleet Efficiency Policy](#), including an annual requirement to inventory [Fleet Vehicle Usage and GHG Inventory](#)

- June
 - The Village adopted the following resolutions related to CSC certification actions intended to reduce GHG emissions:
 - [Complete Streets Policy](#)
 - [Demolition and Construction Waste Policy](#)
 - [Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy](#)
 - [Renewable Energy Adoption Policy](#)

Where We Are Now

What follows is a summary of the current emissions produced by the Village of Montour Falls. The figures were produced as part of the official Government Operations GHG Inventory in April 2019, and have allowed the Village to catalog emissions reductions by targeting high-emissions areas.

This section also details particular efforts to catalog and reduce Natural Gas usage in the Municipal Facilities and emissions reductions as a result of LED conversion for Village streetlights.

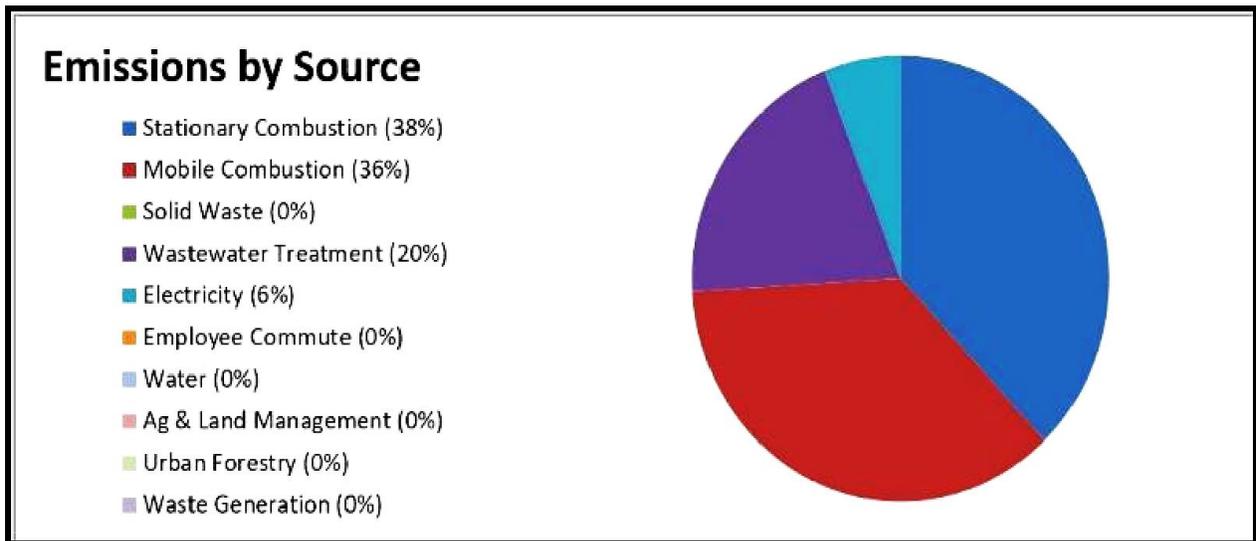


Figure 1¹: GHG Emissions Percentage by Source, taken from [Village Operations Greenhouse Gas Inventory \(produced April 2019\)](#)

¹ Although wastewater treatment operations represented 20% of all known municipal emissions by source in 2018 as seen in *Figure 1*, the Villages of Montour Falls and Watkins Glen began full operation of a [new, state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plant](#) (WWTP) in early summer 2020. Therefore, apart from documentation and review of the energy consumption of the new WWTP, the Village Sustainability Committee does not anticipate taking any action. The village is exploring possible sludge composting which will lead to overall GHG emission reductions. The old wastewater treatment plant operated by Montour Falls has been retired from use and is in the process of decommissioning.

In addition, although *Figure 1* legend states several emissions sources to be “0%” this value is understood to be “unknown or outside of study scope”. These values are likely non-zero but were not included in the [Village Operations Greenhouse Gas Inventory produced in April 2019](#). The *waste generation* emissions source component will be updated as part of CCE Schuyler’s food scraps recycling education and coordination efforts.

Natural Gas Consumption in Municipal Facilities

The results of the inventory showed electricity consumption in municipal buildings in the Village of Montour Falls had decreased considerably in the period between 2013 and 2018. Between 2013 and 2018, while annual electricity uses in the Village Hall increased by 1,267 kWh, or 13.1%, the rest of the municipal facilities have managed to significantly decrease energy use. In the same period, electricity usage in the Fire Station decreased by 12,360 kWh or 22.2%, Public Works by 9,320 kWh or 25.8%, and the Library by 4200 kWh or 21.7%. In total, municipal buildings in the Village of Montour Falls consumed 24,613 fewer kilowatt hours of electricity in 2018, compared to 2013. This was a total reduction of 20.4%.

The reduction of electrical consumption in this period resulted in a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from electricity. Between 2013 and 2018, greenhouse gas emissions from electricity use in the Village Hall decreased by 0.24 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent, or 14%. The fire station's yearly electricity consumption was reduced by 4.01 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent, a decrease of 40.8%. Public Work Facilities recorded a decrease of 2.78 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent, or 43.6% and the Library saw a decrease of 1.38 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent, or 40.5%. In total, electricity usage in municipal facilities produced 8.41 fewer metric tons of CO₂ equivalent in 2018, compared to 2013.

The significant decrease in electricity consumption throughout the different facilities can be attributed to the installation of LED lighting throughout all municipal facilities. According to Energy Star, LED lighting uses up to 75% less energy than a regular incandescent light. Over time, this can add up to a significant energy savings, especially for those buildings that use lights throughout the entire day/ night. In addition to lighting, other factors to consider are changing HVAC systems (from electric to gas) and changes in building operation hours (which can determine whether lights are used or not).

LED Streetlight Conversion

In 2019-2020, all village owned street lights within the Village of Montour Falls were retrofitted with energy efficient LED light bulbs. Prior to the retrofit, the village owned streetlights used 106,434 kWh/ year of electricity. Upon completion of the retrofit, the electricity used by the street lighting dropped to 24,821kWh/ year. This led to a decrease in total CO₂ emissions from 75.25 metric tons prior to the retrofit to 17.55 metric tons after. The retrofit greatly contributes to the Village's ambitious goal of supplying 100% of municipal energy needs from renewable sources no later than the year 2050 by decreasing energy consumption.

Climate Action Plan Initiatives

The following summarizes the actions that will be taken by the Village of Montour Falls as it works to continue to reduce GHG emissions and meeting its sustainable action goals. The goals and initiatives are broken down by relevant category. It should be noted that because of disjointed funding opportunities and availabilities the goals and initiatives presented below may not necessarily be addressed in the order in which they appear.

1. Facilities and Grounds

Since 2018, the Village has undertaken several projects designed to reduce overall energy use, particularly energy use from Natural Gas. The 2018 Government Operations GHG Inventory measured the GHG emissions and Energy usage of four primary facilities owned by the Village of Montour Falls. The Village owns the following facilities:

1. Village Hall (including Village administration offices, Village courtroom, Village Board meeting room, and the Town of Montour courtroom)
2. The Montour Falls Library²
3. Fire Station³
4. Public Works Facilities

1.1 Continuation of Ongoing Strategies for Decreasing Natural Gas and Electricity Consumption

With an ambitious goal of supplying 100% of municipal energy needs from renewable sources no later than the year 2050, decreased energy consumption is a necessary step to meeting the goal. By the end of the year 2026, the village's goal is to decrease municipal facility energy consumption by 20% (baseline is 2018). The result would be a decrease in total annual natural gas usage from 1,552 million BTU to 1,242 million BTU and a decrease in total annual electricity usage from 96,157 kWh to 76,926 kWh.

In 2019-2020, all village owned streetlights within the Village of Montour Falls were retrofitted with energy efficient LED light bulbs. Prior to the retrofit, the village owned street lights used 106,434 kWh/ year of electricity. Upon completion of the retrofit, the electricity used by the street lighting dropped to 24,821kWh/ year. This led to a decrease in total CO₂ emissions from 75.25 metric tons prior to the retrofit to 17.55 metric tons after. The retrofit greatly contributes to the Village's ambitious goal of supplying 100% of municipal energy needs from renewable sources no later than the year 2050 by decreasing energy consumption.

² The Montour Falls Library building is owned by the Village of Montour Falls, but is operated by an independent Board of Trustees. More here: <http://montourfallslibrary.org/>

³ Similar to the Montour Falls Library, the Fire Department operates under an independent agency, but the building is owned and maintained by the Village.

1.1.1 The Village will replace all remaining facility lighting with LED Lighting

1.1.2 The Village will install a new energy efficient heat pump in the Village Hall to replace the aging inefficient HVAC system

1.1.3 The Village will decrease overall municipal facility energy consumption by twenty percent (versus baseline year 2018) by the year 2026

1.1.4 Deliverables

1. Report of annual energy usage and GHG reductions in all Village-owned facilities
2. Report of annual energy usage and GHG reductions in all Village-owned street lighting

1.2 Completion of Brownfield Site Land Re-Use Feasibility Study

The Village owns an 11-acre brownfield site that was used previously as a municipal landfill. The location has been decommissioned. The Village has expressed interest in converting the site for use as a solar farm and/or solid waste composting facility. The Village is seeking grant funding in order to undertake a feasibility study in the year(s) 2021-2022 to assess feasibility for site clean-up and reuse.

1.2.1 The Village will complete a feasibility study of converting the brownfield site to a solar farm and/or solid waste composting site

1.2.2 Deliverables

1. Land Use Feasibility Study

1.3 Retrofit all wastewater lift stations to use onsite solar power batteries in place of commercial grid electricity.

As of December 2020, the village has seven wastewater lift stations. By the year 2026, the village will have installed and will operate onsite solar power batteries to power the lift stations. the conversion from grid fed electricity to direct solar power will decrease electricity usage and costs, decrease GHG emissions, and provide power in the case of severe weather events that cause power outages.

1.3.1 The Village will retrofit existing wastewater lift stations to use onsite solar power batteries in place of commercial grid electricity

1.3.2 Deliverables

1. Onsite solar power designs and energy usage report

2. Transportation

2.1 Continuation of Fleet Efficiency Policy Implementation

In May 2019, the Village adopted a fleet efficiency policy with the goals of updating the ways in

which the Village tracks costs and emissions associated with its municipal fleet; lowering costs associated with operating its municipal fleet, including by converting existing fleet vehicles to lower-emission, higher efficiency model vehicles for similar purposes; and reducing emissions and fuel usage associated with fleet operations, both for the purposes of saving money on fuel costs and lowering GHG emissions from government operations.

2.1.1 The Village will continue to follow the Fleet Efficiency Policy when considering retiring and purchasing municipal owned vehicles through at least 2026

2.1.2 Deliverables

1. Annual fleet inventory, including GHG Estimates and Reductions

2.2 Continuation of Fleet Right-Sizing Through 2026

The village implemented fleet right sizing upon adoption of the fleet efficiency policy. In 2019, the village purchased a new energy efficient fire engine to replace two inefficient vehicles. The village is studying and considering purchasing new electric vehicles to replace inefficient vehicles that have reached the end of their useful life.

2.2.1 The Village will continue fleet right-sizing through 2026 and will conduct a feasibility study of GHG Reductions through the conversion to biodiesel in diesel vehicles

2.2.3 Deliverables

1. Electric vehicle report and Biodiesel conversion report

2.3 Development and Implementation of a Village-wide Complete Streets Plan

In June 2019, the Village adopted a Complete Streets Policy. The goal of the Complete Streets Policy is to intentionally design public right of ways for the purpose of promoting equal access to the Village's network of streets across all modes of transportation (pedestrians, bicyclist, motorist, and bus riders of all ages and abilities).

In December 2019, the Village secured grant funding for the development of a Village-Wide Complete Streets Plan. The Complete Streets Plan will be based on the Complete Streets policy. The Plan will enhance and build on the road work completed by NYSDOT by using Complete Streets strategies. The Complete Streets Plan will be developed to enable the village to create a sustainable, accessible streetscape that promotes multiple modes of transportation, streets that are planned, designed, operated, and maintained to enable safe access to all users, and to promote multimodal transportation to create greater air quality. Intentional and sustainable design of Village infrastructure projects will promote a healthier climate that is in line with the Village's commitment to continue to create a Climate Smart Community. The development of the Complete Streets Plan will commence in Spring 2021 and is expected to be completed and adopted in Spring 2022.

2.3.1 The Village will develop and enact a Village-wide Complete Streets Plan

To achieve this goal, the Village will: identify potential grant or other funding options in order to more fully realize the Complete Streets goals; seek to realize its Complete Streets vision and develop its street projects in ways that are responsible, affordable, balanced and equitable by considering the needs of all travelers; recognizes that not every design element or feature will be needed or feasible for every street project, but commits to the goal of accommodating everyone; and incorporate Complete Streets goals into all new construction, reconstruction, and maintenance road projects.

2.3.2 Deliverables

1. Village-wide Complete Streets Plan

3. Purchasing

3.1 Continuation of Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy Implementation

In June 2019, the Village adopted a environmentally preferable purchasing policy with the goals of promoting sustainability for village operations; saving on long-term costs by investing in products, services, and technologies that promote efficiency, durability, and sustainability; improving working conditions and worker health; and promoting of products and services that have preferable impacts on the environment assists the Village with achieving its sustainability goals.

3.1.1 The Village will continue to follow the Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy for all Village procurement

The Village will follow the policy's provisions for selecting offers, products, bids, and services that are not the "lowest responsible offer" if appropriate justification can be offered. The EPPP will be in effect through 2026, and will be subject to regular review as needed.

3.1.2 Deliverables

1. The continuation of the Village's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy will not result in additional deliverables outside of the scope of other initiatives detailed within the CAP

3.2 Continuation of Renewable Energy Adoption Policy Implementation

In June 2019, the Village adopted a renewable energy adoption policy with the goals of achieving 100% of municipal energy needs, excluding fleet vehicles, from renewable sources no later than the year 2050.

3.2.1 The Village will complete the CSC PE4 Action: Renewable Energy Feasibility Study by 2026

3.2.2 The Village will develop interim goals based on CSC PE4 Action: Renewable Energy Feasibility Study

3.2.3 Deliverables

1. Renewable Energy Feasibility Study

4. Sustainable Materials Management

4.1 Development and Implementation of a Village-wide Food Waste Reduction Program

In June 2020, the Village of Montour Falls and Cornell Cooperative Extension - Schuyler formally began the Food Scraps Reduction and Diversion Education Pilot Program. The goals of the program are to help the Village of Montour Falls (population 1,800) cope with changes in the recycling markets and the need to reduce unwanted waste of fresh produce or other organic food sources by educating the citizenry on proper and healthy eating choices and shopping habits, redirection of food scraps and unsold fresh produce to higher value uses including redistribution through the local food bank network as well educating local resident on the need to clean the waste stream to enable greater ability to recycle solid waste. The pilot program will continue through June 2022.

4.1.1 The Village will determine the best method and process for full implementation of a permanent Village Resident and Commercial Food Waste Reduction Program, pending results of the pilot program.

4.1.2 Deliverables

1. Food Waste Reduction and Diversion Program Materials, including Annual Reports, and Statistics

4.2 Determine Methods for Reduction of Solid Waste Entering the Solid Waste Stream Throughout the Village, and Determine the Reduction of GHG for Each Possible Method

4.2.1 The Village will conduct a Solid Waste Reduction Study

The study will be designed to identify feasible and effective methods for reducing both the total volume of, and the GHG emissions reduction, from solid waste entering the Village solid waste stream.

4.2.2 Deliverables

1. Solid Waste Reduction Study

4.3 Development and Implementation of a Village-Wide Battery Recycling Program

Building on other initiatives found in the CAP to both reduce solid waste and the GHG emissions

from solid waste, the Village will undertake to reduce unsafe battery disposal. Owing in part to their particularly hazardous nature, they pose a significant environmental threat if not disposed of properly. Developing a Village-wide battery recycling program will allow and encourage residents to safely and conveniently dispose of used batteries.

4.3.1 The Village will develop and implement a Village-wide Battery Recycling Program

4.3.2 Deliverables

1. Battery Recycling Program Materials, including Annual Reports, and Statistics

4.4 Continuation of Demolition and Construction Waste Policy Implementation

In June 2019, the Village adopted a demolition and construction waste policy with the goals of promoting the responsible disposal of construction and demolition waste products created as a result of projects within the Village; and promoting the recycling and reuse of ‘waste’ products from construction and demolition projects within the Village.

4.4.1 The Village will codify and implement amendments to the Village’s Building Codes to require proper disposal of construction and demolition waste products

4.4.2 Deliverables

1. Amendments to the Village Building Code

5. Protection of Natural Resources

5.1 Levee Certification Study Leading to Levee Recertification

Due to the imminent federal requirement of levee recertification, the Village of Montour Falls will conduct a levee recertification study to determine how to recertify the levee and an estimated cost for recertification. The study and subsequent levee recertification will ensure that municipal infrastructure planning and construction are informed by climate change adaptation strategies and timetables which “future proof” investments and develop climate resilience, thereby encouraging sustainable development. The study will define the scope of work and costs/benefits of levee recertification using risk models which project climate change impacts, including those to the levee system and will provide the steps necessary for levee recertification. The study will be completed by April 2025.

5.1.1 The Village will complete the aforementioned Levee Certification Study

5.1.2 Deliverables Levee Recertification Study

1. Levee Recertification Study

5.2 Development of Dredging Plan(s) for Village Marina and Canalway

5.2.1 The Village will develop at least one marina dredging plan

The dredging plan will determine an ongoing schedule for dredging of the Seneca Canal within the village limits for the purposes of waterway management and ecosystem protection. The plan(s) will account for regular waterway flow variation.

5.2.2 Deliverables

1. Marina Dredging Plan

5.3 Conduct a Village-wide Climate Vulnerability Assessment

In order to best prepare for future environmental changes, the Village will conduct a comprehensive vulnerability assessment. The vulnerability assessment will ensure that municipal infrastructure planning and construction are informed by climate change adaptation strategies and timetables which "future proof" investments and develop climate resilience, thereby encouraging sustainable development. The climate vulnerability assessment will be used to determine threat and risks to the village due to climate change.

5.3.1 The Village will conduct a village-wide climate vulnerability assessment

The vulnerability assessment will be conducted in concert with local businesses, community groups, and village residents and vulnerable populations to provide a comprehensive analysis of future risks.

5.3.2 Deliverables

1. Village-wide Climate Vulnerability Assessment

6. Public and Employee Engagement

6.1 Development and Implementation of a Community GHG Reduction Education Program for Local Businesses

6.1.1 The Village will develop and implement a Community GHG Reduction education program

6.1.2 Deliverables

1. Commercial GHG Reduction Education Program Materials, including Annual Reports, and Statistics

6.2 Adoption of GHG Emissions Reporting Policy for Local Businesses

6.2.1 The Village will adopt a GHG Emissions reporting policy for local businesses

The Village may seek to use the Model Benchmarking Local Law as prepared by NYSERDA for their Clean Energy Communities' Benchmarking Action Item.

6.2.2 Deliverables

1. GHG Emissions Reporting Policy

6.3 Development and Implementation of a Village Resident and Commercial Food Waste Reduction Program.

Cross-posted from Initiative 4.1

In June 2020, the Village of Montour Falls and Cornell Cooperative Extension - Schuyler formally kicked off the Food Scraps Reduction and Diversion Education Pilot Program. The goals of the program are to help the Village of Montour Falls (population 1,800) cope with changes in the recycling markets and the need to reduce unwanted waste of fresh produce or other organic food sources by educating the citizenry on proper and healthy eating choices and shopping habits, redirection of food scraps and unsold fresh produce to higher value uses including redistribution through the local food bank network as well educating local resident on the need to clean the waste stream to enable greater ability to recycle solid waste. The pilot program will continue through June 2022.

6.3.1 The Village will determine the best method and process for full implementation of a permanent Village Resident and Commercial Food Waste Reduction Program following the results of the pilot program

6.3.2 Deliverables

1. Food Waste Reduction and Diversion Program Materials, including Annual Reports, and Statistics

6.4 Public Outreach Through Public Events⁴

The Village is committed to promoting the Climate Smart Communities Program and the reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Partnership with and participation by the residents in initiatives will be key to building lasting momentum towards sustainable actions within the Village.

6.4.1 The village will conduct public outreach through in-person, public events located within Montour Falls (Montour Falls Harvest Festival, Montour Falls Farmers Market, etc.)

6.4.2 Deliverables

1. Public Outreach Materials and Advertisements

6.5 Maintenance of Sustainable Montour Falls Webpage

The Village of Montour Falls created a Sustainable Montour Falls subpage on the Montour Falls Webpage. The webpage has served as the official information outlet for Sustainable Montour Falls and the Climate Smart Communities Actions. By hosting sustainability-minded content on the Village's central webpage, residents will be better able to find relevant information on ongoing public initiatives or other work, as well as readily see how the Village's sustainability work is integrated in the existing day-to-day operations.

⁴ At time of writing (December 2020), the COVID-19 public health crisis was still ongoing. As a result, many public events were cancelled in calendar year 2020, and planning specific events in the near-term was not possible.

6.5.1 The Village will maintain and update the Sustainable Montour Falls webpages as needed

Deliverable: Sustainable Montour Falls Webpage.

1. Sustainable Montour Falls Webpage⁵

6.6 Development of Consistent Social Media Presence

Social media outreach is a key element of public engagement. Not only does it allow for more precise branding than physical media (allowing for the development of a unique voice and presence for the Village), but it also allows for more direct engagement with residents.

6.6.1 The Village will develop and sustain a social media presence for the purposes of public outreach and communication about sustainable actions



6.6.2 Deliverables

1. Activity on the Village Facebook and other social media sites.⁶

7. Mentoring by Example

7.1 Outreach to all Schuyler County Municipalities Through the Council of Governments and Personal Interactions

Regular Council of Governments meetings allow municipal bodies throughout and including the County to coordinate on issues affecting multiple jurisdictions and allows the participants to coordinate across municipal boundaries. These meetings, as well as personal and professional relationships between representatives, serve as a key avenue for

the Village to emerge as a leader in local sustainable action and to build lasting coalitions for

⁵ <https://www.villageofmontourfalls.com/sustainability.html>

⁶ Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SustainableVME>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Village-of-Montour-Falls-378255778889739/>

larger actions.

7.1.1 The Village will use interpersonal and formal channels to communicate sustainable actions and successes to municipalities throughout Schuyler County

7.1.2 Deliverables

1. N/A

7.2 Participation in the NY State Land Use and Local Government (LULG) Advisory Committee

The New York State Land Use and Local Government Advisory Committee is a multi-municipality body that convenes to discuss issues related to sustainable land use and local government issues⁷. Participation in this body will allow the Village to learn from and influence conversations within other municipal bodies that deal with sustainable actions.

7.2.1 The Village will participate in the NYS LULG Advisory Committee

7.2.2 Deliverables

1. N/A

8. Promote Green Economic Development

8.1 Support Initiatives to develop businesses and jobs that are part of the green economy

In a green economy, growth in business revenue, personal income and employment are driven by public and private investment into economic activities, infrastructure and assets that allow reduced carbon emissions and pollution, enhanced energy and resource efficiency, and prevention of the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. The Village of Montour Falls will continue to support initiatives that promote the green economy.

8.1.1 All economic development programs and projects supported by the Village will require demonstration and practice of green economy principles.

8.1.2 Deliverables

1. **Businesses and projects seeking support from the Village of Montour Falls will be required to provide plans detailing green economy principles and practices.**

8.2 Implement Environmentally-Friendly Building Codes to Promote Green Development

The Village will continue to adopt and implement building codes that lead to decreased GHG emissions, energy efficiency, and the protection and conservation of natural resources.

⁷ The LULG is administered as part of the NYS Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act

8.2.1. Possible new and updated environmentally-friendly building codes will be reviewed annually by the Planning Board for possible inclusion in the Village of Montour Falls Building Codes.

8.2.2 Deliverables

- 1. New and Updated Building Codes**

8.3 Protect and Develop Natural Areas to Promote Sustainable, Green Tourism and Conservation

Visitors to Montour Falls most often come to the village to enjoy the beautiful natural attractions that Montour Falls is blessed with. These natural attractions include the waterfalls, Seneca-Cayuga Canal, Catharine Creek, and the Catharine Creek Wildlife Management Area. The multimodal Catharine Valley Trail also travels through the village. The village will seek ways to develop these natural areas in sustainable ways while always protecting the natural areas for generations to come.

8.3.1 All development of the natural areas will occur sustainably, naturally, and with conservation at the forefront.

8.3.2 Deliverables

- 1. Development plans will demonstrate sustainability and protection of the natural area.**

8.4 Support Initiatives to Promote Clean Heating and Cooling, and Green Energy Sourcing

Montour Falls will partner with public and private organizations to support and promote clean heating and cooling, and green energy sourcing in public, private, and residential buildings throughout the Village.

8.4.1 Programs that promote and provide resources for clean heating and cooling and green energy sourcing in the village will be promoted by the Village of Montour Falls

8.4.2 Deliverables

- 1. Program Marketing materials**
- 2. Promotion on the Village website**
- 3. Reports detailing the number of residents and businesses served by the program.**

Implementation Plan

The following is a summary of proposed and future actions in order to meet the sustainable action goals outlined above, including expected completion dates and estimated costs.

1. Facilities and Grounds

1.1 Continuation of Ongoing Strategies for Decreasing Natural Gas and Electricity Consumption⁸

1.1.1 The Village will replace all remaining facility lighting with LED Lighting

Estimated Completion	December 2021
Estimated Cost	\$6,000
Funded by	The Village General Fund
Implementation by	Village Staff
Metric/Deliverable	Preliminary estimates show an anticipated reduction of 14.23 MWh/yr and a projected savings of \$2,134.32.

1.1.2 The Village will install a new energy efficient heat pump in the Village Hall to replace the aging, inefficient HVAC system

Estimated Completion	February 2021
Estimated Cost	\$22,000
Funded through	NYSERDA Clean Energy Community Grant
Implementation by	Contractor (TBD)
Metric/Deliverable	Heat Pump conversion is projected to reduce CO2e by 70.2-70.5%.

1.1.3 The Village will decrease overall municipal facility energy consumption by twenty percent (versus baseline year 2018) by the year 2026

Estimated Completion	December 2026
Estimated Cost	\$0
Funded through	Cost savings as result of clean energy improvements
Implementation by	Village Staff
Metric/Deliverable	Baseline measures estimate total CO2 emissions from Village facilities at 266.13 MT CO2e in 2018. Estimated reduction from CEC projects is 46.29 MT CO2e, which represents a 17.39% reduction over five years (versus baseline year 2018). Additional strategies may be required to meet targets.

⁸ All figures taken from projects outlined in the Montour Falls Metrics Workbook, prepared as part of the Village's participation in the NYSERDA CEC Grant Program.

1.2 Completion of Brownfield Site Land Re-Use Feasibility Study

1.2.1 The Village will complete a feasibility study of converting the brownfield site to a solar farm and/or solid waste composting site

Estimated Completion	December 2022
Estimated Cost	\$70,000
Funded by	USDA Solid Waste Reduction Grant Program
Implementation by	Village Staff and Larson Design Group
Metric/Deliverable	A feasibility study will be commissioned. Additional actions will be determined upon completion.

1.3 Retrofit All Wastewater Lift Stations to Use Onsite Solar Power Batteries in Place of Commercial Grid Electricity

1.3.1 The Village will retrofit existing wastewater lift stations to use onsite solar power batteries in place of commercial grid electricity

Estimated Completion	September 2026
Estimated Cost	TBD
Funded by	Dependent on cost
Implementation by	Village Staff
Metric/Deliverable	Preliminary steps will include in-depth cost estimates. Additional actions will be determined upon completion.

2. Transportation

2.1 Continuation of Fleet Efficiency Policy Implementation

2.1.1 The Village will continue to follow the Fleet Efficiency Policy⁹ when considering retiring and purchasing municipal owned vehicles through at least 2026

Estimated Completion	December 2026
Estimated Cost	\$0
Funded by	N/A
Implementation by	Village Staff
Metric/Deliverable	Future strategies and purchasing patterns will need to be assessed for greater GHG reductions.

2.2 Continuation of Fleet Right-Sizing Through 2026

2.2.1 The Village will continue fleet right-sizing through 2026 and will conduct a feasibility study of GHG Reductions through the conversion to biodiesel in diesel vehicles

Estimated Completion	December 2022
Estimated Cost	TBD

⁹ As passed by the Village Board on May 2, 2019.

Funded by	TBD
Implementation by	TBD
Metric/Deliverable	Preliminary GHG estimates suggest a possible 5 percent reduction in total fleet emissions through conversion to Biodiesel blends.

2.3 Development and Implementation of a Village-wide Complete Streets Plan

2.3.1 The Village will develop and enact a Village-wide Complete Streets Plan

To achieve this goal, the Village will: identify potential grant or other funding options in order to more fully realize the Complete Streets goals; seek to realize its Complete Streets vision and develop its street projects in ways that are responsible, affordable, balanced and equitable by considering the needs of all travelers; recognizes that not every design element or feature will be needed or feasible for every street project, but commits to the goal of accommodating everyone; and incorporate Complete Streets goals into all new construction, reconstruction, and maintenance road projects.

Estimated Completion	April 2022
Estimated Cost	\$30,000
Funded by	Empire State Development Planning Grant
Implementation by	Larson Design Group
Metric/Deliverable	The Complete Streets vision was first articulated in May 2019 through a Resolution of the Village Board of Trustees. Additional study is required to implement new infrastructure planning.

3. Purchasing

3.1 Continuation of Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy Implementation

3.1.1 The Village will continue to follow the Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy for all Village procurement

The Village will follow the policy’s provisions for selecting offers, products, bids, and services that are not the “lowest responsible offer” if appropriate justification can be offered. The EPPP will be in effect through 2026 and will be subject to regular review as needed.

Estimated Completion	December 2026
Estimated Cost	\$0
Funded by	N/A
Implementation by	Village Staff
Metric/Deliverable	Purchasing decisions relying on the EPPP will require written explanation.

3.2 Continuation of Renewable Energy Adoption Policy Implementation

3.2.1 The Village will complete the CSC PE4 Action: Renewable Energy Feasibility Study by 2026

Estimated Completion	December 2023
Estimated Cost	TBD
Funded by	TBD
Implementation	TBD
Metric/Deliverable	A feasibility study will be completed to assess methods for meeting the Village's Renewable Energy Adoption goals.

3.2.2 The Village will develop interim goals based on CSC PE4 Action: Renewable Energy Feasibility Study

Estimated Completion	June 2024
Estimated Cost	TBD
Funded by	TBD
Implementation by	TBD
Metric/Deliverable	Interim goals will be developed pending the results of the renewable energy adoption feasibility study. A written report will outline the Village's goals and timeline.

4. Sustainable Materials Management

4.1 Development and Implementation of a Village-wide Food Waste Reduction Program

4.1.1 The Village will determine the best method and process for full implementation of a permanent Village Resident and Commercial Food Waste Reduction Program, pending results of the pilot program.

Estimated Completion	November 2022
Estimated Cost	TBD
Funded by	TBD
Implementation by	TBD
Metric/Deliverable	The current pilot program, co-run with CCE Schuyler County, will produce materials that will inform future programming.

4.2 Determine Methods for Reduction of Solid Waste Entering the Solid Waste Stream Throughout the Village, and Determine the Reduction of GHG for Each Possible Method

4.2.1 The Village will conduct a Solid Waste Reduction Study

The study will be designed to identify feasible and effective methods for reducing both the total volume of, and the GHG emissions reduction, from solid waste entering the Village solid waste stream.

Estimated Completion	June 2022
Estimated Cost	\$80,000
Funded by	USDA Solid Waste Reduction Grant Program
Implementation by	Village Staff and Larson Design Group
Metric/Deliverable	A feasibility study will be commissioned. Additional actions will be determined upon completion.

4.3 Development and Implementation of a Village-Wide Battery Recycling Program

4.3.1 The Village will develop and implement a Village-wide Battery Recycling Program

Estimated Completion	February 2023
Estimated Cost	TBD
Funded by	TBD
Implementation by	Village Staff
Metric/Deliverable	Implementation will be contingent upon pre-development study/ies.

4.4 Continuation of Demolition and Construction Waste Policy Implementation

4.4.1 The Village will codify and implement amendments to the Village’s Building Codes to require proper disposal of construction and demolition waste products

Estimated Completion	June 2025
Estimated Cost	\$0
Funded by	Existing Staff Budget
Implementation by	Village Staff (with technical support from DEC and Regional Planning Council)
Metric/Deliverable	Codification of construction and demolition waste recycling policies will inform code enforcement practices as well as Public Works practices.

5. Protection of Natural Resources

5.1 Levee Recertification Study Leading to Levee Recertification

5.1.1 The Village will complete the Levee Recertification Study

Estimated Completion	April 2025
Estimated Cost	\$50,000
Funded by	NYSDEC Climate Smart Grant.
Implementation by	Village Staff and Larson Design Group
Metric/Deliverable	Recertification of the [Catherine Creek] Levees

5.2 Development of Dredging Plan(s) for Village Marina and Canalway

5.2.1 The Village will develop at least one marina dredging plan

The dredging plan will determine an ongoing schedule for dredging of the Seneca Canal within the village limits for the purposes of waterway management and ecosystem protection. The plan(s) will account for regular waterway flow variation.

Estimated Completion	December 2026
Estimated Cost	TBD
Funded by	TBD
Implementation by	TBD
Metric/Deliverable	Upon completion of a comprehensive dredging plan, the Village will implement dredging.

5.3 Conduct a Village-wide Climate Vulnerability Assessment

5.3.1 The Village will conduct a comprehensive village-wide climate vulnerability assessment

The vulnerability assessment will be conducted in concert with local businesses, community groups, and village residents and vulnerable populations to provide a comprehensive analysis of future risks.

Estimated Completion	April 2025.
Estimated Cost	\$50,000
Funded by	NYSDEC Climate Smart Grant
Implementation by	Village Staff and Larson Design Group
Metric/Deliverable	Development of a Climate Vulnerability Assessment

6. Public and Employee Engagement

6.1 Development and Implementation of a Commercial GHG Reduction Education Program

6.1.1 The Village will develop and implement a Commercial GHG Reduction Education program

Estimated Completion	April 2023
Estimated Cost	TBD
Funded by	TBD
Implementation by	TBD
Metric/Deliverable	Implementation of a GHG Reduction Program for businesses located within the Village of Montour Falls.

6.2 Adoption of GHG Emissions Reporting Policy for Businesses

6.2.1 The Village will adopt a GHG Emissions reporting policy for commercial businesses

Estimated Completion	April 2023
Estimated Cost	\$0
Funded by	N/A
Implementation by	Village Staff
Metric/Deliverable	Upon passage of a commercial GHG reporting policy, the Village will report emissions from businesses on a regular schedule.

6.3 Development and Implementation of a Village Resident and Commercial Food Waste Reduction Program.

6.3.1 The Village will determine the best method and process for full implementation of a permanent Village Resident and Commercial Food Waste Reduction Program following the results of the pilot program

Estimated Completion	November 2022
Estimated Cost	TBD
Funded by	TBD
Implementation by	TBD
Metric/Deliverable	The current pilot program, co-run with CCE Schuyler County, will produce materials that will inform future programming.

6.4 Public Outreach Through Public Events

6.4.1 The village will conduct public outreach through in-person, public events located within Montour Falls (Montour Falls Harvest Festival, Montour Falls Farmers Market, etc.)

Estimated Completion	December 2026
Estimated Cost	\$5,000
Funded by	Village General Fund
Implementation by	Village Staff, Trustees, and Volunteers
Metric/Deliverable	Specific deliverables will be contingent on public programming in response to and following ongoing COVID-19 restrictions.

6.5 Maintenance of Sustainable Montour Falls Webpage

6.5.1 The Village will maintain and update the Sustainable Montour Falls webpages as needed

Estimated Completion	December 2026
Estimated Cost	\$0

Funded by	TBD
Implementation by	Village Staff
Metric/Deliverable	Village staff will update the official Village website as needed to reflect ongoing initiatives within the Village.

6.6 Development of Consistent Social Media Presence

6.6.1 The Village will develop and sustain a social media presence for the purposes of public outreach and communication about sustainable actions

Estimated Completion	December 2026
Estimated Cost	\$0
Funded by	TBD
Implementation by	Village Staff
Metric/Deliverable	Existing social media accounts will be regularly maintained. Posting frequency and content will be determined as needed.

7. Mentoring by Example

7.1 Outreach to all Schuyler County Municipalities Through the Council of Governments and Personal Interactions

7.1.1 The Village will use interpersonal and formal channels to communicate sustainable actions and successes to other municipalities throughout Schuyler County

Estimated Completion	December 2026
Estimated Cost	\$0
Funded by	N/A
Implementation by	Village Mayor and Vice Mayor
Metric/Deliverable	Continued participation in the Council of Governments.

7.2 Participation in the NY State Land Use and Local Government (LULG) Advisory Committee

7.2.1 The Village will participate in the NYS Land Use and Local Government Advisory Committee

Estimated Completion	April 2021
Estimated Cost	\$0
Funded by	N/A
Implementation by	Village Mayor
Metric/Deliverable	Continued participation in LULG

8. Promotion of Green Economic Development

8.1 Support Initiatives to Develop Businesses and Jobs that are Part of the Green Economy

8.1.1 The Village Support Initiatives to develop businesses and jobs that are part of the green economy

Estimated Completion	December 2026
Estimated Cost	\$0
Funded by	N/A
Implementation by	Village Board of Trustees
Metric/Deliverable	Businesses and projects plans detailing green economy principles and practices.

8.2 Implement Environmentally-Friendly Building Codes to Promote Green Development

8.1.2 The Village will implement Environmentally-Friendly Building Codes to Promote Green Development

Estimated Completion	December 2026
Estimated Cost	\$0
Funded by	N/A
Implementation by	Village Planning Board
Metric/Deliverable	New and Updated Building Codes

8.3 Protect and Develop Natural Areas to Promote Sustainable, Green Tourism and Conservation

8.1.3 The Village will Protect and Develop Natural Areas to Promote Sustainable, Green Tourism and Conservation

Estimated Completion	December 2026
Estimated Cost	\$0
Funded by	N/A
Implementation by	Village Board of Trustees
Metric/Deliverable	Development plans will demonstrate sustainability and protection of the natural area.

8.4 Support Initiatives to Promote Clean Heating and Cooling, and Green Energy Sourcing

8.1.3 The Village will Support Initiatives that Promote Clean Heating and Cooling, and Green Energy Sourcing

Estimated Completion	December 2026
Estimated Cost	\$0
Funded by	N/A

Implementation by
Metric/Deliverable

Village Board of Trustees
Program Marketing materials, Promotion on the Village
website, Reports detailing the number of residents and
businesses served by the program.



Next Steps

A Climate Smart Communities Report will be compiled annually, by April 15, to report the progress of the plan. The report will include progress made toward GHG reduction targets and the other Climate Smart Goals. It will also include a brief summary of the Climate Smart Communities Activities completed during the year. It will present any challenges to achieving the goal. The report will also include all updated and new initiatives as approved by the board of trustees. It will be reviewed by the Sustainability Committee, Board of Trustees, and General Public. The report will be made available on the Village of Montour Falls Webpage.

Annually in March, progress towards achieving the GHG reduction targets and other climate smart goals will be reviewed by the sustainability committee utilizing the metrics assigned to each initiative. Any initiatives that are not successfully achieving the targets and goals will be reviewed in detail and a determination as to why the target and goal is not or has not been met will be made. Based on the determination; amendments to the implementation will be made in line. If it is found that initiatives or target goals need to be amended, the Sustainability Committee will make the recommendation to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Annually in March, the entire plan will be reviewed by the Sustainability Committee as well as the Board of Trustees. Current initiatives will be updated and new initiatives added at this time by the Sustainability Committee and approved by the Board of Trustees. The updated and new initiatives will be added to the plan and reported in the annual report. The initiatives that are in process will be reviewed quarterly by the sustainability committee.