

# Planning for a Healthy Madison County Newsletter

Spring 2013 Issue#4

Welcome to the fourth *Planning for a Healthy Madison County Newsletter!* In this issue get an update on the development of the Smart Growth Audit Tool which was piloted in three of our communities as well as get access to Madison County's first Greenhouse Gas Inventory recently completed. The resources in this issue focus on energy planning and integrating renewable energy ordinances.

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**This is an electronic newsletter—Please click on and utilize all the links and videos provided !**

Did you know that the Madison County Planning Department has a webpage dedicated to Smart Growth?

[www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/planning/smart-growth](http://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/planning/smart-growth)



Image from the Smart Growth Technical Assistance presentation given at City Hall in Oneida on February 27, 2013. As part of the Smart Growth Technical Assistance grant awarded to Madison County, the U.S. EPA and Renaissance Planning Group visited Madison County to discuss the Smart Growth Audit Tool project they have been working on for us. **Watch the video of this public presentation on Page 4.**

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## **Update: U.S. EPA Smart Growth Implementation Assistance Program in Madison County**

February 2013 Site Visit— As part of the technical assistance program, the U.S. EPA and chosen consultant, Renaissance Planning Group, came to Madison County for a three day site visit, from February 25th-27th 2013, to pilot the draft version of the Smart Growth Audit Tool in three communities:

- **City of Oneida**
- **Village of Chittenango**
- **Town of Brookfield**

Over the course of the site visit, the team met with Town Supervisors, Mayors, Planning and Zoning Board members from these communities to run their codes, design guidelines, and comprehensive plans through the Smart Growth Audit Tool. Feedback from these groups is being used to fine tune the tool. The finalized version of the tool is anticipated to be distributed to all of our communities this summer.

**Background on the project:** Madison County was 1 of only 5 places nation-wide selected by the [U.S. EPA Smart Growth for the Smart Growth Implementation Assistance \(SGIA\) program](#). Through this program, the EPA hired a consultant team, Renaissance Planning Group, to work with Madison County to develop a Smart Growth Audit Tool. The intent of the audit tool is to identify a set of best practices that rural communities can take and apply to comprehensive plans and current land use ordinances. The ultimate goal is to create a Smart Growth tool specifically for rural communities to help plan for growth in ways that sustain environmental and economic progress and create a high quality of life.

### **Who is the Smart Growth Tool intended to be used by?**

This tool is being developed for those responsible for land use regulations and planning such as Planning and Zoning Boards or a committee responsible for developing a Comprehensive Plan.

### **What does the Tool look like?**

Right now the tool is only in draft form, but it currently is a set of 11 audit categories which were identified as Smart Growth priorities for Madison County. For each of these audit categories the tool provides a list of best practices for code strategies, policies, and programs. There is space provided in the tool for users to mark whether each of these identified best practices are adopted or could be improved. The tool can be applied to current plans and ordinances to identify any gaps that may exist or be used to inform the development of new plans or ordinances.

### **The 11 Categories of the Smart Growth Audit Tool**

- Revitalize Village and Town Centers
- Meet Housing Needs for a Range of Ages and Incomes
- Provide Transportation Choices
- Support Productive Agriculture for a Variety of Markets
- Engage and Connect Community Members
- Increase Energy Efficiency and Provide Renewable Energy
- Improve Health and Promote Active Living
- Invest in Public Infrastructure Systems and Operations
- Preserve Historical and Cultural Resources
- Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems
- Strengthen the Local and Regional Economies

### **Each of our communities is so different how can one tool work in them all?**

The tool is not one size fits all; instead, it is designed so communities can easily select and apply only the categories most relevant to their needs and priorities. Moreover, the intent of the tool is not to be prescriptive; as a tool, it is meant to provide a resource to communities.

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## Piloting the Smart Growth Audit Tool across Madison County

### 1. City of Oneida



**“The City of Oneida is very happy to serve as a pilot community for this project.”**

-Acting Mayor Max Smith

City Planning Commission and Zoning Board members joined several Councilmen at the presentations, and felt that the City will benefit from the audit tool as they move forward in updating their comprehensive plan and incorporating smart growth principles into the final document.

### 2. Village of Chittenango

**“Using the audit tools provided by Smart Growth allowed us to see what we have addressed as a community and what needs still have to be honed.”** —Ronny Goeler, Mayor, Village of Chittenango



### 3. Town of Brookfield



**“We Brookfielders are honored to be part of the pilot program and welcome any guidance that may come from the tools presented and yet to come from the Smart Growth assistance groups. We've invested the past three years in our comprehensive plan project, knowing that it will be a footprint for our communities future as well as a never ending endeavor. We thank you for being part of our team.”**— Marylou Rhodes, Planning Board Chairperson

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## **U.S. EPA Smart Growth Implementation Assistance Program Presentation**

At a public presentation held on February 27, 2013, the Renaissance Planning Group gave an overview of the Smart Growth Implementation Assistance Program, introduced the Smart Growth Audit Tool, and discussed some examples of how the tool was intended to be applied.

Approximately 40 people attended this presentation including Paul Beyer, Executive Director of Smart Growth for New York State. (Paul Beyer visited the City of Oneida in April 2012 for a special presentation, “Smart Growth Planning for New York Communities.” Read more about this presentation in the Spring 2012 Issue). A one hour training credit was available for CEOs or Planning and Zoning Board members that attended this event.

**Thanks to PAC 99, we were able to film this presentation. Watch it by clicking the video below**



**For a hardcopy of the powerpoint slides click [here](#)**

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## Madison County Local Government and Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory

Madison County's first Greenhouse Gas Inventory (GHG) Report was completed in January 2013.

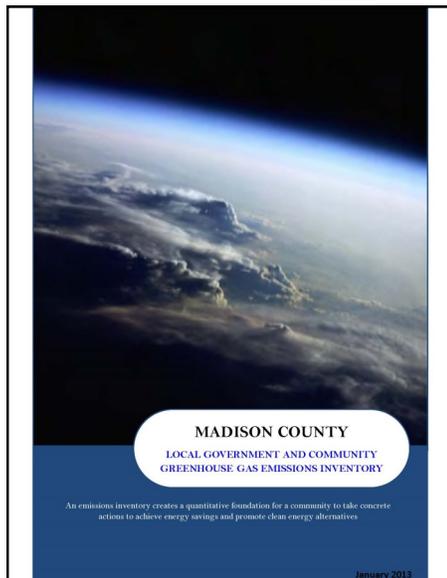
The intent of the GHG Inventory report is to compile the energy (kWh, therms, gallons, etc.) consumed by Madison County both at the community level and County government level. Ultimately, this GHG Inventory report is a data resource that details local current energy consumption to show exactly where energy is being used to inform future energy-related policies and projects in Madison County.

The next step is to create a Community Energy Strategic Plan that will use this baseline data to set future targets for emissions reductions and future goals for energy-related projects.

**Background on the project:** In August 2010, the Planning Department submitted Madison County as an applicant for the [Climate Change Innovation Program \(C2IP\)](#) administered by the Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board (CNY RPDB). Madison County was chosen by CNY RPDB for the program which provides technical and financial assistance in order to develop Madison County's first Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Community Energy Strategic Plan.



**Read Madison County's Local Government and Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory [here](#).**



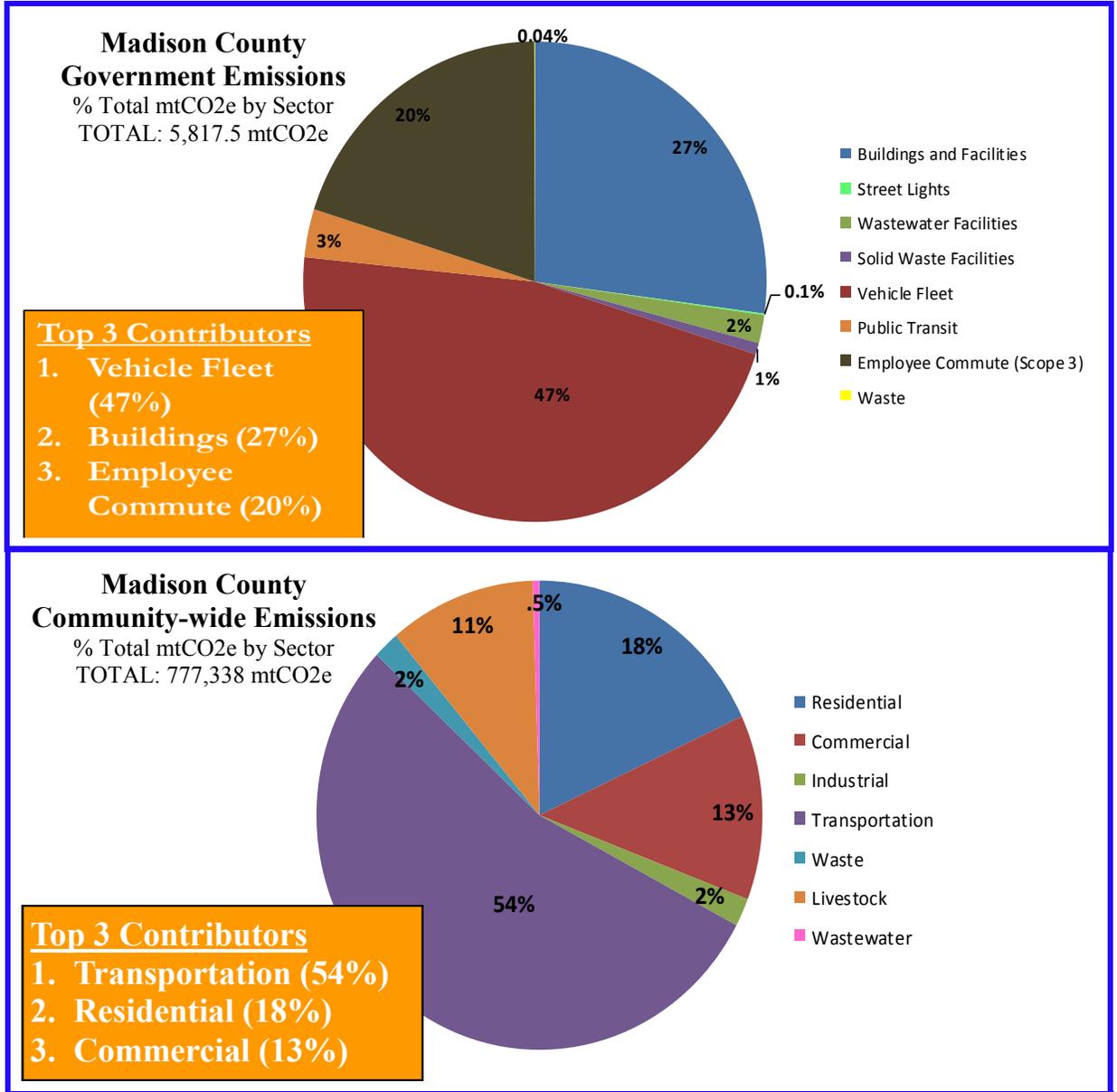
Copious amounts of energy consumption data were collected and analyzed to develop this report. The baseline year for the data is 2010. ICLEI Local Government and Community Protocols were used to guide the process; these protocols are the recognized standard in GHG reporting and reflect best practices associated with GHG accounting. Once collected, this energy consumption data was analyzed and converted into greenhouse gas emissions. ICLEI Clean Air and Climate Protection (CACAP) software was used to help measure emissions and standardize the results to metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (mtCO<sub>2</sub>e). The GHG Inventory report will then be used to track energy consumption trends, develop reduction strategies and policies, and assess progress. It will also provide the baseline information to inform the future development of Madison County's first Community Energy Strategic Plan.

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## Madison County Local Government and Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory: Results and Overall Takeaways

The GHG Inventory focuses on two categories: emissions associated with Madison County government operations and Madison County community-wide emissions.



Madison County emitted 777,338 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (mtCO<sub>2</sub>e) - 10.6 tons for each of Madison County's 73,442 residents. Energy consumption cost for Madison County government operations is about \$1.5 million and accounts for about 0.75% of total community-wide emissions. In both categories, emissions associated with transportation dominate other sectors.

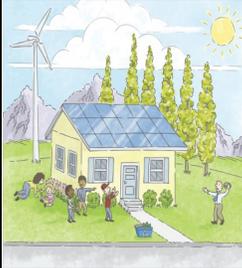
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## Benefits of Energy Planning



**1. Environmental Benefits:** Reducing greenhouse gas emissions will help combat rising environmental concerns such as air pollution, water pollution, climate change, and waste generation, thus promoting environmental health. Although not always realized, human livelihood is intimately dependent on environmental health and stability.



**2. Public Health Benefits:** Reducing greenhouse gas emission will help improve public health by removing harmful pollutants from the air we breath. NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>, and VOC's (Volatile Organic Compounds) are some of the leading greenhouse gases, and are also detrimental to human health. There is also overwhelming evidence that high performance buildings - commercial structures designed to minimize energy consumption and maximize use of space - are healthier buildings for working, studying, and living.



**3. Economic Benefits:** Understanding current emissions helps gain better insights in ways to increase energy efficiency and decrease consumption. Ultimately, mitigation strategies can reduce the amount spent on energy (some payoffs are immediate, while others take a few years). In addition, increasing the use of renewable energy facilitates innovation, creates jobs, and over time makes these emerging technologies more cost effective. Renewable energy development is also an opportunity to diversify the use of farmland to make it more profitable for farms to remain in production (see pg. 12 to learn more)



**4. Energy Security:** Reducing GHG emissions will improve energy security. Petroleum and its products, such as gasoline, are a major source of GHG emissions and the United States depends on petroleum imports from other countries for over 50% of its demand. Reducing petroleum use makes us less vulnerable to disruptions in supply and less dependent on other countries in general.



**5. Improved Livability:** There are numerous ways in which reducing GHG emissions can improve public livelihood. Encouraging walking and bicycling will cut transportation energy consumption, while improving public health and fitness, reducing parking problems, and enhancing recreational opportunities. In addition, actions that reduce automobile dependency can decrease traffic congestion and localized air pollution.



**5. Funding Opportunities:** Under New York State [Cleaner, Greener Communities Program](#), each of the 10 regions in New York was given up to \$1 million to adopt a sustainability plan that assesses current GHG emissions and energy use. In 2013, the Implementation Phase of the Cleaner, Greener Communities Program will award a total of up to \$90 million in grants to projects identified during the planning process that provide the greatest opportunity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save energy and deploy renewable energy, while improving the economic and environmental health of our communities.

**Community Spotlight: Town of Cazenovia**

— Energy Planning at the Local Level —

Cazenovia is working to complete the Town’s first Greenhouse Gas Inventory. Read the interview below to find out more about their experience with this process!

**Who is involved in developing the Town’s GHG Inventory?**

**Liz:** We are working with the CNYRPDB, who have enlisted a class from SUNY-ESF to take on the calculations. Tim Hunt, our Highway Superintendent, has been most involved.



**Liz Moran**  
Town of Cazenovia  
Town Councilor

**What sorts of data are you looking at for the inventory?**

**Liz:** Energy use in town-owned buildings, fuel consumption by town highway dept., annual miles and vehicles for emergency services (police, fire, ambulance)

**Have there been any surprising finds while collecting the energy data?**

**Liz:** We are pleased to see the positive impacts of our efforts to modernize our highway dept. equipment. Also, a county-wide data gap exists for agriculturally-related greenhouse gas emissions (there is no straightforward way to answer the question “how many cows live in Cazenovia?”)

**Carolyn:** It was interesting to discover that, in 2011, the Town’s second biggest source of emissions was from propane used for heating, and the cost of this fuel is nearly equal to the total electricity bill for all Town facilities and water districts that year.



**Carolyn Ramsden**  
Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board  
(CNYRPDB)

**What tools and resources have you been using to develop this inventory?**

**Liz:** Students are using a spreadsheet-based model for their calculations. The Town will retain these files so we can do annual updates in-house.

**When is the inventory intended to be complete? And what are the next steps once it is finalized?**

**Liz:** The inventory will be complete in May (end of the semester). The next step is to establish goals and targets for reducing where we can. For example, just changing the type of lighting for the New Woodstock street lights will have an impact on energy use (and the Town’s monthly bills from National Grid).

**What advice would you give to a community thinking about doing a ghg inventory for the first time?**

**Liz:** Useful to establish the baseline conditions. In Cazenovia, we are planning to undertake a town hall rehabilitation project, so we’ll be able provide more quantitative goals to the architects.

**Carolyn:** Aside from strong data organization, I would advise communities undertaking an inventory to have a municipal staff member or community liaison involved from start to finish for consistency and replicability- after all, GHG analyses are most useful when used for comparison over periods of years, and having someone document the entire process improves the ability of others to conduct an assessment in the future.

# COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

## Town of Cazenovia: Greenhouse Gas Inventory

By Kelsey Adler<sup>1</sup>, Christian Bucknell<sup>2</sup>, Yu Dong<sup>3</sup>, Caleb Marsh<sup>4</sup>,  
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### Abstract

The town of Cazenovia has adopted the Climate Smart Communities Pledge as a commitment to greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction. A GHG emissions inventory is an audit of activities that contribute to the release of GHG's. In order to generate emissions results, we incorporated several methods of calculation including the Local Government Operations Protocol (LGOP) and the U.S. Community Protocol, developed by ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability. Data for the municipal facility energy use and vehicle fleet fuel use will be entered into ICLEI's Clean Air Climate Protection (CACP) inventory software. The outputs will be aggregated into metrics of CO2e and summed with direct emissions separated by sector and scope. Data from the inventory will guide policy decisions and energy improvements, inform sustainability projects, and build public support for broader sustainability initiatives in the town of Cazenovia.

### Scope

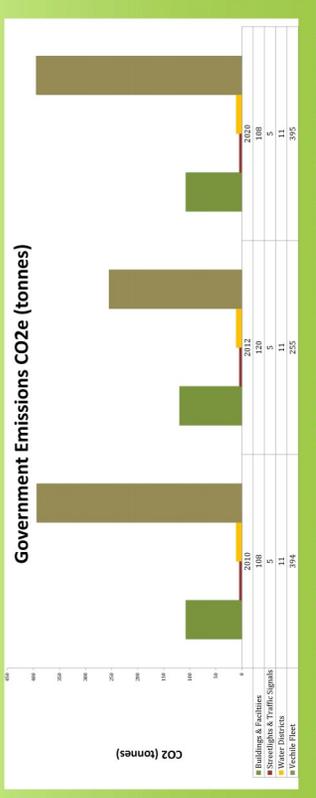
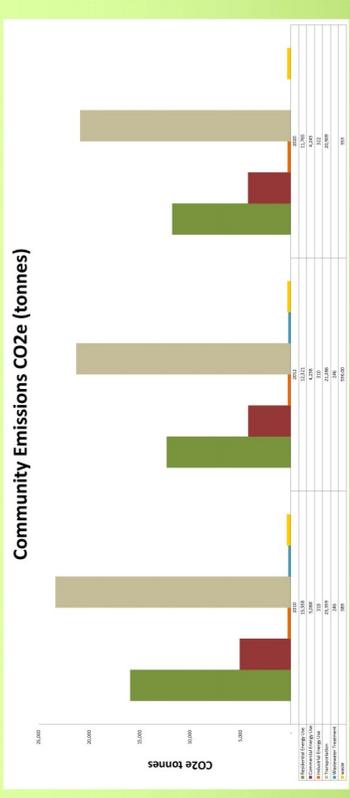
The analysis for Cazenovia includes three different scopes of emissions, as follows:  
**Scope 1:** All direct greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, including onsite governmental emissions, vehicle fleet emissions, onsite commercial emissions, and residential and industrial emissions  
**Scope 2:** All indirect greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions related to the consumption of purchased steam, heating, cooling, and/or electricity, including gas and steam used to heat governmental buildings, and purchased electricity used in the heating and cooling of commercial and residential entities  
**Scope 3:** All other indirect emissions not included in Scope 2, for example wastewater and solid waste, employee commute, household waste, and commercial waste management.

### Methods

Fuel use and energy usage data was collected for community and municipal operations within the Town of Cazenovia. Data was collected for the baseline year 2010, interim year 2012, and forecast year 2020. Municipal data for scope 1 and 2 emissions came from records for fuel and electricity purchases offered by highway superintendent Tim Hunt. Community Data was compiled from inventories for Madison County, reports of vehicular miles traveled, and transfer station data. This software is helpful because it takes different units of measure (therms, gallons of fuel, vehicle miles traveled, kilowatt hours, etc.) and converts them to a carbon dioxide equivalent. This number will then be taken and incorporated into the reduction goal for 2020, so that Cazenovia can examine their emissions and determine appropriate action.



### Data



### Recommendations

Following the completion of the greenhouse gas and energy audit, the following improvements are recommended for the Town of Cazenovia:  
 • Replace the streetlight bulbs in New Woodstock with high-efficiency LED lighting.  
 • Historical preservation of the Gothic Cottage is controversial however minor improvements can make a lasting improvement on the building's efficiency. This includes incorporation of the following:  
 o LED Lighting  
 o Energy efficient windows, or improvement of weather-stripping, caulking, and window coverings—this would dramatically decrease heat loss in the winter and heat gain in the summer  
 o Replacing existing lighting systems with energy-efficient lighting on propane  
 • Community carbon sequestration and green infrastructure projects, including tree-planting projects, community gardens, green roofs, and porous pavements.  
 • Streamline the data for emissions and waste generation and organize for easy access! It's beneficial to keep the records of this information and know what the Town is responsible for emitting.  
 • Community involvement & awareness projects: it is always beneficial to get the community involved in efforts to decrease your carbon footprint.  
 • Incorporate alternative energy sources—this decreases your dependence on fossil fuels and is much more sustainable!  
 • Solar panels, wind turbines, and biofuels are all excellent alternatives to look into.  
 • Keep track of waste generation—this is very easy and provides a great representation of how much waste the town buildings are generating. This can always be decreased by recycling efforts, reusing items, and substituting reusable items for consumables.

### Results

The Town of Cazenovia government operations inventory covered 4 sectors: buildings and facilities, streetlights and traffic signals, vehicle fleet, and water districts. The inventory showed that the emissions from these operations totaled 518 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (mtCO2e) in the baseline year 2010. The government vehicle fleet represented the majority of the emissions at 76% of the total. Community emissions came from 7 sectors, the 3 highest emitters being transportation (51% of total), residential energy use (35%), and commercial energy use (11%). The three highest emitters being transportation (51% of total), residential energy use (35%), and commercial energy use (11%).

All 7 community sectors combined totaled 45,686 mtCO2e in the baseline year. The interim reporting year inventory for 2012 shows a 14% decrease in community emissions and a 17% decrease in government emissions since the baseline. The projected forecast for 2020 indicates a 2% decrease in community emissions and negligible increase in government emissions.

### Discussion

This inventory covered many aspects of the town operations that can be very useful for the next step in the process of moving towards sustainability. All of this information can be used for the Climate Action Plan where strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are created. Data was missing from the following areas including:

- Employee commutes
- Boating information
- Agricultural information
- Government waste

The carbon emissions found in the results would be higher if this information were included, and would therefore make the Climate Action Plan more effective in reducing greenhouse gas emissions in all areas of the community. The majority of government emissions came from Scope 1 sources that are easiest to influence through local planning and policy initiatives. The Town of Cazenovia turns every vehicle in their fleet over after 7 years of use, but the fleet still represents the most considerable proportion of the emissions.

### Conclusion

As a Climate Smart Community, the Town of Cazenovia has partnered with state and local agencies to combat climate change and pledge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The first milestone for meeting climate mitigation goals, according to ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability, is to conduct a baseline emissions inventory and forecast. This study is the first attempt to comprehensively quantify these emissions.

Further analysis, however, is required to provide a more thorough inventory including emissions from agricultural animals, marine activity, and government waste. These sectors and emission estimates are noted as informational items and not within the boundaries of this study. With an established model and methodology for compiling data and tools for calculating emissions equivalents, Cazenovia can perform its own inventory to capture data sets outside of this study's boundaries, identify sources that can be effectively influenced by local policy, and monitor progress. The 2020 forecast will be recommended for improvements, and in addition we have provided recommendations for improvements.

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## Resources for Energy Planning

### **ICLEI– Local Governments for Sustainability**

ICLEI–Local Governments for Sustainability is the leading global network devoted to local governments engaged in sustainability, climate protection, and clean energy initiatives. In the United States, ICLEI USA is the recognized leader in its field, creating cutting-edge tools and establishing national standards. Becoming an ICLEI member provides access to software and technical tools such as the Clean Air and Climate Protection Software (CACP).

CACP 2009 is a one-stop emissions management tool that calculates and tracks emissions and reductions of greenhouse gases and criteria air pollutants associated with electricity, fuel use, and waste disposal.

[www.icleiusa.org/](http://www.icleiusa.org/)

Did you know New York State has an Energy Plan?

[www.nysenergyplan.com/](http://www.nysenergyplan.com/)

### **Some free resources from ICLEI– Local Governments for Sustainability**

- **Local Government Operations Protocol–** The Local Government Operations Protocol is the U.S. national standard guidebook on how to quantify and report greenhouse gas emissions from local government municipal operations.
- **U.S. Community Protocol for Accounting and Reporting Greenhouse Gas Emissions–** The Community Protocol enables local governments to estimate and report on GHG emissions associated with their communities using best practice methods, in order to measure progress towards GHG emission reduction goals.

Both of these Protocols were used to develop Madison County's Greenhouse Gas Inventory

Both Protocols are available for free download here:

[www.icleiusa.org/tools/ghg-protocol](http://www.icleiusa.org/tools/ghg-protocol)

### **Small Town Carbon Calculator**

Don't have money to become an ICLEI member to access the CACP software? This FREE tool contains a Microsoft Excel file, and provides all of the technical information, the data input structure, and the calculations necessary to complete a basic energy use and emissions inventory for your municipality.

<http://cleanair-coolplanet.org/small-town-carbon-calculator/>

The Planning Department created a Portfolio Manager account for Madison County in December 2010 and has continued to update it with Madison County's energy consumption data. Through this thorough data collection, Madison County was the only municipality in New York to be included in [NACO's Energy Efficient County Buildings: Realizing Money and Energy Saving Opportunities](#) report released January 2013.

### **U.S. EPA Portfolio Manager**

Less concerned with quantifying emissions, but want a way to track and better understand your municipal buildings energy consumption? Portfolio Manager is a FREE interactive energy management tool that allows you to track and assess energy and water consumption across your entire portfolio of buildings in a secure online environment. Portfolio Manager can help you set investment priorities, identify under-performing buildings, verify efficiency improvements, and receive EPA recognition for superior energy performance. To access the tool and EPA's Benchmarking Starter Kit to help you get started quickly visit:

[www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=evaluate\\_performance.bus\\_portfoliomanager](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=evaluate_performance.bus_portfoliomanager)

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## Resources to Integrate Renewable Energy into Codes and Policies

Land use regulations can be updated to allow municipalities to address new uses, such as solar and wind energy facilities. When establishing new renewable energy ordinances it can be helpful to look at what other communities have in place. It is also important to understand what incentives exist to promote renewables to know how the regulations might stand to effect them.

As municipalities evaluate and update their land use regulations with respect to wind and solar projects, they should consider what type of review should be used. There are a variety of review options:

- Permitted use
- Special use permit
- Site plan review
- Accessory use
- Use variance
- Overlay Zone

1 of the 11 Smart Growth Categories in the *Smart Growth Audit Tool* will focus specifically on “Increase Energy Efficiency and Provide Renewable Energy”

Read more about this Tool on Page 2.

Depending on the process that municipalities use, the reviewing body may be the local enforcement officer, the planning board, the zoning board of appeals, the local legislative body, or some combination of these.

### **NYSERDA Wind Energy Tool kit**

The New York State Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has created a wind energy toolkit to provide information on various aspects of wind energy development and to help communities that are interested in wind energy development prepare for the issues that they might encounter. This toolkit includes information related to wind energy siting and the different methods that communities may use to integrate provisions for wind development into their existing laws. Separate sections specifically address comprehensive planning for wind and options for wind energy ordinances. View this toolkit here:

[www.nysERDA.ny.gov/BusinessAreas/Energy-Efficiency-and-Renewable-Programs/Renewables/Large-Wind/Wind-Energy-Toolkit.aspx](http://www.nysERDA.ny.gov/BusinessAreas/Energy-Efficiency-and-Renewable-Programs/Renewables/Large-Wind/Wind-Energy-Toolkit.aspx)

Wind Energy: Model Ordinances found here:

[http://www.gflrpc.org/programareas/wind/LL/NYSERDA\\_windenergymodelordinance.pdf](http://www.gflrpc.org/programareas/wind/LL/NYSERDA_windenergymodelordinance.pdf)

### **Siting Solar Panels Under the Zoning Laws of New York State**

This paper discusses the federal and New York State incentives for solar energy and New York regulation of solar energy systems:

[www.albanylaw.edu/glc/about/expertise/renewable/Pages/White-Papers.aspx](http://www.albanylaw.edu/glc/about/expertise/renewable/Pages/White-Papers.aspx)

**Did you know that effective January 2013 commercial solar energy systems are now exempt from State sales tax?** The law also permits local governments to grant an exemption from local sales taxes.

[www.dsireusa.org/solar/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=NY24F&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/solar/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=NY24F&re=1&ee=1)

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## Smart Growth Principle #6:

**Preserve Open Space, Farmland, Natural Beauty, and Critical Environmental Areas**

- This information is from the County's [A Healthy Design for Smart Growth: Primer for Smart Growth](#) -

Farms across the country are now producing a different kind of harvest – renewable energy. While opportunities for renewable energy extend beyond farms to homes, businesses and institutions, renewable energy provides farms the additional opportunity to diversify the use of farmland to make it more profitable and remain in production, preserving the land. Ultimately, when farming is economically viable working land is less likely to be subdivided and sold.

### 10 Smart Growth Principles

The 10 Smart Growth Principles are based on the findings of the Smart Growth Network, a network of non-governmental organizations. After identifying best practices, policies, and strategies and looking at experiences of communities around the country, the Smart Growth Institute developed these principles to help communities get the results they want from growth and development:

- **Mix Land Uses**
- **Take Advantage of Compact Design**
- **Create a Range of Housing Opportunities and Choices**
- **Create Walkable Communities**
- **Foster Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place**
- **Preserve Open Space, Farmland, Natural Beauty, and Critical Environmental Areas**
- **Strengthen and Direct Development Toward Existing Communities**
- **Provide a Variety of Transportation Options**
- **Make Development Decisions Predictable, Fair, and Cost Effective**
- **Encourage Community and Stakeholder Collaboration**

The 2009 On-Farm Renewable Energy Production Survey (released February 2011) found that energy savings for farmers using renewables was especially noticeable in New York, where average utility bill savings reported by respondents topped \$5,000 for 2009. According to the survey results solar panels were the most prominent way to produce on-farm energy, followed by wind energy.

#### Renewable Energy on Farms in New York State

	NY is the #7 state in number of farms with wind energy production (58 farms with a total 65 turbines);
	NY is the #14 state in number of farms with solar energy production (156 farms with a total of 169 solar panels);
	NY is the #2 state with methane digesters on farms (16 farms with a total of 16 methane digesters).
	Overall, New York ranks #11 with total farms reporting wind turbines, digesters and/or solar panels.

Source: USDA Census of Agriculture, *On-Farm Renewable Energy Survey*

### Solarize Madison is Back!

Solarize Madison is back for Round II, and this year the program will offer homeowners, businesses, farms, municipalities, and institutions in Madison County discounted pricing on both solar photovoltaic (PV) and solar hot water systems. Sponsored by Madison County and the Renewable Energy Training Center at Morrisville State College, Solarize Madison is proud to announce the selection of CNY Solar, Inc., based in Canastota, NY, as the installer for this year's campaign.

We will be holding information sessions across the County to educate interested participants about the program. **Farms are a particular focus this year!** To participate, those interested must enroll for a free site assessment by June 28th at [www.solarizemadison.com](http://www.solarizemadison.com)



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**Call to Action: Have your community featured in the next newsletter!**

The focus of the Fall 2013 Newsletter will be on Smart Growth Principle #3-  
Creating a range of housing opportunities and choices in your community.

We want to feature local examples of successful mixed use buildings! If you have an example of a mixed use housing project or mixed use housing initiative that led to the (re)development of a business on the ground floor with residential units on top floors, **we want to hear from you!**

Please submit a brief description of the project (photos are not necessary but encouraged) including how the municipality was involved in the project and contact information to Jamie Hart at [Jamie.hart@madisoncounty.ny.gov](mailto:Jamie.hart@madisoncounty.ny.gov)

**It is our hope that this newsletter can facilitate communication between our communities and help us learn from each other.**

## **Background on Madison County CED Committee:**

This newsletter is an initiative of Madison County's Community Economic Development (CED) Committee and is meant to be a resource with tools and ideas to further advance the principles of Smart Growth within our communities. The CED Committee was formed to help implement the [\*Health Improvement Planning \(HIP\) Report for Madison County\*](#) developed in October 2009. As part of the HIP Report, a community-based vision was developed:

*"A place of natural beauty where families and individuals thrive"*

In order to achieve this vision, the concepts of smart growth and sustainability were quickly identified as models to guide future growth and development in Madison County. The focus of the CED Committee, formed by a partnership with Madison County Planning Department and Madison County Public Health Department along with representatives from several other agencies and organizations, has been to provide towns, villages and the City of Oneida with tools and resources to implement Smart Growth.

[A Healthy Design for Madison County: Primer for Smart Growth](#), developed by the Madison County Planning Department, was released in September 2011. This bi-annual newsletter continues to build off the ideas in this document which applied the concepts of Smart Growth directly to Madison County.

Please look out for the next Planning for a Healthy Design Newsletter in Fall 2013. If you are not currently on the listserv to receive the newsletters and would like to be, please e-mail Gwen at [gwen.williamson@madisoncounty.ny.gov](mailto:gwen.williamson@madisoncounty.ny.gov)

Questions or comments? Contact Jamie Hart, Madison County Planning Department at (315) 366-2378 or [Jamie.hart@madisoncounty.ny.gov](mailto:Jamie.hart@madisoncounty.ny.gov)