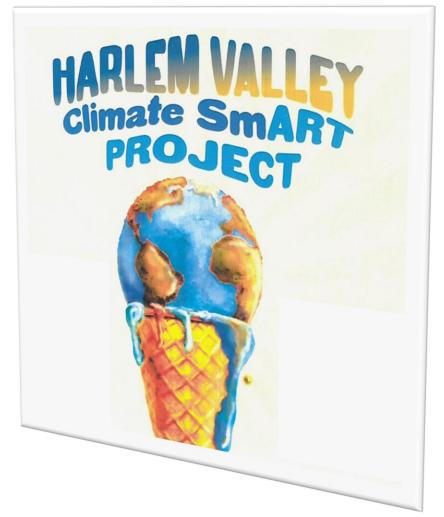
# The Harlem Valley Climate SmART Project

# What We Love about the Harlem Valley

# and How It Could Be Impacted by Climate Change





Town of Dover Community Day Exhibit September 21, 2019



## OUR HUDSON VALLEY NEEDS YOUR HELP

Our planet is a complex ecosystem with dynamic interactions, but we all breathe the same air and drink the same water. The issue of climate change impacts your life no matter where you are—and it's up to all of us to be part of the solution.

> Everyone on earth is affected.

**Courtesy of Scenic Hudson, Inc.** 

#### "Patterson Put-in Looking North, Great Swamp" Jeanne Plekon



The <u>Great Swamp</u> is a 6000-acre waterbody in Putnam and Dutchess Counties and one of the largest freshwater wetlands in NYS. It is the primary headwater (source) for NYC's water supply.

#### Something to think about:

How would a climate changeinduced drought of the Great Swamp wetlands affect the quality of our water supply? A UN study found prosperity of developed countries results in accelerated climate change with a disproportionately negative effect on those who live in poor and developing countries.

#### Something to think about:

What can you "buy less" of to reduce stress on our climate for those who live poor and developing countries?

## "On the Edge" Linda Pennachio



## YOU Can Make a Difference!

#### What your family can do: Reduce, reuse and recycle! ٠ Buy a hybrid car . Look for green energy alternatives . Use compact fluorescent light bulbs . Go solar . Walk instead of drive . **Buy local** . Shop at the farmer's market . Use less hot water • Use products made from recycle paper . Bring a reusable cloth bag to the store •

- Plant a tree
- Cut down on products with excess packaging
- Hang laundry out to dry
- Compost
- Buy less stuff

#### Small lifestyle changes add up!



# **Carbon Footprint**

Have you stopped to consider your personal contribution to climate change?

You send greenhouse gases into the atmosphere when you:

- watch TV
- play video games
- turn on a light
- ride in a car
- put trash in a landfill
- use electricity to listen to music.





## Helen Contino

## Greenhouse gases (GHGs) allow sunlight to pass to the Earth's surface and then partially absorb it.

GHGs exacerbate the effect of natural hazards like wildfires, tornadoes and floods.



"Tornado"



Helen Contino

## Something to think about:

What can you do to reduce the amount of GHGs being produced and absorbed into the Earth's ecosystem?



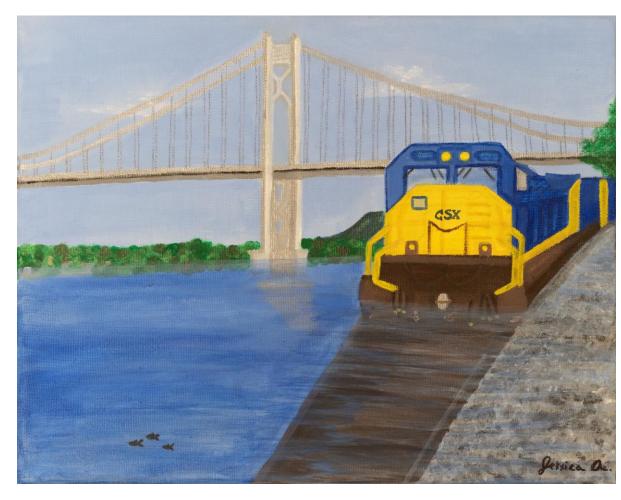
Passenger and freight transportation along the Hudson River is a vital resource delivery corridor of state and national commerce.

Excessive rise in water level of the Hudson River could eventually cut off rail transportation.

#### Something to think about:

How would your travel or commute be affected if railroad transportation was no longer available?

#### "Along the Hudson River" Jessica P. Anderson



"Liberty Under Water" Lonna Kelly

In 2012, all of Ellis Island (home of the Statue of Liberty) and 75% of Liberty Island were flooded as a result of Superstorm Sandy.

#### Something to think about:

How will the escalating effects of climate change affect future access to natural parks and public recreation?



"The Polar Icecap 2100 and Tour Boat" John Colantuono



NASA satellite images reveal ice sheets in Antarctica (an area larger than US and Mexico combined) and Greenland have accelerated ice mass losses since 2009.

#### Something to think about:

Melting sea ice affects atmospheric circulations (the "jet stream") and strengthen the intensity and duration of severe weather events across the planet. What are you doing now? What will you change to make a difference in the world? Be part of the solution.

#### Get Involved

- Volunteer in your community
- Write your elected officials- tell them your hopes for a healthy environment
- Start a school project to educate others
- Plant trees.

#### Reduce

- Take canvas bags to the grocery store
- Bring your lunch in reusable containers
- Cut down on the amount of trash you produce

#### Save Energy

- Turn off lights, TV, computers and radios when not in use, unplug your stuff
- Turn down the heat or air conditioning
- Walk or ride your bike whenever possible

#### Conserve water

- Turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth
- Take shorter showers

#### Recycle

- Recycle paper, metal, glass and plastic
- Use recycled products
- Use rechargeable batteries





The Town of Dover is part of interstate <u>Great Thicket National</u> <u>Wildlife Refuge</u> created to protect shrubland and young forest species.

The 1000-acre Nellie Hill Preserve in Dover Plains was the first parcel donated to establish the refuge in 2016.

There are over known 380 threatened or endangered animals or plants that live in this refuge.

















#### Something to think about:

If wildlife disappear from the lack of food, water and shelter due to the negative effects of climate change, what secondary issues may result in our backyards?

#### "Lend a Hand to Help Become a Climate Smart Dover"

2019 Dover Summer Day Campers in collaboration with Harlem Valley Homestead



"For Those Who Work in Acres, Not Hours: Cultivating Fertile Minds at the Farm"

Dover Summer Campers' visit to Harlem Valley Homestead







### How we can lend a hand !



















# Photos from the Dover Day Exhibit



HV Climate SmART Exhibit artists John Colantuono and Lonna Kelly







