



***Local Response to  
Climate Change***  
**Cazenovia, New York**

**April 2020**



**Cazenovia League of Women Voters**

# ***Local Response to Climate Change***

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## Introduction

The Cazenovia community has a long history of caring for the environment and has been proactive in promoting efforts to protect and sustain our beautiful, historic and healthy town and village. As an example of these efforts, a Climate Action Plan (CAP) was developed in 2015 as a partnership between the Town, the Village, several local organizations, and the CNY Regional Planning and Development Board. The report provides a comprehensive list of recommendations to improve energy conservation and to reduce the local impacts of climate change such as flooding and stormwater runoff to the lake during strong storm events.

In honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day, the Cazenovia League of Women Voters worked with the Town and Village and several community groups to evaluate how much progress has been made during the past five years since the CAP was completed. This report contains a summary of our findings. We were excited to see that Cazenovia is at the forefront of energy sustainability in New York State and we have much to be proud of.

Collection of information for this report has been a group effort. On behalf of the League of Women Voters, I would like to thank the following people who provided information and conducted interviews with local groups:

Kristi Andersen, Dave Porter, Dave Bergh, Lauren Lines, Betsy Kennedy, Emily Zaengle, Scott Ingmire, Dave Miller, Geoffrey Navias, Jen Wong, Lisa Sasser, Mat Webber, Anne Redfern, Wendy Taylor, Chuck Amos, Helen Beale, and Sharye Skinner

Please feel free to contact me at [anne.b.saltman@gmail.com](mailto:anne.b.saltman@gmail.com) if you would like additional information.

*Anne Saltman, League of Women Voters, April 2020*

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**The Cazenovia League of Women Voters (LWV)** is a nonpartisan organization that encourages the active participation of citizens in government and works to increase the understanding of public policy issues through education and advocacy. Joining the LWV provides membership benefits at the local, state, and national levels. The LWV works on the following local projects:

- Researches local issues and participates in studies done by the LWV of New York State and the LWV of the United States;
- Provides voter services such as voter registration, candidate forums for local contested elections, and voter information through the web site [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org);
- Sends a Cazenovia High School student to the LWVNY educational program “Students Inside Albany” at the New York State Capitol;
- Provides a scholarship award to a graduating Cazenovia High School senior;
- Sponsors the “Great Decisions” discussion group.

For membership information call (315) 655-8920 or write to 54 Sullivan Street, Cazenovia NY 13035.

## Background

The 2015 Cazenovia Climate Action Plan (CAP) provides a comprehensive list of recommendations of ways to reduce our local greenhouse gas emissions and to decrease the impacts of climate change such as flooding and stormwater runoff from strong storm events. The report presents a roadmap for Cazenovia officials and residents on the best approach for energy efficiency, adaptation measures, and the use of renewable resources such as solar and wind. The CAP is posted on the Town of Cazenovia website under the tab of Energy and Sustainability:

<https://towncazenovia.digitaltowpath.org:10079/content/Generic/View/102>. Copies are also available to the public at the Town offices at 7 Albany Street in Cazenovia.

### ***Cazenovia is Proud to be a Climate Smart Community***

The Town and Village of Cazenovia join hundreds of other municipalities throughout New York State that are registered Climate Smart Communities (CSC). These communities are committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving climate resilience through guidance provided by the Department of Environmental Conservation. The CSC program provides strategies to increase energy efficiency, reduce GHG emissions, save taxpayers money, and promote renewable energy. To become a registered CSC, the Town and Village passed municipal resolutions to follow ten elements:



- Build a climate-smart community
- Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action
- Decrease energy use
- Shift to clean, renewable energy
- Use climate-smart materials management
- Implement climate-smart land use
- Enhance community resilience to climate change
- Support a green innovation economy
- Inform and inspire the public
- Engage in an evolving process of climate action

The Cazenovia Town Board adopted the CSC pledge in 2009 and the Village of Cazenovia Board of Trustees adopted it in 2014. Since then, both municipalities have made substantial progress to become “climate smart.” The adoption of the Climate Smart Communities Pledge, development of the Cazenovia Climate Action Plan, and efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change are great examples of “thinking globally and acting locally” to protect our environment.

## Town of Cazenovia

During the past five years since the Climate Action Plan was published, the Town has participated in the projects listed below. Several of these action items are included in the NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities (CEC) program.



- The Town is a Certified NYS “Climate Smart Community”. We are one of the few New York State municipalities that have achieved a Bronze Award.
- The Town received a Clean Energy Communities grant from NYSERDA for conversion of street lights to LED. In addition, the grant was also used for spray foam insulation at the Highway Garage.
- LED streetlights were installed in New Woodstock and at the junctions of Route 92 and Bethel and Temperance Hill Roads.
- Light fixtures in the Gothic Cottage are replaced with LED bulbs when the previous lights burn out.
- The Town built a salt shed to improve storage capacity and to reduce runoff to nearby streams.
- Computers were installed on Town-owned plow trucks for more environmentally friendly distribution of salt and/or brine.
- The Town adopted the NYS recommended streamlined permit process for solar installations.
- The Town continues to track energy usage for municipal buildings. This information can be found in the Energy and Sustainability section of the Town website.
- A second micro-hydro turbine and a solar installation is being constructed at the dam in New Woodstock as a demonstration project with SUNY Morrisville. The energy produced will be used for the Town’s power needs.
- The Town continues to focus on practices to reduce stormwater runoff. Two major projects - one on Ridge and Wright Roads and the other on Lincklaen Road – have improved water quality by reducing runoff to the lake.
- The Town helped secure Farmland Protection grants that keep prime soils in agricultural production and protect green space. Grants have been secured for the Critz Farms on Rippleton Road, the Reed Farm on Reservoir Road, Greyrock Farm on East Lake Road, the Pushlar Farm on Fenner Road, and the Gianforte Farm on Peth Road.
- The 2018 report titled, “Lakeshore Development Guidelines” provides recommendations for shoreline construction and landscaping along Cazenovia Lake. These guidelines are designed to protect the natural shoreline, prevent erosion, and preserve the health of the lake and its watershed.
- The Town is currently working with the CNY Regional Planning & Development Board and Abundant Solar to construct an array of solar panels near the Highway Garage. The panels will provide electricity for the municipal properties and will help reduce power costs for local residents.
- The Town also plans to implement additional energy efficiency improvement projects at the Gothic Cottage and will pursue opportunities through the CSC Certification process in order to become eligible for additional incentive-based funding.

The Climate Smart Community Certification Program acknowledges New York municipalities that are working on climate initiatives through a rating system with three certification levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold. Communities can earn points toward certification through the completion of various actions related to climate change. Madison County was the first municipality in Central New York to become a Certified Bronze CSC. Cazenovia became a Certified Bronze CSC in 2020.

For more information on the CSC program, visit [climatesmart.ny.gov](http://climatesmart.ny.gov) or [cnyenergychallenge.org](http://cnyenergychallenge.org)

## Village of Cazenovia

Since 2016 when the Village provided an update on the goals outlined in the joint Village/Town Climate Action Plan, the Village has made significant progress toward meeting the Climate Action Plan goals. Our progress is summarized below.



- Apr 2017 - Installed vehicle electric charging station at Lakeland Park
- May 2017 – Completed Energy Code Enforcement Training
- Jun 2017 – Village named a Clean Energy Community for completing four high impact actions under NYSERDA’s Clean Energy Communities program, making the Village eligible for a \$50K grant. High impact actions included energy benchmarking, energy code training, adoption of unified solar permit, and installation of EV charging station at Lakeland Park.
- Aug 2017 - SmartWatt Investment Grade Energy Audit (IGA) performed. The IGA included recommendations for LED street lights as well as HVAC and interior lighting.
- Jan 2018 – Awarded NYSERDA Clean Energy Community grant based on submitted high impact energy initiatives (benchmarking, energy code training, adoption of unified solar permit, electric vehicle charging station at Lakeland Park).

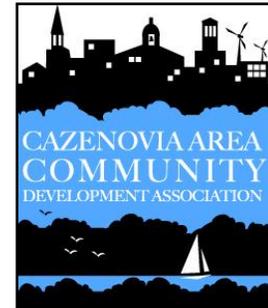


- Oct 2018: Completed HVAC improvements for NYSERDA Clean Energy Community Grant. Improvements included upgrading two rooftop air handlers for the Village Hall, and three AC units at the Village Fire House.
- Nov 2018: Village reviews and approves Solarize Agreement with Abundant Solar. This project is for a future 275 kW solar photovoltaic array at Village Water Treatment Plant.
- May 2019: Completed installation of new water well at the Water Treatment Plant. This project strengthens the Village domestic water infrastructure.
- Mar 2020: The Village budgets for completion of a sanitary sewer engineering evaluation to include evaluation of Infiltration & Inflow (I&I). Reducing I&I and illegal connections will free up wastewater treatment plant capacity at the Town of Cazenovia WWTP.
- Mar 2020: The Village passed a resolution to recognize the Heat Smart CNY Initiative. This initiative supports on the use of heat pump technology.
- Apr 2020: SmartWatt substantially completes a Village-wide LED street lighting retrofit project. This project included retrofitting 281 street lights with LED fixtures.
- Apr 2020: Conducted final review of site conditions and contract documents with Abundant Solar for pending solar photovoltaic array at Village Water Plant.

Additional information about the Village is available at <http://villageofcazenovia.com/>

## Cazenovia Area Community Development Association (CACDA)

CACDA facilitated the Town and Village of Cazenovia designations as Clean Energy Communities which included an award of \$50,000 each for clean energy projects. In addition, CACDA facilitated the Town of Nelson designation which included a \$5,000 award.



With warming temperatures and longer growing seasons, New York State communities are dealing with a northward expansion of invasive species. In response to growing concerns about lake health, CACDA identified a funding opportunity to eradicate a highly invasive weed, European frogbit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*) from Cazenovia Lake. We secured the grant and partnered with the town, Cazenovia College, the Boy Scouts, and volunteers to hand-pull frogbit plants from the lake. This three-year project will be completed in the summer of 2020.

CACDA was pleased to assist with a community effort to develop Creekside Park along Riverside Drive. We secured a grant from the CNY Community Foundation to supplement funds raised by Project CAFÉ, Friends of the Library, the Garden Club and individual donations. This formerly blighted property has been transformed into a beautiful public space to be enjoyed by residents and visitors of all ages. The park will also help to control stormwater runoff from the library parking lot during heavy rain events.

The Village is in the process of developing a Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan through a grant secured by CACDA from NYS DOS. Once the plan is in place, the Village will be able to apply for funding through the Local Waterfront Revitalization program. The plan will focus on: protecting lake water quality while enhancing physical and visual public waterfront access opportunities; revitalizing downtown areas; protecting community historic character; and enhancing recreation and tourism amenities.

CACDA secured two grants for the development of a Nelson Swamp trail within the hamlet of Nelson. This will complement trail work that is under construction on NYS DEC owned land. Wetlands serve a valuable role in our ecosystem because they help to filter pollutants from surface and groundwater. Construction will begin in 2020.

CACDA also secured a grant on behalf of the Cazenovia Preservation Foundation (CPF) from NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets to protect 471 acres of local farmland.

In January 2018 CACDA launched Caz CoWorks at 87 Albany St. For a low monthly fee, members enjoy 24/7 access to all common areas, conference room reservation rights, high speed internet, and opportunities to network with other professionals. This initiative brings people into the Village thereby enhancing community vitality. Shared office spaces also have a smaller carbon footprint than would exist if each member had an individual office.

A hand boat launch for kayaks and canoes was constructed along the canal at Lakeland Park with funding from the NYS Canal Corporation. This project served to repair the historic canal wall while preventing sediment from falling into Cazenovia Lake during rain events. The canal provides access to a very unique scenic experience for paddlers to enjoy by connecting users to a wonderful section of Chittenango Creek. Additional funding for the second phase of canal wall repair was secured in 2019 from NYS Canal Corporation and work will begin in 2020. Additional information about CACDA is found at <https://www.cacda.net/>



## Cazenovia Lake Association

The Cazenovia Lake Association (CLA) promotes the common interests of preserving, maintaining, and assuring the integrity of the future development of Cazenovia Lake, its shores, and its watershed so as to achieve optimum quality of the lake environment.

The association has embarked on a 5-year plan to help support our mission of keeping the lake healthy and useful for current and future generations to enjoy. This plan will continue and enhance the previous work done by the CLA that focuses on issues relating to water quality, invasive species, and shoreline protection. The CLA is partnering with the Town and Village of Cazenovia, both Cazenovia College faculty and students, and SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) faculty and students on the following projects as part of the 5-Year Plan:

- Harmful Algae Blooms, while still not fully understood, can potentially be caused by a combination of warm water temperatures, calm conditions, and elevated nutrient levels. When a Harmful Bloom occurs, the public beach has been closed as well as warnings have been issued to be very careful before people or pets use the water. A partnership between CLA and ESF focuses on Harmful Algae Bloom research including prediction, monitoring, and reporting to the public. This research will include the purchase and installation of a continuous water quality monitoring system as well a sensor buoy to provide valuable data in an effort to better understand and potentially predict when a Bloom may occur.
- A longer growing season and nutrient loading from land use practices in the watershed can contribute to changes in lake water quality. To document these changes, CLA and ESF are working to perform continuous and spot water quality monitoring. This research will help us to locate pollution sources and establish long-term trends.
- Runoff to the lake from rain events and snowmelt can cause erosion of shoreline areas and sediment loading to the lake. CLA is working with the Town and Village to identify major inflows of silt to Cazenovia Lake while investigating sustainable methods of mitigation.
- CLA will be collecting and analyzing sediment samples from the lake bottom several times each year to better understand changes in long-term trends of invertebrate populations. Long-term warm water trends can change the ecosystem and we want to ensure we are aware of changes as they begin to happen.
- CLA will also continue to investigate new methods to control the spread of Eurasian Milfoil and to reduce the potential introduction of new invasive species. Similar to the changing ecosystem, other invasive species may thrive better with longer growing seasons.



Photograph: A. Saltman

Additional information about the lake association is available at [info@cazlake.org](mailto:info@cazlake.org) or by writing to the Cazenovia Lake Association, P.O. Box 55, Cazenovia, NY 13035

## Stone Quarry Hill Art Park



Stone Quarry Hill Art Park, with easements through Cazenovia Preservation Foundation and the New York State Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, provides 104 acres of protected open space, wildlife habitat, and walking trails. The Art Park offers two composting toilets for its visitors and recently converted all indoor gallery lighting to LED bulbs.

The Art Park was scheduled to plant 220 trees as part of the earth Day celebration which unfortunately was cancelled due to the shuttering down from the coronavirus.

The Art Park's artist-in-residence program connects visitors to the land through site-specific art installations. In addition to its artist-in-residence program the Art Park provides educational opportunities through summer camps for kids, site tours, and exhibitions. For more information please visit [www.sqhapp.org](http://www.sqhapp.org)



Photograph by Bob Gates

# Cazenovia College

## Setting Markers for Success

Cazenovia College has long demonstrated its commitment to sustainability and recently established the aggressive goal of achieving carbon neutrality on campus by 2050. The college completed a greenhouse gas inventory to establish a baseline to measure future progress, released a climate action plan to achieve carbon neutrality. In 2010, Cazenovia signed the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) and joined the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA) REV Campus Challenge in 2018.

## Roadmap for Carbon Neutrality

Cazenovia first created its climate action plan in 2011 and published a series of updates in 2017. The plan incorporates a greenhouse gas inventory that generated baseline campus emission data from 2009–2010. The college found that purchased electricity represents most of their emissions and concluded that an effective climate action plan should focus primarily on electrical and natural gas consumption.

The plan provides a pathway for the college to reach its carbon neutral goal by 2050 through developing a framework for implementation based on project costs and feasibility. Given the college's current fiscal constraints, realizing progress on all elements of the plan has been challenging, but they continue to use it as a guiding document to pursue new initiatives. The climate neutrality strategy focuses on implementing low-cost measures that can be quickly implemented, with short-term payback periods and immediate positive impacts on the college's operational budget.

“One of the great values of REV Campus Challenge membership is that it has generated campus dialogue and discussion, and it has enabled us to see those initiatives and projects that relate to this theme of sustainability in a more integrative light and advance those more purposely. We can now see those gaps where we can make a difference.” – *Dave Bergh, Vice President for Planning & Institutional Effectiveness*

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Photograph credit: Cazenovia College

## *Cazenovia College, con't*

### **Engaging with the Local Community**

For a small institution like Cazenovia College, the heart of their sustainability strategy lies with engaging and energizing students, the campus community, and local entities and decision makers. The college recognizes that reaching the goals defined in its climate action plan requires active and holistic participation by the entire Cazenovia community and prides itself on taking engagement with local organizations and residents to the next level. Joining the REV Campus Challenge created opportunities to further campus conversation around energy efficiency, energy conservation, and clean energy principles - including how to integrate these principles into academic curriculum, better identify them on- and off-campus, and continue engagement of the broader community to move initiatives forward.

### **Summary of Clean Energy Activities and Accolades**

- American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) Signatory
- Hosted two Renewable Energy Fairs on campus
- Global Climate Festival with a campus effort to host a zero-waste event
- Installation of two electric vehicle charging stations on campus
- One of three NYS higher ed institutions to be presented with an honorary 10 Years Flag by NYS DEC in 2018 in recognition of 10 years as a Tree Campus USA



Photograph: A. Saltman

# Cazenovia Preservation Foundation

The mission of the Cazenovia Preservation Foundation, Inc. (CPF) is to protect historic, agricultural, and natural resources in and around Cazenovia for the benefit of the community. CPF currently protects nearly 2,700 acres of open space, farmland, and scenic landscapes through conservation easements and owns 403 acres of open space



to protect natural habitats and provide public-use trails for outdoor recreation. In addition to the organization's role in local land conservation and stewardship, CPF advocates for thoughtful planning and land use outcomes in Village and Town forums.

These land use planning and preservation activities contribute directly to positive environmental outcomes by preserving forested and wetland areas, reducing run-off, and sequestering carbon. In addition, CPF strives to build a sense of place and an appreciation for the natural environment within the Cazenovia community and surrounding areas through its land and historic preservation work and the 20+ educational and outreach events offered to the public each year.

In recent years, CPF has conducted several activities that strengthen the organization's role in environmental protection.

- Between 2014-2019, nine CPF easement properties changed ownership, providing CPF with several opportunities to observe the positive outcomes of the conservation easement process. Because of the conservation easements in place, the individual and community values that inspired the initial protection of those 866 acres were maintained when property ownership changed.
- In 2018, CPF purchased a 22-acre property on Burlingame Road to provide trailhead parking and permanent public access to CPF's existing network of trails.
- CPF added 566 acres of protected farmland to its portfolio of easement properties in 2019 and is currently working with another landowner through the Farmland Protection Implementation Grant Program to protect an additional 471 acres of farmland.
- CPF updated its Strategic Organizational Plan in 2019. During the strategic planning process, which relied heavily on community input, CPF identified four strategic initiatives for the next five-year operational period. One of these is to strengthen its community engagement and by becoming a resource for issues of historic preservation; agricultural, open space and environment protection; and thoughtful development.

Additional information about CPF is available at <https://www.cazpreservation.org/>



Photograph: A. Saltman

*Kiosk at CPF's Burlingame Trail*

## United Climate Action Network (U-CAN)

United Climate Action Network is a grassroots group in New York's 22nd Congressional District. We actively advocate for environmentally sustainable policies and engage with businesses, schools, and other local community organizations to advance environmental literacy and sustainable practices. U-CAN's most significant contribution is in bringing a cross section of local individuals, groups, and governmental bodies together in conversation, education, planning, and most importantly actions to confront and solve our climate crisis.

- **Public outreach and education:** U-CAN started with 2017 and 2018 Farmers Market weekly education tables. In 2018 and 2019 U-CAN hosted Seize the Power, Renewable Energy Fairs at Cazenovia College.
- **5-Year Plan:** To develop a Strategic 5-year Plan, U-CAN organized Climate Summit I in March 2019 bringing together 42 knowledgeable stakeholders and leaders to help identify the area's most critical environmental issues. Climate Summit II was held three months later to celebrate accomplishments, evaluate the planning, and develop eight strategic working groups.



- **Working with governing bodies:** U-CAN has worked to build a direct presence at local, regional, state and national levels to bring our community voice to public policy. The Village and Town of Cazenovia passed resolutions establishing working relationships with U-CAN. U-CAN initiated the Climate Action Coalition of Central New York. A U-CAN member is on Congressman Anthony Brindisi's Environmental Advisory Council. U-CAN worked actively to get the Climate Leadership and Communities Protection Act bill funded on the state level, attending the Dept. of Environmental Conservation Budget hearing January 27th 2020
- **Youth Outreach:** Reaching out, listening, and supporting youth leaders in the climate movement has taken a number of different pathways, most recently creating a zoom panel of Student Climate Leaders from Cazenovia High School, Cazenovia College, Hamilton College and Colgate University, and creating a virtual Science Climate Fair.
- **50th Anniversary of Earth Day:** More than 35 diverse local groups came together to plan and participate in this endeavor with daily events throughout the week that focused on celebration, education, and taking action. The event was postponed to April 2021 because of the coronavirus pandemic.
- **First Annual Community Earth Day Report:** To encourage area groups, organizations and institutions to consider climate issues throughout the year and report annually on what has been accomplished, what are the problems to be faced, and what are their plans for the coming year. This first year, the report is made up of both individual organizational reports and the League of Women Voters "Local Response to Climate Change" report to be published in April 2020.

Additional information about U-CAN is available at <https://unitedclimateaction.org> or by sending an email to [cazrenew@gmail.com](mailto:cazrenew@gmail.com)

## Cazenovia Public Library



Energy improvements to the library barn include insulating the walls and ceiling, installing a large fan in the attic for cooling, installing storm windows, LED lights and an energy efficient front door. All the lights in the library are now LED. The twenty-five-year-old air conditioning unit which acted as a dehumidifier and a twenty-five-year-old heating unit in the storage vault have been replaced with an energy-efficient split heating / air conditioning unit.

The library also removed four of the decade-old public computers and may replace them with Google chrome boxes that are energy efficient.

Plans for the coming year are to replace another 25-year-old air conditioning unit in the library archive with an energy efficient split heating /air conditioning unit for improved climate control for the historic documents.

Additional information about the library is available at [cazenovialibrary.org](http://cazenovialibrary.org)



Photo credit: Cazenovia Library

# Madison County Planning Department



Madison County, through the Madison County Planning Department, serves a diverse array of functions that benefit the towns and villages within the county's borders and beyond. The county is involved in a number of climate and sustainability initiatives, and strives to do more through their Madison County Energy and Sustainability Plan. That plan addresses a number of important topics, each of which significantly impact the Town and Village of Cazenovia, its residents and businesses – all looking to benefit from the advantages of a sustainable future.

## Energy Management

Madison County achieved a Bronze Level Climate Smart Community Certification in 2017. The distinction came from the county implementing several initiatives in climate-smart policies and projects. This award makes grants available toward future projects aimed at climate action.

## Transportation

Madison County recently completed a vehicle fleet study, funded through a NYS DEC grant. Efforts are being made to reduce our fleet size and improve vehicle efficiency. The county will be installing at least two vehicle charging stations on County property in Wampsville. This will include public use opportunities as well as charging the three to four electric vehicles that the County will be purchasing. These efforts are funded with grant money from our Clean Energy Communities award.

## Farmland Protection

Madison County just completed an update of our Farmland Protection Plan and the final draft will be added to our website soon. Information is included on a host of topics, including climate smart farming.

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Photograph: A. Saltman

*Madison County Planning Department, con't*

**Environment**

Madison County continues to fund \$150,000 annually for stream management and emergency maintenance funding which is used throughout the County for culvert upsizing, stream maintenance, and stream resiliency measures.

Madison County added the 60-acre Delphi Falls Park to its list of public parks in 2018. This beautiful park joins Oxbow Park and Nichols Pond Park as great places to visit.

The County installed a 2MW solar array at our solid waste facility in late 2017. This project provides about 75% of the County's energy needs through a power purchase agreement. We continue to track savings and have averaged \$75,000 - \$100,000 in energy savings annually, in addition to the clean energy benefits. The landfill also captures 73% of its released methane and converts it to electricity.

Due to State goals and mandates, many rural upstate communities are seeing applications for large scale (150-350+ MW) solar projects that will cover hundreds to thousands of acres. Though the green energy gains of these projects may be positive, the siting and local impacts must be balanced. Protection of our rural landscape and agricultural soils will be paramount to proper siting.

A number of energy efficient improvements have taken place at the county facilities (LED lighting, building envelope improvements, window efficiency upgrades, etc.). A major HVAC upgrade at our Main Building (Building 4) and the County Courthouse completed a multi-million-dollar renovation in 2019 for ADA access and modernization.

**Economic Development**

The "Buy Madison County" campaign supports local businesses and generates local sales tax revenue. The county has been working over the past eight to ten months to reinvent, reinvigorate, and rebrand the program with new ideas and a new focus on supporting the many great local businesses that Madison County has to offer. Working with the Central New Regional Economic Development Council's strategic plan, Madison County is ahead of pack in the economic development arena.

Additional information about the Madison County Planning Department is available at <https://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/355/Planning>

