

Solar

Both municipalities have adopted the state's unified solar permit and the code officer has attended training for PV installations as part of earning CEC designation.

A possible agreement with a community solar company is pending approvals.

Flooding mitigation

Community events were held to discuss flooding concerns. As one of the problem areas in our region, we want to provide information on causes and what can be done. Hamilton College students have interviewed residents to learn about areas of concern. Studies have been conducted on St Mary's Brook and Sherman Brook with public input. A recently formed Oriskany Creek Watershed Commission includes all the municipalities along the Creek.



Flooding has been one of the major issues of concern expressed at community meetings.



Task Force Members

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Kirkland/ Clinton Climate Smart Community Task Force



Both the Town of Kirkland and the Village of Clinton in Oneida County, New York, have adopted the New York State Climate Smart Communities pledge.

The CSC Task Force, made up of volunteers, with Steve Orvis as Coordinator, advises and helps in carrying out various actions for climate mitigation and adaptation. Both the Village of Clinton and the Town of Kirkland have been named Clean Energy Communities.

Heat smart technology

Community meetings have been held to explain various heating and cooling technologies which are environmentally sound. These include heat pumps and geothermal units with NYSERDA-approved installers available to answer questions.

Farmer's Market

An educational booth at the weekly Clinton Farmer's Market featured a free raffle for a choice of trees, an electric mower and a water filtration system. These items help combat climate change.



LED street and building lights

Both Clinton and Kirkland replaced all the street lights with LED lights, representing a significant cost savings in electricity usage. Also lights in municipal buildings were replaced. This resulted in points gained toward a NYSERDA grant.

Projects

Electric vehicle car show



In conjunction with the Clinton Fire Department's "Annual Cruise In" for classic cars, the Climate Smart Communities Task Force has sponsored a display of electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles and answered questions at a booth.

An electric charging station will be installed next to the Clinton Arena. Hamilton College also has ten EV stations on campus and there are two behind the Kirkland Town Library.



Food waste collection

The CSC Task Force sent all Village residents a survey to gauge their interest in changing how they dispose of food waste. A pilot project was completed in which 50 households in the Village separated their food waste from the rest of their garbage. The food waste was picked up separately and delivered to Oneida County's anaerobic digester, where it was converted into clean energy. A proposal has been submitted to the Downtown Revitalization Initiative to expand the program. Food waste in landfills, where it otherwise would go, releases methane, a powerful greenhouse gas, into the atmosphere.



Clinton and Kirkland receive grants

Clinton and Kirkland accrued sufficient points to receive \$5000 from NYSERDA to use for climate action projects. Both are working to gain points toward additional grants.