



Climate Smart
Communities
Certified Bronze



North Salem | Climate Smart Community

Volume 2, Fall 2022

Message from the Committee...

Greetings Neighbors,

We have been busy these past few months and are pleased to be able to share with you some recent initiatives and accomplishments:

Bronze Certification - On September 19, 2022, North Salem was awarded [Bronze Certification](#). Bronze certification signifies that the Town of North Salem is a leader in the fight against climate change and that we have completed a suite of actions that will help the town mitigate its effects and adapt to a warming planet. We will be working toward silver certification in the coming years, but silver certification is a heavy lift for a small town! To date, all of the actions taken have not only reduced the town's carbon emissions but also saved money. We remain committed to both objectives.



Climate Action Plan - The North Salem [Climate Action Plan](#) has been released. The plan was created by the Climate Smart Committee, approved by the Town Board, and was made available for public review and comment in May of 2022. It provides a roadmap for the Town to follow, with a goal both to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through clearly identified steps, and to equip residents with ways to adapt to climate change and become more resilient. The priorities as outlined in this plan will put the Town of North Salem on a path to reach net carbon neutrality.

NYStretch Energy Code-2020 - on February 8, 2022, the North Salem Town Board adopted legislation which puts into effect a more stringent energy code than the current base energy code. [NYStretch-2020](#) provides increased efficiencies of approximately 10% and will provide cost savings through energy efficiency, as well as climate benefits.

Clean Energy Campaign - Are you interested in making your home more energy efficient and comfortable year-round? The Climate Smart Community Leadership Committee is partnering with Sustainable Westchester to inform residents about available clean heating and cooling opportunities. [Sustainable Westchester's EnergySmart HOMES](#) program can help you get started.

We can't do this without you! Please join us:

- Join [Community Solar](#), a clean energy program where you will see substantial savings.
- Join the [Clean Heating and Cooling Energy Efficiency](#) Campaign.
- **E-subscribe** to our news at www.northsalemny.org
- **Visit** our [webpage](#) to learn more about energy saving initiatives, waste reduction ideas, healthy gardens, etc.

Message continued...

On the Ballot in November - This fall, New Yorkers will have an opportunity to voice their support for the [Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act \(S8008C\)](#). By voting "yes" on the ballot in November, you can support the state's plan to issue \$4.2 billion in general obligation bonds for projects related to the environment, natural resources, water infrastructure and climate change. Projects receiving state funding will be required to pay competitive wages and contract with local unions when possible. The idea is not only to fix environmental problems and mitigate climate change, but also to support local communities, according to Julie Tighe, President of the New York League of Conservation Voters.

North Salem Climate Fair – The first annual North Salem Climate Fair was held at Baxter Preserve on Sunday, September 18 from 9am-11:30am at the finish line of the Race for Open Space. Residents had an opportunity to learn about solar power, heat pumps, wetlands conservation and composting. Check out photos [here](#).

Focus on Recycling

Committee Members visited the Win Waste Materials Recovery Facility in Stamford, Connecticut, and learned a lot about recycling... Stay tuned for a special edition on plastics recycling and plastic waste reduction strategies...

The Committee had three critical takeaways from the tour -

- 1 NO plastic bags** can go into recycling - not with paper - not with bottles and cans - plastic bags must be removed from the recycling stream by hand which is costly and slows down the process.
- 2 Glass/plastic bottles and paper cartons** should be **clean** and put into recycling **without lids**.
- 3 Don't put metal objects or concrete** into the recycling - it damages costly sorting machines.



The Story of Plastic

The Climate Smart Committee will be co-sponsoring a presentation of [The Story of Plastic](#) on October 23, 2022 at 3:00 pm at the Ruth Keeler Memorial Library.

Town of North Salem Climate Smart Community

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