



# Connecticut Climate Change

## **Update on CT Climate Change Initiative**

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## Connecticut Climate Change

# Public Act 08-98: An Act Concerning CT Global Warming Solutions

- Mandatory greenhouse gas (GHG) limits for CT
  - 10% below 1990 levels by 2020
  - 80% below 2001 levels by 2050
- Attaining GHG limits
  - Energy saving and GHG actions for state agencies and facilities (Lead By Example)
  - Statewide GHG inventory and baseline, summary of GHG reduction strategies
  - Modeling scenarios for economic, and environmental benefits from GHG reductions
  - Recommended regulations, policies, and actions (2012 and every 3 years)
  - Consideration of low carbon fuel standards and improvements to state's transportation system
- Create Adaptation Subcommittee of GSC, submit report to Governor/General Assembly July 1, 2010



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# 2007-2008 Climate Change Public Stakeholder Meetings

- June 19, 2007 – Kick off meeting, Hartford
- September 17, 2007 – Focus on Electric Generation and Efficiency, New Britain
- November 27, 2007 – Focus on Transportation, Fairfield
- January 24, 2008 – Focus on Non-Electric Energy Use and Efficiency, Middletown
- March 19, 2008 – Focus on Agriculture, Hamden
- May 28, 2008 – Focus on Education, New Haven
- November 19, 2008 – Summary meeting, Hartford



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### Summary: 2007-2008 Public Stakeholder Meetings

- Over 200 participants on distribution list for climate change stakeholder meetings
- Average of 70 participants per meeting
- Designed to inform, re-engage stakeholders, and obtain input through targeted questions discussed in stakeholder breakout discussion sessions (“world café” format)
- Over 850 comments/input received in discussion sessions, plus additional input received through website
- Low carbon footprint meetings – renewable energy credits, public transit emphasis, meeting locations throughout the state, sustainable food services, etc.
- Agenda, presentations, summary of input from all meetings posted at **[www.ctclimatechange.com](http://www.ctclimatechange.com)**, click on “public stakeholder meetings”



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# Next Steps: Creating An Implementation Plan

- Further analyze stakeholder actions and implement GHG actions in 8 focus areas
  - Transportation and Smart Growth
  - Vehicle Emissions
  - Energy Efficiency
  - High Global Warming Potential Gases
  - Agriculture
  - Recycling
  - Education
  - Adaptation



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# Transportation and Smart Growth Focus

- Incorporate carbon emissions and life cycle GHG impacts into CEPA review process, including transportation projects
- Evaluate telecommuting, alternative worksites & schedules to reduce state employee VMT and GHGs (show state leading by example)
- Transit, smart growth, VMT reduction, including public education to reduce VMT
- Multi-state intermodal freight initiative, including electrification of shipping ports



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# Vehicle Emissions Focus

- Use SmartWay program to reduce emissions from trucks (idle reduction, fuel reduction, emissions reductions)
- Clean diesel and black carbon – expand to off-road and home heating
- GHG reductions in vehicles, including:
  - Vehicle speed reduction for trucks
  - Vehicle speed reduction for cars
  - Tire inflation strategy
  - Vehicle electrification
  - Cool paints for automobiles



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# Energy Efficiency Focus

- Energy Efficiency: Procuring all cost-effective energy efficiency as the resource of first choice.
- Develop cost-effective GHG reductions in existing and new buildings
- Promote innovative financing of energy efficiency



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# High Global Warming Potential (GWP) Gases Focus

- Closely following the work underway in California
- HFC reduction in mobile sources
- Other refrigerant based strategies
- Specifications for commercial refrigeration
- Other high GWP gases



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# Agriculture Focus

- Increase support for CT farms to produce local foods
- Promote best practices to sequester carbon in soils and forested land



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# Recycling Focus

- Recycling issues will be addressed by existing DEP Solid Waste Advisory Committee
- Increase recycling/source reduction



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### Education Focus

- Education issues will be addressed by existing DEP Climate Change Education Committee
- Multiple education initiatives, including:
  - OneThing campaign
  - Enhancements to [www.ctclimatechange.com](http://www.ctclimatechange.com)
  - Climate/energy teaching resources aligned with CT Department of Education frameworks



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# Adaptation Subcommittee

- Subcommittee created, December 19 presentation
- GSC Adaptation Subcommittee is tasked with:
  - Assessing the impacts of climate change on state and local infrastructure, public health, natural resources and habitats, and agriculture
  - Developing recommendations and plans that would enable state and local government to adapt to such impacts
  - Providing technical assistance to implement such recommendations and plans
- DEP and The Nature Conservancy to serve as co-chairs. Work groups on infrastructure, public health, natural resources and agriculture



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# Stay Informed and Engaged

- Go to [www.ctclimatechange.com](http://www.ctclimatechange.com)
  - Info on implementation planning
  - Background info and resources on GHG strategies
  - Meeting schedules
  - Sign up for e-mail list
  - Provide feedback
  - Address questions to [c4info@ctclimatechange.com](mailto:c4info@ctclimatechange.com)