



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**



**Climate Smart
Communities**

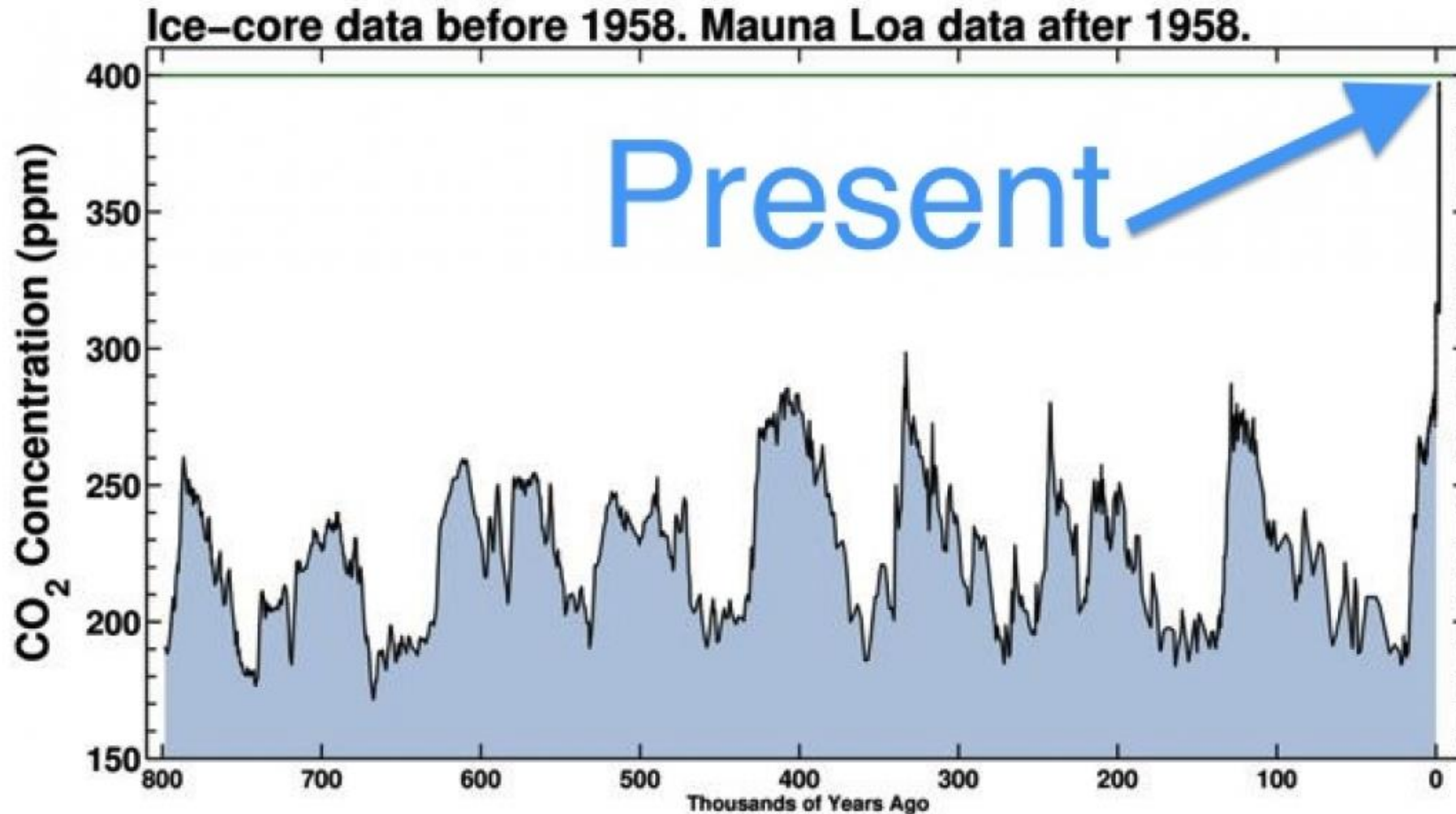
Climate Smart Communities

Grants & Support for Local Governments

**Dazzle Ekblad
DEC Office of Climate Change
March 2020**

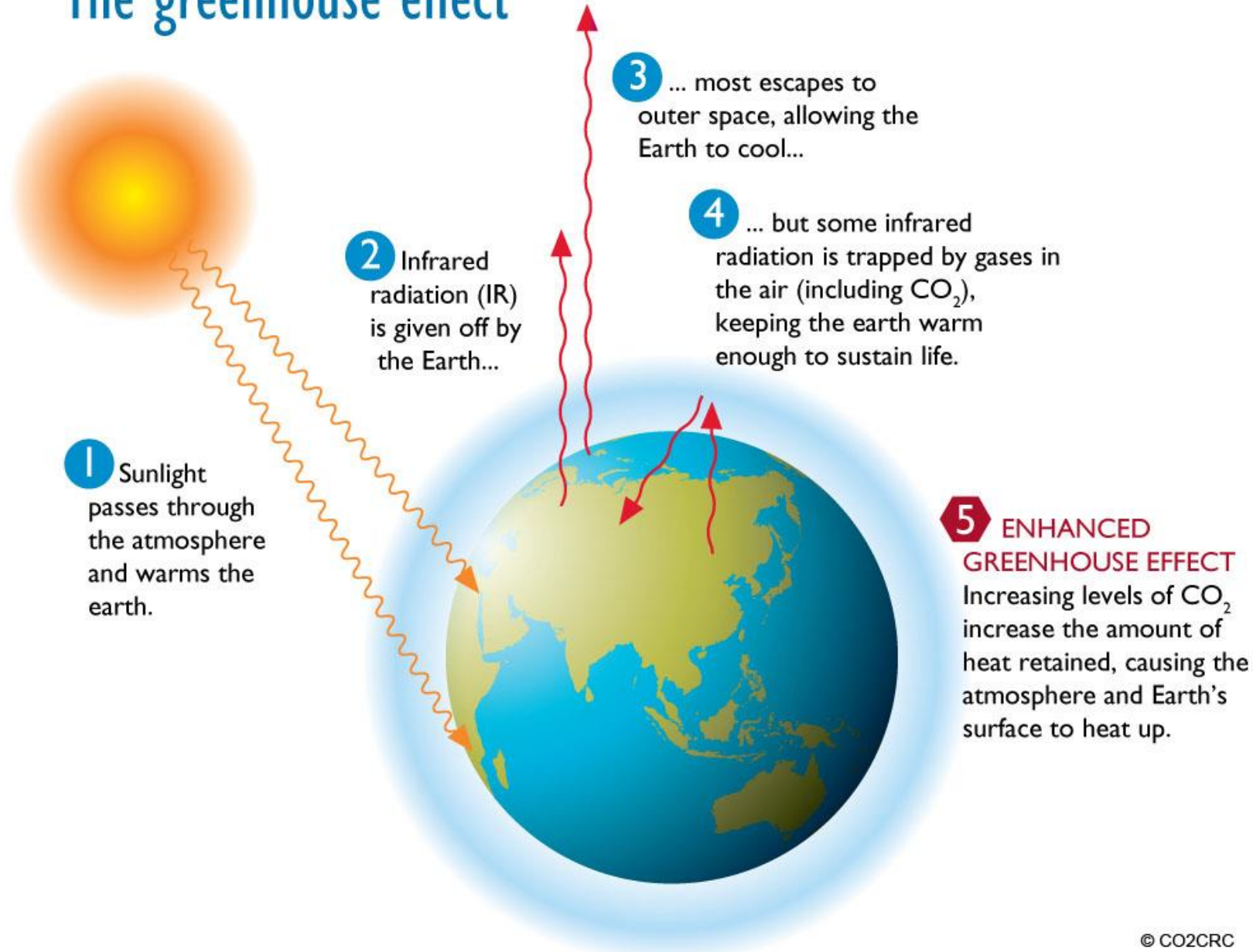
We all share the same atmosphere.





**CO₂ level
has never
been this
high, not
in all of
human
history.**

The greenhouse effect



Human-caused GHGs have already led to 1.3°C increase in the annual mean temp. in NYS (since 1970).



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**



Climate Smart Communities

State Support for Local Climate Action

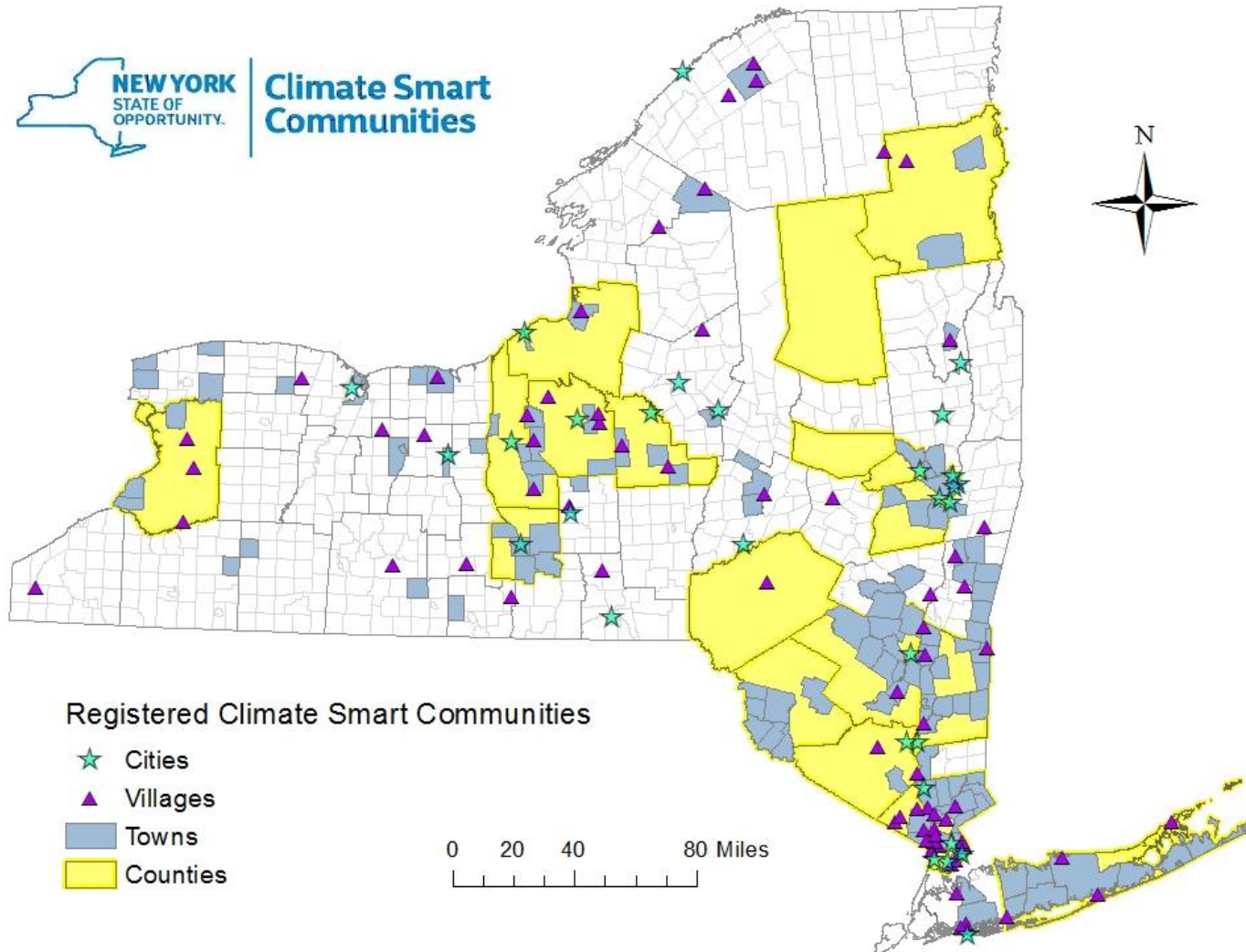


- Assistance to local gov't leaders to
 - Reduce greenhouse gas pollution
 - Build resiliency in the face of climate change
- Voluntary. No fees. Sponsored by 7 state agencies.
- Comprehensive. Flexible.



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

CSC By the Numbers



- **297 Registered** (since 2009)
 - Over 8.7 million people live in these “pledged” communities (45% of NY population)

49 Certified (since 2014)

- Leaders who have documented progress
- 8 certification actions approved

Full list at <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/participating-communities/>

Benefits of CSC

- Free technical assistance
- Guidance & tools:
 - Webinars, email list, website, workshops
 - **Certification program:** framework for local action, planning, priorities
- **Networking:** Learn with like-minded community leaders
- **Leadership recognition:** State-level attention for local leaders
- **Funding:** Better positioned to compete for funds; [CSC grants](#); [EV rebates](#)



How are CSC & CEC related?

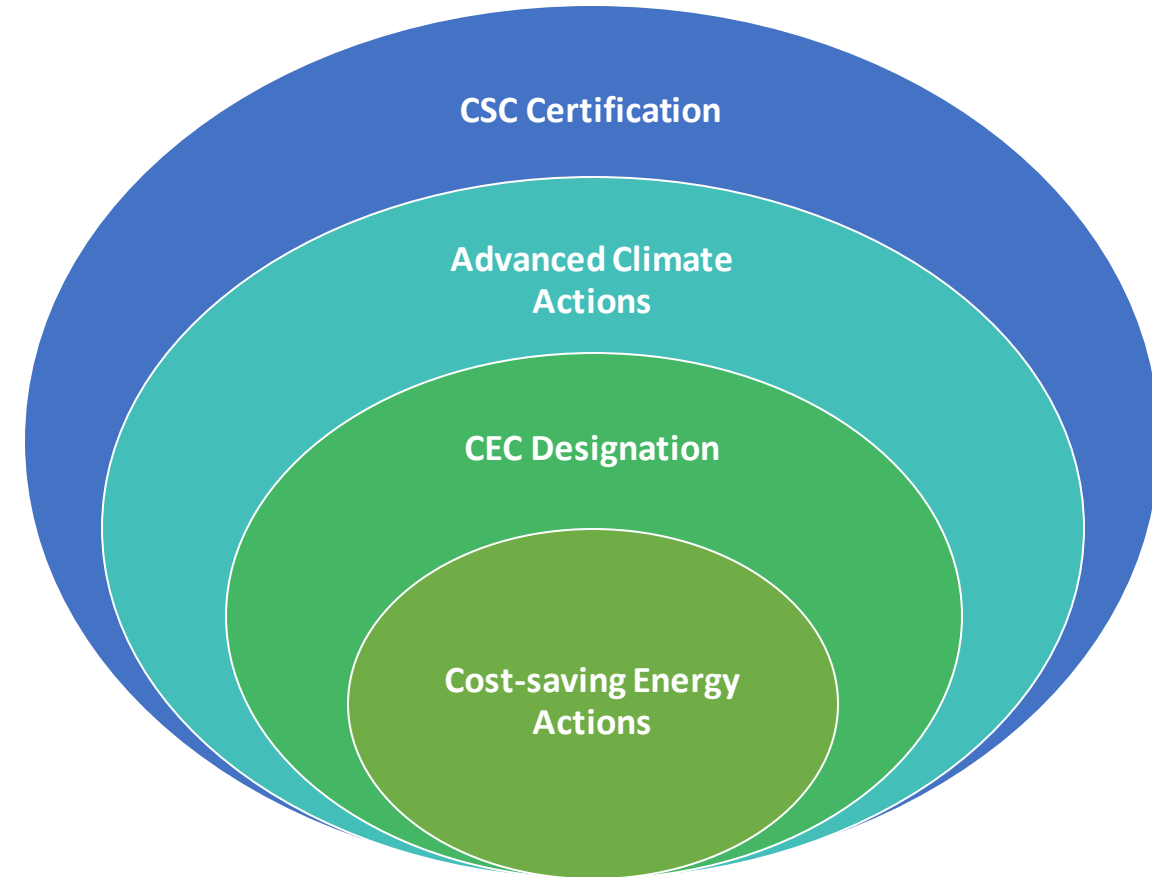
Climate Smart Communities Certification

- Interagency initiative; launched in 2014
- Comprehensive climate action program
- 100+ unique actions
- Improve score on CSC grant applications

Clean Energy Communities (NYSERDA)

- Launched 2016; focused on energy use
- 10 high-impact actions
 - 1 of 10 is becoming a Certified CSC
- Complete 4 actions to access CEC grants

- **Earn points toward CSC Certification by doing CEC actions**
 - **Do both!**



Funding for Electric Vehicles



- **Municipal Zero Emission Vehicle Program** from DEC OCC
 - EVs: no match; up to \$5,000 per vehicle; apply by July 24, 2020.
 - EV Chargers: 20% match; apply by May 29, 2020.
- **NYSERDA Drive Clean Rebates**: up to \$2k for plug-in hybrids or battery-powered cars
- **NYSERDA Charge Ready NY**: \$4,000 per port for qualified Level 2 EV charging equipment at locations that provide public charging, workplace charging, or charging at a multi-unit dwelling



CSC Grants



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Application Process for CSC Grants

- Apply online via **Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)** at <https://apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/index.cfm>
- [Register in the NYS Grants Gateway](#) for contract mgmt.

Timeline

- TBD for 2020, but RFA probably released in **May**
- Deadline to apply probably in **July**
- Awards announced in the fall



**Climate Smart
Communities**



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

CSC Grants: Eligibility

- Local governments only
 - Counties, cities, towns, villages in NYS
 - Do NOT need to be a Registered CSC
 - Other entities (non-profits, etc.) can be partners, but not lead applicant



CSC Grants: Match

- Required local match is 50% of eligible project costs
- Eligible costs include
 - Travel & equipment
 - Salaries & fringe benefits
 - Contractual services
- Match w/ in-kind municipal staff salaries
- No state or federal funds as match



CSC Grants: Categories

Two broad categories:

- 1. Implementation Projects** (climate change adaptation and greenhouse gas mitigation in the non-power sector)
- 2. CSC Certification Projects** (planning, inventories, and assessments)



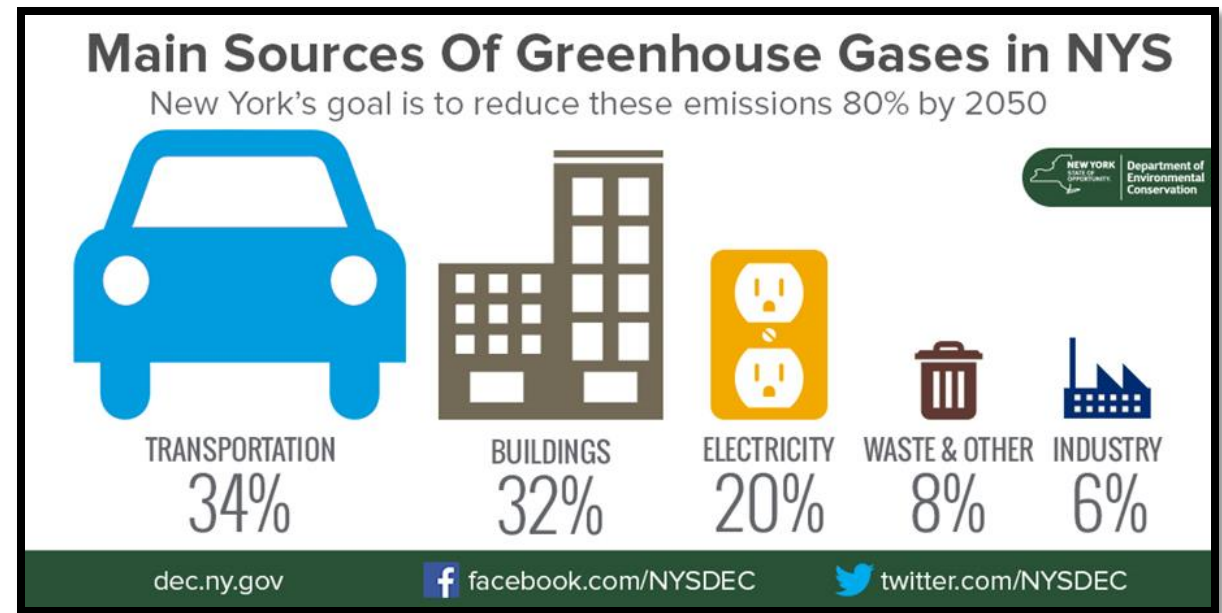
Implementation: GHG Mitigation

Grant Amount - \$10,000 to \$2,000,000

Engineering/design max. 15% of grant

Mitigation Project Types

- Reduction of vehicle miles travelled (VMT) for daily needs & commuting
- Reduction of food scraps disposed
- Refrigerant mgmt



Implementation: Adaptation

Grant Amount - \$10,000 to \$2,000,000

Engineering/design max. 15% of grant

Adaptation Project Types

- Increasing/preserving natural resilience
- Reduction of future flood risks
 - E.g., relocating vulnerable facilities
- Replacing/right-sizing culverts and bridges
- Extreme heat preparation
- Emergency preparedness
- Completion of activities in FEMA Community Rating System (CRS)



CSC Grants: Certification

Award size: \$10,000 to \$100,000

Project Types:

- Inventories, assessments
- Planning & strategy development
 - In the areas of GHG mitigation, climate adaptation, land use, transportation, and solid waste
- To inform the design of implementation projects

In 2019, 15 certification actions were eligible for CSC grants; see list below. The 2020 list will be made available in the RFA in May; the list will likely be similar.

- [PE2 Action: Government Operations Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#)
- [PE2 Action: Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#)
- [PE2 Action: Government Operations Climate Action Plan](#)
- [PE2 Action: Community Climate Action Plan](#)
- [PE3 Action: Fleet Inventory](#)
- [PE3 Action: Fleet Efficiency Policy](#)
- [PE5 Action: Construction and Demolition Waste Policy](#)
- [PE6 Action: Comprehensive Plan with Sustainability Elements](#)
- [PE6 Action: Complete Streets Policy](#)
- [PE6 Action: Planning and infrastructure for Bicycling and Walking](#) (Bike/Ped. Master Plan only)
- [PE6 Action: Natural Resources Inventory](#)
- [PE7 Action: Climate Vulnerability Assessment](#)
- [PE7 Action: Climate Smart Resilience Planning](#)
- [PE7 Action: Climate Adaptation Strategies](#)
- [PE7 Action: Heat Emergency Plan](#)

More info at <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/>



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

Examples of Pass/Fail Criteria

- Applicant is a **municipality** (county, NYC borough, city, town, village of NYS).
- A municipal **resolution** authorizing application submission and **50% local match** is submitted with the application.
- Application addresses one of the **eligible project categories**.
- The **completed expenditure budget** itemizes costs and clearly articulates the requested funding amount and eligible match.
- The **work program** is detailed and outlines specific tasks to be undertaken from initiation through completion of the project.
- Documentation of **land ownership** or an agreement with the landowner for **land access and use** is provided, if necessary.



**Climate Smart
Communities**



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

Examples of Scoring Criteria

- Financial hardship
- Climate Smart Communities status
- Readiness (for implementation or for certification)
- Project criticality
- Effectiveness of proposal
- Planning context
- Quality of application
- Reasonableness of cost



Information Sources

- National Climate Assessment (US) <http://nca2014.globalchange.gov/>
- ClimAid Report - Climate change projections and data for NY
<http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/climaid>
- NY Climate Change Science Clearinghouse
<https://www.nyclimatescience.org/>
- NYSDOH County Heat Health Profiles
http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/public_health_tracking/
- Hudson River Sustainable Shorelines (applicable in other locations)
<https://www.hrner.org/hudson-river-sustainable-shorelines/>



**Climate Smart
Communities**



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

Information Sources

- Regional/local greenhouse gas inventories
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/57170.html> -
 - **Email climatesmart@dec.ny.gov for your GHG data from 2010!**
- NYSERDA: [Benefit-Cost Analysis of Potential Food Waste Diversion](#)
- Guide for Assessing Energy Use and Greenhouse Gas Emissions in an EIS <https://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/56552.html>
- List of Climate Change Adaptation Related Indicators
<http://www.adaptationclearinghouse.org/resources/cleaner-greener-communities-program-sustainability-indicator-guidance-document.html>



Climate Smart
Communities



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

CSC Grants: Additional Info

- View lists of **past awards** and (in early May 2020) read full **RFA** at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/109181.html#CSC>
- To get grant announcements, sign up for the **CSC email list via DEC Delivers** at <https://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/76483.html>
- Attend DEC webinar Thurs., May 14, 2020 at 10:30 AM
- Listen to June 9, 2019 DEC CSC Grants webinar at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/84359.html>



**Climate Smart
Communities**



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

WELCOME

As part of Governor Cuomo's transformative plan to improve the state's economic development model, a NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) has been created that will streamline and expedite the grant application process. The CFA process marks a fundamental shift in the way state resources are allocated, ensuring less bureaucracy and greater efficiency to fulfill local economic development needs.

Utilizing the CFA serving as the single entry point for access to economic development funding, applicants will no longer have to slowly navigate multiple agencies and sources without any mechanism for coordination. Now, economic development projects will use the CFA as a support mechanism to access multiple state funding sources through one application, making the process quicker, easier, and more productive.

The CFA system is also the mechanism for Upstate Revitalization Initiative (URI) project sponsors to submit applications.

To proceed with your CFA, please use the **Log In** or **Register** buttons.

New - Cloning an Application

To save time you can now Clone an application from the previous year.
[Click here to learn how.](#)

Log In

Register

Links



Regional Council Guidebook

Learn more about the eighth round of REDC awards with up to \$750 million to fund regional priority projects.



Available CFA Resources

For Round VIII, there are over 30 programs available through 11 state agencies.



CFA Application Manual

Online webinar of each program that is offered through the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA).



Program Recorded Webinars

An online recorded webinar applying through the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA).



Program Application Questions

A list of questions for the available programs in the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA).



2019 CFA Workshops

Open House Workshops available to the public for the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA).

Visit the CFA homepage,
<https://apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/index.cfm>:

- Recording of short presentation from 2019
- PDF of the 2019 slides with clickable links to other resources



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Contact Info

- Office of Climate Change
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- 625 Broadway
Albany NY 12233-1030
- 518-402-8448
- cscgrants@dec.ny.gov

CSC Certification Portal:
<https://climatesmart.ny.gov>

CSC Funding Programs:
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/109181.html>

CSC Webinar slides & recordings:
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/84359.html>