

Climate Smart Communities Certification Program



Certification Manual

PERFORMANCE BONUS

Earn additional points for demonstrating performance by reducing GHG emissions, increasing the use of renewables, or reducing waste volume, as compared to the baseline year used in the GHG emissions inventory.

Action #	Action Name	Action Pathway Phase	Possible Points	Priority
Performance Bonus			230	
12.1	Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned facilities	Implement	40	
12.2	Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned vehicles	Implement	15	
12.3	Increase use of renewables for local government operations	Implement	40	
12.4	Reduce waste volume from local government operations	Implement	15	
12.5	Reduce community-wide waste volume	Implement	20	
12.6	Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from transportation	Implement	50	
12.7	Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from buildings	Implement	50	

Please note: The recertification requirements for each action are subject to change in future versions of the CSC Certification Manual.

12.1 REDUCE GHG EMISSIONS FROM GOVERNMENT-OWNED FACILITIES

Action pathway phase: Implement

Eligibility timeline: Within 10 years prior to the application date

Total possible points: 40

A. Why is this action important?

Government-owned facilities are typically one of the largest sources of emissions in a local government GHG emissions inventory. Local governments can earn additional performance bonus points for demonstrating a reduction in GHG emissions from the baseline year in government-owned facilities.

B. How to implement this action

Pledge Element 3 provides a list of actions for reducing GHG emissions from government-owned buildings.

C. Time frame, project costs, and resource needs

The time frame, costs, and resource needs depend on the type of actions implemented, as outlined in Pledge Element 3.

D. Which local governments implement this action? Which departments within the local government are most likely to have responsibility for this?

This action is applicable to all types of local governments. The department with responsibility for managing government-owned buildings, typically the department of public works or facilities, will have responsibility for implementing this action. The department or staff member with responsibility for the GHG emissions inventory would be responsible for calculating the reduction in GHG emissions.

E. How to obtain points for this action

Points are earned for this action by demonstrating a reduction in GHG emissions from the baseline year in government-owned facilities.

	<u>Possible Points</u>
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned facilities by 5%	5
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned facilities by 10%	10
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned facilities by 15%	15
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned facilities by 20%	20
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned facilities by 25%	25
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned facilities by 30%	30
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned facilities by 35%	35
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned facilities by 40% or more	40

F. What to submit

Local governments must submit documentation demonstrating a reduction in GHG emissions as compared to the baseline year, for government-owned buildings. Methods to calculate GHG emissions reductions must be consistent with relevant provisions of the Local Government Operations Protocol.

G. Links to Additional Resources or Best Practices

- Local Government Operations Protocol: <http://www.icleiusa.org/tools/ghg-protocol/local-government-operations-protocol-1/local-government-operations-protocol>

H. Recertification requirements

The recertification requirements are the same as the initial certification requirements.

12.2 REDUCE GHG EMISSIONS FROM GOVERNMENT-OWNED VEHICLES

Action pathway phase: Implement

Eligibility timeline: Within 10 years prior to the application date

Total possible points: 15

A. Why is this action important?

Government-owned vehicles are often one of the larger sources of emissions in a local government GHG emissions inventory. Local governments can earn additional performance bonus points for demonstrating a reduction in GHG emissions from the baseline year from government-owned vehicles.

B. How to implement this action

Pledge Element 3 provides a list of actions for reducing GHG emissions from government-owned vehicles.

C. Time frame, project costs, and resource needs

The time frame, costs, and resource needs depend on the type of actions implemented, as outlined in Pledge Element 3.

D. Which local governments implement this action? Which departments within the local government are most likely to have responsibility for this?

This action is applicable to all types of local governments. The department with responsibility for managing the vehicle fleet, typically the department of public works or transportation, will have responsibility for implementing this action. The department or staff member with responsibility for the GHG emissions inventory would be responsible for calculating the reduction in GHG emissions.

E. How to obtain points for this action

Points are earned for this action by demonstrating a reduction in GHG emissions from the baseline year from government-owned vehicles.

	<u>Possible Points</u>
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned vehicles by 5%	3
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned vehicles by 10%	5
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned vehicles by 15%	7
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned vehicles by 20%	10
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned vehicles by 25%	12
• Reduce GHG emissions from government-owned vehicles by 30% or more	15

F. What to submit

Local governments must submit documentation demonstrating a reduction in GHG emissions as compared to the baseline year, for government-owned vehicles. Methods to calculate GHG emissions reductions must be consistent with relevant provisions of the Local Government Operations Protocol.

G. Links to Additional Resources or Best Practices

- Local Government Operations Protocol: <http://www.icleiusa.org/tools/ghg-protocol/local-government-operations-protocol-1/local-government-operations-protocol>

H. Recertification requirements

The recertification requirements are the same as the initial certification requirements.

12.3 INCREASE USE OF RENEWABLES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Action pathway phase: Implement

Eligibility timeline: Currently active

Total possible points: 40

A. Why is this action important?

Using renewable energy for government operations not only contributes to reducing energy use and GHG emissions from one of the larger sources of emissions from government operations, but also provides the local government with the opportunity to lead by example.

B. How to implement this action

Pledge Element 4 provides a list of actions for increasing the use of renewables for government operations.

C. Time frame, project costs, and resource needs

The time frame, costs, and resource needs depend on the type of actions implemented, as outlined in Pledge Element 4.

D. Which local governments implement this action? Which departments within the local government are most likely to have responsibility for this?

This action is applicable to all types of local governments. The department with responsibility for managing building energy use, typically the department of facilities, will have responsibility for implementing this action.

E. How to obtain points for this action

Points are earned for this action by demonstrating the percentage of the total current energy use in buildings and facilities from renewables according to the table below. Renewable energy must come from acceptable renewable energy sources or resources, as outlined in Pledge Element 4.

	<u>Possible Points</u>
• 5% of government energy use from renewables	5
• 10% of government energy use from renewables	8
• 20% of government energy use from renewables	12
• 30% of government energy use from renewables	16
• 40% of government energy use from renewables	20
• 50% of government energy use from renewables	24

- 60% of government energy use from renewables 28
- 70% of government energy use from renewables 32
- 80% of government energy use from renewables 36
- Greater than 90% of government energy use from renewables 40

F. What to submit

Local governments must submit documentation demonstrating the percentage of total energy use in buildings and facilities from renewables.

G. Links to Additional Resources or Best Practices

- Local Government Operations Protocol: <http://www.icleiusa.org/tools/ghg-protocol/local-government-operations-protocol-1/local-government-operations-protocol>

H. Recertification requirements

The recertification requirements are the same as the initial certification requirements.

12.4 REDUCE WASTE VOLUME FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Action pathway phase: Implement

Eligibility timeline: Within 10 years prior to the application date

Total possible points: 15

A. Why is this action important?

Reducing waste and increasing recycling can make a significant contribution to reducing GHG emissions from local government operations. Local governments can earn additional performance bonus points for demonstrating a reduction in waste volume from the baseline year for local government operations.

B. How to implement this action

Pledge Element 3 provides a list of actions for reducing waste from local government operations.

C. Time frame, project costs, and resource needs

The time frame, costs, and resource needs depend on the type of actions implemented, as outlined in Pledge Element 3.

D. Which local governments implement this action? Which departments within the local government are most likely to have responsibility for this?

This action is applicable to all types of local governments. The department with responsibility for managing waste, typically the department of sanitation or public works, will have responsibility for implementing this action.

E. How to obtain points for this action

Points are earned for this action by demonstrating a reduction in waste volume from the baseline year for local government operations.

	<u>Possible Points</u>
• Reduce waste from government operations by 5%	2
• Reduce waste from government operations by 10%	4
• Reduce waste from government operations by 20%	6
• Reduce waste from government operations by 30%	9
• Reduce waste from government operations by 40%	12
• Reduce waste from government operations by 50% or more	15

F. What to submit

Local governments must submit documentation demonstrating a reduction in total waste volume from government operations as compared to the baseline year.

G. Links to Additional Resources or Best Practices

- DEC, Waste Reduction: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8502.html>
- DEC, Municipal Solid Waste Composition Analysis Tool: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/65541.html>

H. Recertification requirements

The recertification requirements are the same as the initial certification requirements.

12.5 REDUCE COMMUNITY-WIDE WASTE VOLUME

Action pathway phase: Implement

Eligibility timeline: Within 10 years prior to the application date

Total possible points: 20

A. Why is this action important?

Reducing waste and increasing recycling can make a significant contribution to reducing GHG emissions community-wide. Local governments can earn additional performance bonus points for demonstrating a reduction in community-wide waste volume from the baseline year for waste.

B. How to implement this action

Pledge Element 5 provides a list of actions for reducing community-wide waste.

C. Time frame, project costs, and resource needs

The time frame, costs, and resource needs depend on the type of actions implemented, as outlined in Pledge Element 5.

D. Which local governments implement this action? Which departments within the local government are most likely to have responsibility for this?

This action is applicable to all types of local governments. The department with responsibility for managing waste, typically the department of sanitation or public works, will have responsibility for implementing this action.

E. How to obtain points for this action

Points are earned for this action by demonstrating a reduction in waste volume from the baseline year.

	<u>Possible Points</u>
• Reduce community-wide waste volume by 5%	5
• Reduce community-wide waste volume by 10%	8
• Reduce community-wide waste volume by 20%	11
• Reduce community-wide waste volume by 30%	14
• Reduce community-wide waste volume by 40%	17
• Reduce community-wide waste volume by 50% or more	20

F. What to submit

Local governments must submit documentation demonstrating a reduction in total community-wide waste volume as compared to the baseline year.

G. Links to Additional Resources or Best Practices

- DEC, Waste Reduction: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8502.html>
- DEC, MSW Composition Analysis Tool: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/65541.html>

H. Recertification requirements

The recertification requirements are the same as the initial certification requirements.

12.6 REDUCE COMMUNITY-WIDE GHG EMISSIONS FROM TRANSPORTATION

Action pathway phase: Implement

Eligibility timeline: Within 10 years prior to the application date

Total possible points: 50

A. Why is this action important?

Transportation typically accounts for a large portion of community-wide GHG emissions, and any comprehensive GHG emissions reductions plan will involve a suite of actions to reduce emissions from transportation. Local governments can earn additional performance bonus points for demonstrating a reduction from the baseline year in community-wide GHG emissions from transportation.

B. How to implement this action

Pledge Element 6 provides a list of actions for reducing community-wide GHG emissions from transportation.

C. Time frame, project costs, and resource needs

The time frame, costs, and resource needs depend on the type of actions implemented, as outlined in Pledge Element 6.

D. Which local governments implement this action? Which departments within the local government are most likely to have responsibility for this?

This action is applicable to all types of local governments. The departments with the responsibility for land-use planning, transportation, and public transit will have the responsibility for implementing this action. The department or staff member with responsibility for the GHG emissions inventory would be responsible for calculating the reduction in GHG emissions.

E. How to obtain points for this action

Points are earned for this action by demonstrating a reduction in community-wide GHG emissions from the baseline year for transportation.

	<u>Possible Points</u>
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from transportation by 5%	5
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from transportation by 10%	10
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from transportation by 15%	15
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from transportation by 20%	20
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from transportation by 25%	25
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from transportation by 30%	30
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from transportation by 35%	35
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from transportation by 40%	40
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from transportation by 45%	45
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from transportation by 50% or more	50

F. What to submit

Local governments must submit documentation demonstrating a reduction in GHG emissions as compared to the baseline year, for community-wide transportation emissions. Methods to calculate GHG emissions reductions must be consistent with relevant provisions of the U.S. Community Protocol. Local governments that are unable to demonstrate reductions in GHG emissions but have demonstrable data on changes in mode share can submit that information for consideration for bonus points.

G. Links to Additional Resources or Best Practices

- U.S. Community Protocol for Accounting and Reporting of GHG Emissions: <http://www.icleiusa.org/tools/ghg-protocol/community-protocol>

H. Recertification requirements

The recertification requirements are the same as the initial certification requirements.

12.7 REDUCE COMMUNITY-WIDE GHG EMISSIONS FROM BUILDINGS

Action pathway phase: Implement

Eligibility timeline: Within 10 years prior to the application date

Total possible points: 50

A. Why is this action important?

Energy use from buildings is typically the largest source of GHG emissions in a community’s inventory. Implementing a suite of strategies to reduce energy use and GHG emissions from residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial buildings is an essential part of any long-term GHG emissions reduction plan. Local governments can earn additional performance bonus points for demonstrating a reduction from the baseline year in community-wide GHG emissions from buildings.

B. How to implement this action

Pledge Element 6 provides a list of actions for reducing community-wide GHG emissions from buildings.

C. Time frame, project costs, and resource needs

The time frame, costs, and resource needs depend on the type of actions implemented, as outlined in Pledge Element 6.

D. Which local governments implement this action? Which departments within the local government are most likely to have responsibility for this?

This action is applicable to all types of local governments. Several departments could be involved in this effort, depending on the type of strategies implemented including incentives, green building codes, renewable energy ordinances, or other types of strategies. The department or staff member with responsibility for the GHG emissions inventory would be responsible for calculating the reduction in GHG emissions.

E. How to obtain points for this action

Points are earned for this action by demonstrating a reduction in community-wide GHG emissions from the baseline year for buildings.

	<u>Possible Points</u>
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from buildings by 5%	5
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from buildings by 10%	10
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from buildings by 15%	15
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from buildings by 20%	20
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from buildings by 25%	25
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from buildings by 30%	30
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from buildings by 35%	35
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from buildings by 40%	40
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from buildings by 45%	45
• Reduce community-wide GHG emissions from buildings by 50% or more	50

F. What to submit

Local governments must submit documentation demonstrating a reduction in GHG emissions for community-wide buildings, as compared to the baseline year. Methods to calculate GHG emissions reductions must be consistent with relevant provisions of the U.S. Community Protocol.

G. Links to Additional Resources or Best Practices

- U.S. Community Protocol for Accounting and Reporting of GHG Emissions:
<http://www.icleiusa.org/tools/ghg-protocol/community-protocol>

H. Recertification requirements

The recertification requirements are the same as the initial certification requirements.