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Supporting Local Solutions to Mitigate and Adapt to Our Changing Climate





Community Energy



Regional Public Transportation



Interconnectivity of Trails and Open Space



Regional Food Supply



Green Job Training
Regional Markets

ADAPTATION

Adaptation to Regional Impacts



Community Adaptation

Communities Working on Adaptation Issues

- Keene NH
- Seabrook NH
- Sunapee Region NH
- Groton CT
- NYC
- Chicago
- Seattle
- Kings County WA
- Miami Dade County
- New Orleans
- Toronto
- London

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ICLEI Climate Resilient Communities (CRC) Program

Milestone 1: Conducted local resiliency study

Milestone 2: Set preparedness goals

Milestone 3: Prioritized preparedness actions and created a plan

Milestone 4: Publish and Implement Plan

Created CRC Committee;

List of Vulnerabilities Identified;

Specific Actions Identified to Increase Local Resilience;

Prioritization Workshop;

Plan Adopted;

Integration into Comprehensive Plan



Community Adaptation

Seabrook



RPC received funds from the Town of Seabrook and the NHCP to develop adaptation strategies to protect areas of Town at risk of flooding due to climate change.

Research on estimates of sea level rise effecting the New England coast;

Review approach taken by other states and communities in responding to this threat;

Developed maps identifying the areas of increased risk to flooding from SLR;

Identified various regulatory and non-regulatory options that should be considered by Seabrook to protect the Town from this potential risk.

Community Adaptation

Sunapee Region

ANTIOCH
UNIVERSITY



NOAA

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



Goals: protect vulnerable storm water & drinking-water systems, provide adaptation information to support community-driven decision-making, and disseminate results to promote safe communities nationwide.

Towns: New London, Sunapee, Newbury, Springfield, Goshen, Sutton

Research: 180 Culverts assessed, Historic changes in rainfall, Population and building permit forecasts;

Workshops: 5 priorities established, 3 task forces;

Task Forces: Local Government and Infrastructure; Development and Zoning;
Reducing Impact: Water Retention and Impervious Surfaces

Prioritization: Feasibility Vs Impact

Implementation: Town Planning

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Lessons Learned

- **“Mitigation strategies”** simply not understood; Explain and make connections
- **“Climate Preparedness”** best-received, followed by climate change readiness;
- **Capitalize on existing plans, stakeholder engagement processes and events**
- **Essential to give the public opportunities from the beginning for review and input;**
- **Hire a Sustainability Coordinator to streamline process and ensure appropriate buy-in;**
- **Interagency or interdepartmental coordination;**
- **Climate adaptation and climate mitigation are not mutually exclusive;**
- **Need knowledgeable and committed champions;**
- **Involve experts (University, NOAA, scientists)**
- **Local Government as a leader**
- **GET STARTED!**

Community Adaptation

Communication Resources

[Engaging Chicago's Diverse Communities](http://www.fieldmuseum.org/ccuc/ccuc_sites/Climate_Action/climate_action.htm)

http://www.fieldmuseum.org/ccuc/ccuc_sites/Climate_Action/climate_action.htm

[Climate Communications and Behavior \(CLI University of Oregon\)](http://climlead.uoregon.edu/sites/climlead.uoregon.edu/files/reports/ClimCommBehaviorChangeGuide.pdf)

<http://climlead.uoregon.edu/sites/climlead.uoregon.edu/files/reports/ClimCommBehaviorChangeGuide.pdf>

[Pew Center](http://www.pewclimate.org/communicating)

<http://www.pewclimate.org/communicating>

[Yale Project on Climate Change and Communication](http://environment.yale.edu/climate/)

<http://environment.yale.edu/climate/>

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Community Adaptation

Needs Assessment

Resources: Funding, trained staff

Bureaucratic Barriers: Need mandate, Unclear roles and responsibilities, Authority spread among agencies, Lack of guidance, Federal (likely also state) policies/regulations/statutes hinder efforts

Data Needs: Information on future impacts, Climate data on local/regional scale, Data on future tipping point (when would it happen), Baseline data, Cost/benefit information (especially current costs v. future (uncertain) benefits), Local/regional vulnerability assessments

Other Needs: Workshops, “No regrets” actions, Public education, Training, Help with making adaptation a priority, ID and sharing of best practices