

Climate Action Plan (CAP)

Frequently Asked Questions



What is a CAP? And what is a SLRSP?

CAP is short for "Climate Action Plan". The 2008 Solano County General Plan calls for the development of a Climate Action Plan as a strategy to address climate change. The County recognizes that climate change has the potential to alter social, economic, and ecological conditions in Solano County. The CAP will establish strategies and measures aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and will allow the County to contribute to State and Global climate protection efforts.

Responding to climate change also requires the County to prepare for and adapt to the already-foreseeable effects of global warming. For this reason the County will also prepare a Sea Level Rise Specific Plan (SLRSP). The SLRSP will address the threat of Sea Level Rise and propose adaptation strategies.

AGRICULTURE



ENERGY



WATER



WASTE



TRANSPORTATION



LAND USE



Why is Solano County preparing one?

To comply with state law. The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill 32) was created by the state legislature to address the threat global warming poses to the state's "economic well-being, public health, natural resources, and the environment". The Act directs the Air Resources Board to "adopt a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit equivalent to the statewide greenhouse gas emissions levels in 1990 to be achieved by 2020." This requires maintaining an inventory of emission levels as well as taking action to decrease emission levels to 1990 levels. During the 2008 General Plan Update process Solano County committed to the development and adoption of the CAP by June 30, 2010 and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 20% below 1990 levels by 2020. The CAP will address both community-wide GHG emissions and emissions specifically from County operations.

What are the benefits for Solano County and our community?

Climate action planning can create a wide variety of direct and indirect co-benefits. For example, transportation measures have the potential to reduce vehicle trips within the community, these reductions could result in improved air quality and decreased traffic congestion. Increased building energy and water efficiency will help protect the community for energy price increases, conserve valuable water resources, and help save community members money in the long run. Other indirect benefits include social and environmental benefits.

How can I participate?

Please attend and comment at the public meetings and/or provide comments via e-mail to: mwalsh@solanocounty.com (Mathew Walsh, Principal Planner, Planning Services Division, Solano County).

You can also help us reduce greenhouse gas emissions by investing in energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy systems, reducing the amount you drive (consolidate trips, carpool), conserve water, buy local food, plant trees for shading, and reduce, reuse, recycle or compost your waste.

Where can I find more information about this?

The State has an informative web site providing background information, reports and latest news on climate change and sea level rise in California: <http://www.climatechange.ca.gov/>