

DRAFT
June 2023

COMMITTED TO CHANGE

**TOWNSHIP OF
GEORGIAN BLUFFS**

**CORPORATE CLIMATE
ACTION PLAN SUMMARY**



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Environment & Infrastructure
Practice

THE CLIMATE IS CHANGING



In the Township of Georgian Bluffs, climate changes will include weather that is warmer and wetter, with larger more frequent storms. Climate change is an imperative global issue that affects us all.

No one is immune to its effects and local solutions and collaborative efforts are required by everyone. Even a community like the Township of Georgian Bluffs – small, rural townships and slightly removed from the large and big city areas we often associate with the most significant sources of emissions driving climate change and the significant impacts of climate change – will be impacted. Climate change will impact the Township of Georgian Bluffs residents, infrastructure, municipal operations and the economy.



The scale to which the Township of Georgian Bluffs is impacted will depend on the actions that the municipality takes now. This Corporate Climate Action Plan is the next chapter in the Township's Strategy to manage climate change in the Township of Georgian Bluffs – reduce its emissions sources and prepare for the impacts.

Climate Change



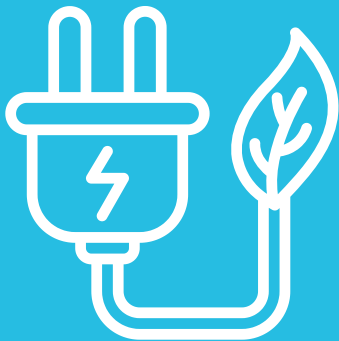
Strengthening municipal action on climate change is an important continued step by the Township of Georgian Bluffs to enhance the municipality's commitment to sustainable development and climate action.



The Township of Georgian Bluffs identifies the objective of continually strive to reduce environmental footprint by reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions to minimize climate change (**Objective 3.1 of the Strategic Plan 2020-2024**).

Corporate Climate Action Goals

The Corporate Climate Action Plan sets out two goals and takes a dual approach in responding to the causes and impacts of climate change:



Goal 1: Lead to the reduction of climate change causing greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption resulting in energy savings.

Mitigation components of this plan focus on decreasing the severity of future climate change impacts by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that are contributing to climate change. By doing its part to reduce GHG emissions, the Township can help to slow climate change and limit its negative impacts.



Goal 2: Recognize and begin to prepare for the risk of a changing climate on the assets and operations of the Township.

Adaptation components of this plan focus on preparing the Township for the impacts of climate change. By preparing for future climate conditions, the Township will lessen the negative impacts that climate change will have on municipal corporate assets and operations, the provision of services, residents and the local economy.

The Corporate Climate Action Plan (CorCAP) introduces a baseline GHG emissions inventory for the Municipal Corporation, as well as emissions reduction targets based on the data captured in the inventory and actions that the Municipal Corporation will take to reduce the production of emissions.

Municipal Corporate GHG emissions reduction targets for the Township have been set and a suite of actions developed to help achieve them.

Corporate Targets



2030

40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, relative to 2018 levels

2040

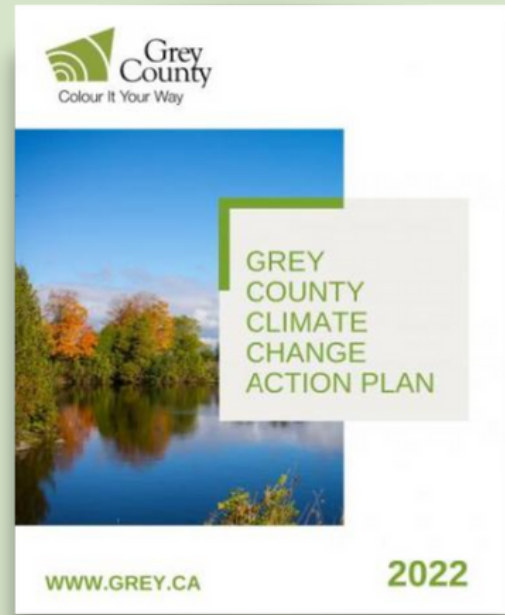
70% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2040, relative to 2018 levels



2050

80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, relative to 2018 levels

These GHG emissions reduction targets are aligned with the emission reduction targets of higher levels of government to meet climate change action and align with Grey County's emission reduction targets and actions outlined in the **Grey County Climate Action Plan (2022)**. However, it is noted that at a Federal level, and at the County level, Climate plans aspire to achieve Net Zero by 2050; a target that this Climate Action Plan does not include in the immediate term. The CorCAP focusses on achievable actions and provides information for the Township to begin a pathway towards emission reductions and preparation for climate impacts.



The CorCAP is a long-term initiative that will require engagement and actions over several years to succeed. Ongoing support from Council will be essential to ensure that implementation of this plan maintains momentum. Some actions contained in this plan will require capital investments to be successful. Funding requirements for specific climate actions will be integrated into the annual municipal budget cycle. Staff will work to capitalize on funding opportunities as they become available from sources outside of the Township.

By implementing this corporate climate action plan, the Township of Georgian Bluffs is fulfilling its responsibility to work in the community's best interests. The knowledge contained in this plan will enable the Township to make informed decisions to prioritize actions to limit GHG emissions that are contributing to climate change and minimize the impacts that climate change will have on Township operations and services.



Corporate Targets

The following are actions that the Township will undertake in the near-term (2024 to 2040) to continue to reduce emissions and energy consumption to meet emissions targets and adapt to a changing climate



Focus Area 1: Buildings

1. Complete Energy Audits at all buildings by 2030 to identify operational changes that can be implemented to reduce energy consumption in facilities.
2. Implement operational changes and technological changes to reduce energy consumption where possible.
3. Develop and implement energy management plans for assets and buildings with energy targets and include reactive, preventative, and predictive maintenance to prevent common sources of energy waste in building energy by 2030.
4. Complete transition to low energy LED lighting in all buildings by 2030.
5. Review all Township buildings and facilities with a Climate Change lens through a Facilities Review to identify potential renewal, replacement and retrofit projects.
6. Continue to update and replace building heating systems with an aim of eliminating Natural Gas and Propane as a primary heating fuel source use in all facilities by 2035.
7. Increase roof and, where appropriate, ground mounted solar to reduce dependence on grid supplied electricity with an objective to install at least 50kw of solar panels (solar photovoltaic) by 2035 offsetting electricity consumption equivalent to a building.
8. Incorporate electric vehicle charging where possible at Township buildings to support a transition to green fleet.
9. Any new building built by the Township should be built at least be Net Zero standards.
10. Complete a Corporate Asset Management Plan that includes Climate Change considerations by 2026.
11. Implement Climate Change Adaptive measures with a particular focus on the Inter Township Fire Office, Shallow Lake Arena, Derby Community Centre, and Derby Roads Shop through Asset Management Planning, developing a 10-year capital budget, a Facilities Improvement and Maintenance Plan and Fire Master Plan.
12. Implement, where possible, Low Impact Design (LID) principles on building retrofits and new builds including LID landscaping, drainage, and permeable pavement types

Cumulative emission reduction estimates for these actions are estimated to be approximately 230 tonnes CO₂e.



Focus Area 2: Corporate Fleet and Equipment

1. Undertake a Green Fleet and Equipment Strategy by end of 2024 to inform the procurement and replacement of vehicles toward at least a 25 percent reduction in fleet related GHGs by 2028. The Green Fleet and Equipment Strategy should include a comprehensive fleet and equipment inventory and identify alternative equipment and fuel sources and forecast realistic availability.
2. Complete a Corporate Asset Management Plan that includes Climate Change considerations by 2026.
3. Continue to implement best management practices in fleet management and maintenance to ensure vehicles perform at optimum levels and efficiency.
4. Implement an Anti-Idling policy for Township staff by 2025.
5. Consider the development of energy efficiency standards or the use of low carbon equipment in contracted services and operations.

Cumulative emission reduction estimates for these actions are estimated to be approximately 197 tonnes CO₂e.



Focus Area 3: Corporate Actions

1. Update the Corporate Climate Action Plan in 2028 and every 5 years thereafter with GHG and energy emissions updates included.
2. Consider how to integrate a Climate Change Lens into all decisions of Council.
3. Offer educational opportunities to inform and educate staff on Corporate Actions to address Climate Change.
4. Integrate an Introduction to Climate Change to all new staff on boarding processes.
5. Assess training and information needs for staff to ensure informed response to extreme weather events.
6. Consider development of an extreme weather policy that identifies the weather conditions that will close municipal facilities.
7. Encourage active transportation, mode shifting, ride sharing by employees and in the community.

Emission reduction estimates not applicable for these actions.





Focus Area 4: Streetlights

1. Undertake an updated review of Municipally support street lighting and perform any remaining upgrades to Dark Sky approved low energy LED lighting types by 2028.
2. Develop a street lighting standard for any new development implementing street lighting that will be managed by the Township to low energy, dark sky approved LED lighting.

Cumulative emission reduction estimates for these actions are estimated to be 1 tonnes CO₂e.



Focus Area 5: Waste

1. Undertake a Comprehensive Corporate Waste Review to include a Corporate Waste Recycling and Diversion Program in 2025.
2. Implement recommendations from the Waste Review to reduce waste generated from operations.

Cumulative emission reduction estimates for these actions are estimated to be 20 tonnes CO₂e.



Focus Area 6: Water and Sewage

1. Develop and implementation energy management plans for assets and buildings with energy targets and include reactive, preventative, and predictive maintenance to prevent common sources of energy waste in building energy.
2. Complete transition to low energy LED lighting in all buildings by 2030.
3. Review all Township facilities with a Climate Change lens through a Facilities Review to identify potential renewal, replacement and retrofit projects.
4. Complete a Corporate Asset Management Plan that includes Climate Change considerations by 2026.
5. Encourage water conservation by employees and in the community and water metering of corporate facilities.

Cumulative emission reduction estimates for these actions are estimated to be 21 tonnes CO₂e.