



**October 1, 2025**

**Connecticut Climate Action Planning – October 2025**

**NOTICE OF CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING SCOPE, MEASURES, and OCTOBER 8 MEETING  
BREAKOUT SESSION PREPARATION**

On September 19, 2025, DEEP issued a Notice of Public Meeting and Opportunity for Public Comment for a Connecticut Climate Action Planning meeting on October 8, 2025 from 12 pm to 2 pm ([Notice](#) and [Register](#)). The notice below provides a more detailed scope of the Connecticut Climate Action Planning activities to be covered in that meeting on October 8, 2025, including a list of high-level measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the state and a preview of questions that will be asked during the breakout sessions. Participants in the October 8 meeting are welcome to review the measures and questions to prepare for the breakout sessions and/or use them as a guide for public comment. Directions on signing up for public comment may be found in the meeting notice.

**CPRG Climate Action Plan**

In 2023, Connecticut was awarded \$3 million in formula funds from the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program. These funds support the development of three planning documents that will identify implementable actions and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) across the state's economic sectors.

In August 2024, DEEP finalized the CPRG [Priority Climate Action Plan](#) (PCAP) with a focused list of near-term, high-priority, implementation ready measures to reduce GHG pollution and an analysis of GHG reductions that would be achieved through implementation. This plan informed Connecticut's successful applications to the EPA CPRG Phase 2 Implementation Grant competition. In July 2024, DEEP [announced](#) the state would receive funding through two CPRG Implementation grants: 1) ~\$100M in funds to support the adoption of heat pumps for building heating and cooling and water heating through the \$450M New England Heat Pump Accelerator, that is being led by CT DEEP in partnership with NH, MA, ME, and RI; and 2) CT \$54M through the Clean Corridor Coalition to support fueling infrastructure for zero emission freight trucks. Additionally, the City of New Haven received \$9.4 million to construct a networked geothermal heat pump system for New Haven Union Station and the planned adjacent mixed-income housing development, which will consist of more than 1,000 units of housing.

In June 2025, CT DEEP formally kicked off the development of the next CPRG Climate Action Plan due to EPA by July 1, 2026. Unlike the PCAP, this comprehensive plan will focus on both near-term *and* long-term measures to meet the state's GHG emissions reduction goals to

achieve net zero by 2050. The plan will include a GHG inventory, targets, projections, measures, workforce planning analysis, authority to implement, funding strategies, and an analysis of additional benefits of implementing the actions where applicable, including reductions in harmful air pollutants, reducing energy costs, and increasing climate resilience (see Table 1 below and [slides](#) and [recording](#) of the June 13, 2025 public meeting).

*Table 1. Required elements of the CPRG Climate Action Plan due to EPA by July 1, 2026.*

CPRG Climate Action Plan Element	Description
GHG Inventory	Emissions sources and sinks from all sectors. (Using the annual GHG inventory required under CT Global Warming Solutions Act of emissions from: transportation, electric supply, residential and commercial buildings, industry, waste, and natural and working lands.)
GHG Targets	Set economywide near-term and long-term targets as well as sector targets for at least the highest emitting sectors. (Using the state's statutory emissions and zero carbon energy sector goals as amended under PA25-125 and proposing additional sector targets.)
GHG Projections	Modeling GHG emissions (and sinks, if feasible) in the absence of plan measures (a.k.a. business-as-usual) and under a scenario where the plan is fully implemented.
Quantified Reduction Measures	Measures to reduce GHG emissions to meet the GHG reduction targets. Plan will also identify strategies for each measure. (e.g. Measure: increase building energy efficiency. Strategy: provide incentives for home insulation.)
Workforce Planning Analysis	Analysis of anticipated workforce shortages that could prevent achieving the goals described and identify potential solutions and partners that are equipped to help address those challenges.
Authority to Implement	Existing statutory or regulatory authority to implement measures, or whether such authority still must be obtained.
Leveraging Federal Funding	Identify other funding programs that are available or have been secured from federal, state, local and private sources that could be leveraged.
Co-Benefits Analysis	Quantified benefits from GHG reduction measures include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• decreased energy costs from energy efficiency improvements</li> <li>• increased climate resilience</li> <li>• co-pollutant emission reductions (e.g., criteria air pollutants and air toxics)</li> <li>• improved access to services and amenities, and</li> <li>• jobs created and workforce development</li> </ul>

## **Proposed List of Measures for the Climate Action Plan**

Per EPA requirements, Connecticut has identified a list of 18 high-level measures across all seven major economic sectors to reduce GHGs in the state. DEEP and its consulting team will use these measures as the basis for modeling potential pathways to meet the state's statutory greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals for 2030, 2040, and 2050. These 18 measures will be presented at the October 8 meeting.

- **Transportation Sector**
  - Reduce vehicle miles traveled.
  - Expand vehicle electrification, electric vehicle infrastructure, and zero- and low-carbon fuels in on-road vehicles.
  - Decarbonize non-road transportation, including off-road equipment, marine, airports, and rail.
- **Commercial and Residential Buildings Sector**
  - Increase energy efficiency in existing residential and commercial buildings.
  - Increase electrification in existing residential and commercial buildings.
  - Maximize energy efficiency in new residential and commercial buildings.
  - Maximize electrification in new residential and commercial buildings.
- **Electric Power Sector**
  - Expand grid-scale clean energy resources.
  - Deploy distributed clean energy resources.
- **Industry Sector**
  - Expand carbon capture, utilization, and storage at industrial facilities.
  - Decarbonize industrial processes through energy efficiency, electrification, and low-carbon fuels.
- **Waste Sector**
  - Reduce emissions from the disposal of organic solid waste.
  - Reduce emissions from the disposal of non-organic solid waste.
  - Reduce methane emissions from public wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs).
- **Agriculture Sector**
  - Increase soil carbon sequestration and reduce emissions from agricultural soils.
  - Reduce methane emissions from enteric fermentation of organic material in the digestive tracts of farm animals and manure.
- **Natural and Working Lands Sector**
  - Increase protection, management and conservation of high-carbon coastal habitats, wetlands, grasslands, and forests.
  - Increase and manage urban tree canopy.

## **Questions for October 8 Breakout Sessions**

Participants in the October 8 meeting will be asked to select a breakout room depending on the economic sector they have the most interest in. They will then be asked questions to help DEEP identify participants' priorities for climate action, barriers to implementing climate actions, and identification and prioritization of the actions' co-benefits. Questions that will be asked during the breakout sessions discussion period include:

- Prioritization
  - What implementation actions do you believe are most critical for achieving emissions reduction in this sector?
  - Are there any additional implementation actions within this sector that DEEP should consider?
  - Are there examples of any of these actions currently underway in your neighborhood or around the state? What's going well? What isn't going well?
- Barriers
  - Are there any measures that you or your community would have reservations on? Please elaborate.
  - What partnerships could make implementation of these measures more effective?
  - What, if anything, is keeping you from taking steps in your own life to take sustainable/climate-friendly actions in this sector?
- Co-benefits
  - Which measure or action co-benefits, apart from GHG reduction, do you consider a priority? For example:
    - Lowering energy costs
    - Increasing community resilience
    - Increased environmental justice and equity
    - Economic development and job opportunities
    - Health benefits

## **Connecticut's Climate Goals and Reporting**

This year, the Connecticut General Assembly passed [Public Act 25-125](#), *An Act Concerning the Protection of the Environment and the Development of Renewable Energy Sources and Associated Job Sectors*. While the October 8 meeting will focus on the above measures and questions to inform the development of the CPRG Climate Action Plan, the feedback gathered in the meeting may also inform reporting requirements related to the state's GHG emissions reduction goals in PA 25-125 as further described below.

## Connecticut's Climate Goals

Connecticut has had statutory GHG emissions reductions targets since the passage of the Global Warming Solutions Act<sup>1</sup> in 2008, which sets targets for 2020 and 2050. In 2018, an interim target was set for 2030, and an electric sector target was added in 2022 for 2040.<sup>2</sup> Section 2 of PA 25-125 established a new economywide interim target for 2040 as well as a new net-zero target for 2050. Pursuant to CGS Sec. 22a-200a, as amended in Sec. 2 of PA 25-125, the state's current statutory GHG emissions reductions targets are as follows:

- 20% below 1990 levels by January 1, 2020
- 45% below 2001 levels by January 1, 2030
- 65% below 2001 levels as well as 0% from electricity supplied to electric customers in the state by January 1, 2040
- Net-zero, provided direct and indirect emissions of GHGs are at least 80% below 2001 levels by January 1, 2050

## Global Warming Solutions Act Reporting and Triple Impact Report

Pursuant to CGS Sec. 22a-200a as amended in Sec. 2 of PA 25-125, by January 1, 2026, and every three years thereafter, DEEP is charged with producing a report, with an opportunity for public comment, of an account of the quantifiable emissions reductions and carbon sequestration achieved in pursuit of Connecticut's GHG emissions reductions targets. This report must also include 1) a schedule of proposed regulations, policies and strategies designed to achieve the statutory GHG emissions targets, 2) an assessment of the latest scientific information on global climate change, and 3) the status of GHG emission reduction efforts in other states and countries.

A new report in Sec. 14 of PA 25-125 requires DEEP, in consultation with the Office of Consumer Counsel, to submit a report with recommended regulations, policies and strategies that can significantly lower energy costs for families and businesses, increase community resilience, and reduce GHG emissions. This report is due to the Connecticut state legislature by February 1, 2026. DEEP refers to this document as the "Triple Impact Report."

## 1990-2023 GHG Inventory Report

DEEP has already completed the GHG inventory requirement for the CPRG Climate Action Plan and the report required under the GWSA. [Released](#) on September 3, this year's inventory<sup>3</sup> shows that in 2023, the most recent year for which data is available, emissions decreased from

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<sup>1</sup> Connecticut General Assembly, "Public Act No. 08-98 AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT GLOBAL WARMING SOLUTIONS" (2008), <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/act/pa/2008pa-00098-r00hb-05600-pa.htm>

<sup>2</sup> Connecticut General Assembly, "Public Act No. 18-82 AN ACT CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE PLANNING AND RESILIENCY" (2018), <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2018/act/pa/2018PA-00082-R00SB-00007-PA.htm>

<sup>3</sup> DEEP, *1990-2023 Connecticut Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory* (2025), [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/deep/climatechange/1990-2023-ghg-inventory/deep\\_ghg\\_report\\_1990-2023-final.pdf?rev=c4562f29c0cd4dc4a43c7d67cfa83593&hash=B7E9F86289DCEFFCE0AAE1AA08637750](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/deep/climatechange/1990-2023-ghg-inventory/deep_ghg_report_1990-2023-final.pdf?rev=c4562f29c0cd4dc4a43c7d67cfa83593&hash=B7E9F86289DCEFFCE0AAE1AA08637750)

the two largest sources of climate pollution in our state: transportation and buildings. Additionally, after a significant drop in overall emissions in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, economywide emissions continued to increase for a third consecutive year but remained 9.5% below pre-pandemic levels in 2019.

Transportation emissions decreased for the first time since 2019 by 2%, despite people, on average, driving more. The decrease in emissions was most likely due to a larger share of more efficient light-duty vehicles on the road. Residential buildings sector emissions decreased by 5.6% predominantly due to the milder winter. These two sectors remain the state's top two sources of GHG emissions due to the burning of fossil fuels with transportation at 42% and residential buildings at 19% followed by commercial buildings at 12%.

During the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, Connecticut met the 20% below 1990 levels by 2020 goal. Reaching the next goal – 45% reduction in GHG emissions from 2001 levels by 2030 - requires reducing 8.9 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e) from 2023 emissions by 2030. If Connecticut were to continue to reduce its emissions at the current average pace since emissions peaked in 2004, the state would achieve a 40% reduction in emissions below 2001 levels by 2030. To meet the 45% goal, the state would need to reduce its emissions by an additional 2 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030. The October 8 meeting will include a presentation of the state's GHG emissions inventory and a model of a business-as-usual projection of emissions reductions that could be achieved under current policies and programs.

### **Survey and Public Comment**

As stated in the October 8 [public meeting notice](#), following the October 8 public meeting, DEEP will launch a survey with questions aimed at better understanding responders' priorities for strategies and implementation actions within each economic sector. DEEP highly recommends responding to the survey to better inform the development of the plan but also welcomes public comments at the close of the meeting or written comments submitted via email.

Anyone wishing to provide public comments at the meeting may sign up ahead of the meeting by emailing [deep.climatechange@ct.gov](mailto:deep.climatechange@ct.gov) by 4 pm October 6 or signing up in person or via the chat function on Zoom during the meeting. If you would like to submit written comment, please send them as an attachment to [deep.climatechange@ct.gov](mailto:deep.climatechange@ct.gov). DEEP will accept written public comments via email throughout the development of Connecticut's Climate Action Plan.

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