

2011 Climate Plan: Recommendations (with High, Medium, and Low Rankings)

	Ag/Soils	Forests	Rivers	Wetlands
Best Management Practices				
Encourage development practices that ensure water recharge (Intersections, pg. 18)	✓	H	✓	✓
Encourage sustainable water capture and storage by homeowners, municipalities, businesses, and industries, and the agriculture sector with incentive programs to supplement capture and storage infrastructure (Intersections, pg. 22)		M		
Develop water reuse guidelines for industry (Intersections, pg. 23)				
Encourage adaptation strategies, including natural habitat conservation, Low Impact Development (LID) Best Management Practices (BMPs), agriculture water BMPs and drinking water treatment standards that will ameliorate the effects of water inundation (Intersections, pg. 23)		H		
Identify and conserve ecosystem services vulnerable to climate change (Intersections, pg. 26)		H		
Encourage land management behaviors that support ecosystem services (Intersections, pg. 26)		H		
Minimize water use across all agricultural sectors (Agriculture, pg. 35)				
Develop decision tools to evaluate replacement, modification, and design life for infrastructure (Infrastructure, pg. 49)		M		
Apply adaptive management procedures (Natural Resources, pg. 57)		H		
Increase active management of upland forests and reduce non-climatic stressors (Natural Resources, pg. 57)		U		
Consider the public health needs of vulnerable populations in climate change adaptation planning (Public Health, pg. 64)		U		
Evaluate ozone non-attainment alert systems (Public Health, pg. 65)				
Evaluate current early extreme weather events warning system and emergency response plans (Public Health, pg. 65)				
Continue to develop and update all municipal emergency preparedness plans for extreme weather events (Public Health, pg. 65)		U		
Develop cooling station best management practices (Public Health, pg. 66)				

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Develop criteria for school closings and outdoor play during extreme heat events (Public Health, pg. 66)				
Additional Recommendations?				
Research, Monitoring, & Education				
Assess current and future needs for potable water uses and to plan for infrastructure improvements to the public water system (Intersections, pg. 14)		M		
Assess future needs for non-potable water uses (Intersections, pg. 15)				
Assess future flooding risks to natural and built infrastructure, including agricultural operations and public health and safety (Intersections, pg. 15)		M		
Analyze the competing demands on Connecticut water quantity and quality statewide in a consistent and comprehensive manner and develop new approaches to ensure public health, agricultural sustainability, ecosystem health, while supporting multiple and conflicting needs (Intersections, pg. 21)		M		
Target water conservation education towards specific consumer groups (Intersections, pg. 22)				
Assess the impact of climate change on wastewater treatment facilities, and encourage the development of facility-specific adaptation plans (Intersections, pg. 24)				
Develop Connecticut- specific climate change projections for temperature, precipitation and sea level rise and support monitoring efforts for these climate drivers (Intersections, pg. 24)		H		
Develop educational campaigns for climate change adaptation awareness in Connecticut targeted at multiple sectors (Intersections, pg. 25)		H		
Identify champions for each adaptation strategy (Intersections, pg. 25)		H		
Identify research needs and disseminate current climate change adaptation research and technical resources to the appropriate stakeholders, and encourage future efforts through state grants (Intersections, pg. 25)		M		
Identify and collaborate with educational partners (Intersections, pg. 25)		M		
Include students (future stakeholders) in climate change programs (Intersections, pg. 26)		H		

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Determine the critical public buildings, including public health facilities, schools and cultural/historic buildings that will be impacted by coastal and inland flooding, and recommend appropriate adaptation strategies that will not adversely impact natural resources (Intersections, pg. 27)		U		
Examine new opportunities for building usage considering projections for climate change (Intersections, pg. 27)				
Determine vulnerable transportation routes and transportation options that may adversely impact natural resources and human mobility needs under future climate change projections (Intersections, pg. 28)		M		
Provide for increased research, technology transfer and technical assistance to develop and disseminate adaptation strategies to producers and agriculture service providers (Agriculture, pg. 37)		U		
Engage and educate private landowners to manage their lands to minimize risk from climate change (Infrastructure, pg. 49)		H		
Conduct research to understand effects of potential adaptation approaches and develop new, innovative approaches to support adaptive management (Infrastructure, pg. 49)		H		
Advance regional research and modeling to guide conservation efforts (Natural Resources, pg. 59)		M		
Build public consensus for adaptation strategies through education and outreach (Natural Resources, pg. 59)		M		
Partner with educational institutions or organizations that conduct research (Natural Resources, pg. 59)		M		
Perform a comprehensive modeling assessment of the extent of inland migration of tidal marshes essential for directing adaptation actions (Natural Resources, pg. 59)				
Educate other sectors of state government about public health climate change impacts and adaption (Public Health, pg. 68)		M/H		
Educate local health department staff on climate change impacts (Public Health, pg. 68)		L		

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Develop educational materials concerning poor air quality (Public Health, pg. 68)		L		
Continue to monitor health ailments caused by ozone non-attainment levels (Public Health, pg. 68)				
Assist local health departments with climate change adaptation (Public Health, pg. 68)				
Incorporate climate change preparedness strategies into public health education (Public Health, pg. 69)				
Develop a database of morbidity and mortality caused by climate change (Public Health, pg. 69)				
Intensify vector associated disease monitoring (Public Health, pg. 69)		L		
Increase airborne pollen monitoring (Public Health, pg. 69)		L		
Additional Recommendations?				
Policy, Legislation, Regulation and Funding				
Broaden water use planning to include climate change projections (Intersections, pg. 14)		L		
Adopt a water hierarchy that includes water conservation, capture and storage and water reuse, similar to the well known solid waste management 'reduce, reuse and recycle' hierarchy (Intersections, pg. 14)		M		
Target headwaters for protection throughout the state (Intersections, pg. 17)		H		
Implement rate structures to accommodate long term system improvements and encourage conservation (Intersections, pg. 21)				
Examine opportunities for water conservation strategies within the building code, in appliance standards and in regulatory decisions (Intersections, pg. 21)				
Continue to support regional cooperation on climate change adaptation through involvement in regional planning activities (Intersections, pg. 28)		M		
Proceeds from RGGI auctions should support climate change adaptation work identified in this report and in accordance with Section 22a-200c(c). (Intersections, pg. 28)		H		
Adopt policies that encourage a viable, local agriculture market (Agriculture, pg. 38)		M		

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Provide public funds needed to assist with agriculture infrastructure improvements (Agriculture, pg. 38)		U		
Provide support for agriculture climate change adaptation education and research (Agriculture, pg. 38)		M		
Minimize combined sewer overflows (Agriculture, pg. 40)		U		
Protect critical soil landscapes (Agriculture, pg. 40)		H		
Implement new or modified policies that would encourage appropriate land use and reduce repetitive losses (Infrastructure, pg. 49)		H		
Reevaluate Connecticut's Green Plan and open space grant programs to prioritize acquisition of land and conservation easements for habitats most at risk from climate change (Natural Resources, pg. 60)		H		
Acquire land and conservation easements to provide upslope —advancement zones adjacent to tidal marshes (Natural Resources, pg. 60)				
Acquire land and conservation easements in riparian areas adjacent to coldwater streams (Natural Resources, pg. 60)		H		
Collaborate among state agencies, municipalities and non-profits within Connecticut to implement regulations and policies that promote and facilitate the conservation of habitats and species most at risk from climate change (Natural Resources, pg. 60)		H		
Collaborate with other states and federal agencies to develop a coordinated regional adaptation plan (Natural Resources, pg. 61)		M		
Further regulate the introduction and spread of invasive species (Natural Resources, pg. 61)		H		
Apply climate change projections to future stream flow regulations (Natural Resources, pg. 61)		L		
Develop legislation to allow regulatory agencies to respond to extreme heat conditions in occupational settings (Public Health, pg. 71)				
Continue to support funding to provide for adequate updates to municipal sewage infrastructure (Public Health, pg. 72)				
Support funding to provide for adequate updates to municipal water infrastructure (Public Health, pg. 72)		M		

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