



TOWN OF AMHERST

## AMHERST DESIGNATED CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY



The Town of Amherst has been designated as a Certified Climate Smart Community by New York State, announced Amherst Councilmember Jacqueline G. Berger, who serves as Chair of the town’s Climate Smart Communities Task Force. The Town of Amherst achieved Bronze Certification by being a leader in local climate action. Local governments that are designated as Certified CSCs have undergone a rigorous review process to confirm their completion of a suite of concrete actions that mitigate and adapt to climate change.

During a presentation held on Earth Day, April 22, 2025, the Town officially recognized the designated.

“The Town of Amherst is taking action to significantly benefit our community. We have reduced energy costs, supported clean energy, promoted responsible climate-smart materials management, and supported Tree and Natural Resources inventories. These are just a few examples of improvements we have made that improve our climate not only for today, but for future generations,” said Councilmember Berger.

By implementing certification actions, communities experience the following benefits:

- Cost savings through greater efficiency
- Greater energy independence and energy security
- Improved air quality from switching to clean energy
- Healthier, more walkable urban centers through smart growth
- Conservation of green spaces for recreation and biodiversity

- Reduction of future flood risk through climate change adaptation strategies
- Investment in an economy that supports sustainability and green businesses
- Greater engagement with residents who care about the future of their hometowns

Amherst's actions included installing and promoting the use of clean energy, such as solar panels, LED street lights, and EV chargers. The town also completed Government Building Energy Audits and improved the Residential Organic Waste Program. Amherst was certified on September 10, 2024 with 155 points earned from 20 completed actions. The certification for Amherst will expire on September 30, 2029.

For more information, visit <https://climatesmart.ny.gov>.