

Committee Report

То:	Warden Matrosovs and Members of Grey County Council
Committee Date:	July 24, 2025
Subject / Report No:	CAOR-CW-22-25
Title:	Climate Change Initiatives Update July 2025
Prepared by:	Linda Scott Swanston, Climate Change Initiatives Manager and Megan Myles, Climate Change Coordinator
Reviewed by:	Randy Scherzer, CAO
Lower Tier(s) Affected:	

Recommendation

1. That Report CAOR-CW-22-25 Climate Change Initiatives Update be received for information.

Executive Summary

This report provides Council with an annual update on the implementation of *Going Green in Grey*. It outlines key initiatives led by Grey County staff between July 2024 and June 2025, highlighting progress made towards the County's sustainability goals. This report includes a summary of priority actions, supported by relevant data and outcomes from individual projects. A shorter, designed summary snapshot is attached, which will be printed and shared with member municipalities, community partners, and the public as well as shared digitally through the County's website and social media channels. We have taken a 'digital first' approach to the annual report, creating a shorter summary document to drive readers to the *Going Green in Grey* webpage with more detailed and layered information that can be easily updated and remain evergreen.

Background and Discussion

In response to our changing climate, Grey County adopted *Going Green in Grey,* the County's Climate Change Action Plan, in April 2022. As part of the County's ongoing monitoring, staff provide an annual report of progress.

This year, staff adopted a digital first approach to this reporting – a concise, infographic style printed summary document (see Attachment 1 CAOR-CW-22-25 - Going Green in Grey Annual Snapshot 2025), supplemented by more detailed information and links within this report and on the County's website (grey.ca/climate-progress). This approach is more inclusive and accessible to a broader audience as web-based content is more searchable and mobile friendly

than a PDF, and thus, easier for readers to focus on the sections of interest to them. It also provides a more interactive experience through embedded videos and dropdown features. Lastly, a shorter printed document is more sustainable – using less paper, ink and saving printing costs. The printed summary, on FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified paper, aims to engage readers' interest and direct them to the website for more information.

The County's climate plan focuses on actions to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change on our community, however implementing these actions offers extensive social and economic co-benefits. For example, increased affordability through investments in energy efficiency that reduce operating costs and utility bills for residents, businesses, and municipalities. These actions also help protect public health and safety, as well as stimulate the local green economy. Further, implementing these actions help support long-term fiscal responsibility and community well-being and resilience.

As a community plan, *Going Green in Grey* relies on working with other County departments, other levels of government, neighbouring counties, educational and healthcare institutions, community organizations, businesses, and residents. This annual report showcases the collaborative work of over 40 community partners who have contributed to our achievements in the past year. Given the extent of community involvement, it is especially important to share and celebrate our collective success. This report aims to demonstrate leadership and increase awareness of current initiatives and priority actions, so we can continue to leverage strategic partnerships and collaborations to maximize the County's return on investment.

Grey County Highlights

County staff across the entire corporation are pleased to highlight the following achievements:

- Successfully securing nearly \$12.9 million in external funding, including:
 - o \$9.5 million over 5 years to develop a <u>unified regional transit network</u>.
 - \$91,500 in grant funding to make County buildings more energy efficient.
 - o \$445,600 over 3 years towards the <u>Future Ready Development program</u>.
 - \$100,000 towards the installation of 20 electric vehicle fleet chargers to support transition of Grey County's fleet.
 - \$2.5 million of Provincial funding for public electric vehicle (EV) fast chargers across the regional Rural ReCharge fast charging network, including \$600,000 for Grey County.
 - \$105,000 from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' <u>Local Leadership for</u> <u>Climate Adaptation program.</u>
 - \$27,000 in free technical expertise through the <u>Climate Ready Infrastructure</u> <u>Service Program</u> to help make new builds more climate resilient.
 - \$120,000 in grant funding to support Grey County home retrofit study to understand opportunities and local residential building archetypes.
- Provided funding and support to local farms to help improve soil health, capture
 more carbon and increase resilience through <u>Experimental Acres</u> in collaboration with
 <u>Grey Agricultural Services</u>.
 - o In 2024, 7 projects supported, directly impacting 114 acres.
 - o In 2025, 6 projects supported, directly impacting 265 acres.

- Since 2023, this program has supported 19 farms, directly impacting over 440 acres of farmland.
- Launched <u>Resilient Grey</u>, the County's climate change adaptation planning process and successfully executed an extensive public engagement, resulting in over 585 engagement touchpoints and increased public awareness of local climate risks.
- **Developed draft Future Ready Development program** in consultation with municipal planners, the development industry, and the public.
- Empowered over 130 local youth by supporting a community-driven <u>Youth Climate</u>
 <u>Action Conference</u> as well as 20 youth-led projects through the <u>Town of the Blue</u>
 <u>Mountains Youth Climate Action Fund.</u>
- Engaged County staff from 10 departments in workplace sustainability challenge.
- Hosted 4 work bees with 40+ volunteers to continue naturalization at the County Administration Building in collaboration with <u>NeighbourWoods North</u>.
- Continue to host regular Communities of Practice meetings to collaborate with municipal staff and 10+ public sector organizations.

Municipal Highlights

Grey County continues to collaborate with member municipalities to advance shared sustainability goals. The County convenes regular meetings with municipal staff – one group related to climate initiatives and another related to waste management.

This year, County staff developed and circulated a short survey to municipal CAOs to collect information about current municipal climate initiatives to showcase in this annual report. The following initiatives represent some exciting highlights from the important work that local municipalities are doing to advance community sustainability and resilience.

Nature-Based Solutions & Agriculture

- The City of Owen Sound planted 150 trees in 2024, including collaborating with NeighbourWoods North to plant trees at the Kiwanis Soccer Complex and continued to promote the Boulevard Tree Planting Program.
- The Blue Mountains completed a <u>natural asset inventory and natural heritage study</u> and will hire a new Urban Forestry Coordinator to support implementation in 2025.
- Township of Georgian Bluffs has updated lawn maintenance practices to reduce carbon pollution and increase biodiversity.

Waste

- The City of Owen Sound launched Green Bin program in June 2025.
- Municipality of West Grey continues to distribute composters and rain barrels to residents on a cost-recovery basis.
- Town of Hanover and Township of Georgian Bluffs continued roll out of Food Cyclers with over 400 distributed across the two municipalities.

Transportation

Fleet Electrification

- Township of Georgian Bluffs co-developed a <u>Fleet Electrification Planning Tool</u> with Georgian Bluffs Climate Action Team and now preparing this for national roll out with support of Federation of Canadian Municipalities.
- 6 municipalities have at least one EV or hybrid fleet vehicle in their fleet.

Fast EV Chargers

- Town of Hanover has entered a private partnership agreement to install two fast EV chargers at no cost to residents.
- Township of Georgian Bluffs is installing three new fast EV chargers; one will include a solar canopy installed to offset grid electricity, expected to generate enough power annually for 200+ charges.

Active Transportation

Municipality of Grey Highlands has directed staff to consider their <u>Sidewalk Connectivity</u>
 Plan in all future capital projects.

Buildings & Development

Municipal Building Retrofits for Improved Energy Efficiency

- The City of Owen Sound has replaced aging HVAC equipment at multiple facilities, upgraded building automation systems at two facilities, and is completing energy efficiency upgrades at the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre.
- Municipality of Grey Highlands has completed Building Condition Assessments to help plan retrofits and replaced an oil HVAC system with a heat pump.
- Township of Georgian Bluffs has replaced baseboard heaters at the Fire Hall with heat pump technology.

Net-Zero & Climate Ready New Construction

- Town of Hanover completed construction of its <u>net-zero fire hall</u> featuring solar power and high efficiency equipment to produce as much energy as it uses.
- Town of The Blue Mountains has committed to a new net-zero Fire Hall building.
- Township of Southgate is incorporating energy efficiency and climate readiness into design and construction of the new administrative building and all other new builds with support of the <u>Climate Ready Infrastructure Service</u>.
- Town of The Blue Mountains is exploring feasibility of floating solar panels at Thornbury Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Climate Adaptation

- Township of Georgian Bluffs approved two permeable pavement parking lots to provide more resilience to heavy rainfall.
- Municipality of Grey Highlands has approved an Asset Management Coordinator position, which will help make infrastructure more sustainable and adaptable to climate change.

Outreach & Engagement

- Through the <u>Youth Climate Action Fund</u>, the Town of The Blue Mountains has funded 20 youth-led projects across Saugeen Ojibway Nation territory, with over \$44,000 distributed in Round 1 and more than \$73,000 awarded in Round 2.
- Town of The Blue Mountains hosted 2nd annual <u>Sustainability Summit</u> with 100+ attendees and continues to support the <u>Green Economy Hub pilot</u>.

Next Steps

The Climate Initiatives team continues to focus on implementing priorities identified in *Going Green in Grey* and by Council. Major projects include completing the County's climate adaptation plan, advancing the Future Ready Development Program, and identifying data-driven opportunities for County investments to support long-term fiscal responsibility and sustainability.

County staff will continue to seek and leverage external funding opportunities to maximize the impact of County investments. County staff will also continue to build strategic partnerships as well as broader capacity to implement specific actions. For example, the municipal Communities of Practice will continue to explore opportunities for collaboration. Further, staff will continue to routinely evaluate these partnerships as mechanism to achieve shared goals.

Financial and Resource Implications

None.

Relevant Consultation

- ☐ Internal: Planning, Economic Development, Transportation, Community Services, Communications

 - Contribution to Climate Change Action Plan Targets This report highlights Grey County and municipal initiatives that contribute to achieving the actions identified in the County's Climate Change Action Plan.

Appendices and Attachments

- Appendix A CAOR-CW-22-25 Going Green in Grey Implementation Table
- Attachment 1 CAOR-CW-22-25 Going Green in Grey Annual Snapshot 2025

Appendix A – Going Green in Grey Implementation Table

Corporate Actions

The *Going Green in Grey* action plan identifies a corporate target of a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas pollution by 2030, and net-zero by 2045, relative to 2018 levels.

Action	Partners	Progress
1. Develop Energy Efficient New Buildings	Enbridge, IESO	 Designing and building new net-zero ready facilities, including the Rockwood Terrace LTCH and Durham Paramedic Base. Received \$11,500 in financial incentives to help offset costs of sustainable design expertise (Rowe Lane Affordable Housing, Durham Paramedic Base)
2. Retrofit Existing Buildings	Enbridge, IESO	 Secured \$80,000 in grant funding to make existing Grey County buildings more energy efficient, including: Various energy efficiency upgrades at Sydenham Campus (\$18,800 received) Replacing boilers at Grey Gables (\$10,000 received) Completed a commercial decarbonization assessment at Lee Manor Completed energy audit and training at the Administration Building, Parkway Apartments, The Pines (\$17,700 received) Participating in IESO's Strategic Energy Management program to realize energy savings in our five largest facilities.
3. Develop a Net-Zero Residential Demonstration Building		No recent progress. Reconsidering this action.
4. Install Renewable Energy	IESO	Exploring options and feasibility for installing solar panels at Sydenham Campus

		Building new paramedic bases to solar ready standards
5. Convert Outdoor Lighting to LEDs	IESO (SaveON Energy Program)	Accessed \$2,158 of incentives for lighting upgrades at the Ayton Transportation Depot
6. Reduce Single Passenger Commuting	Grey County Green Team, Human Resources	 Conducted a staff commuter survey in fall 2024 to better understand barriers and opportunities. Included a commuter challenge in staff Earth Month challenge
7. Improve Fleet Operations	Grey County Transportation Department	Transitioning to a new vehicle GPS and telematics provider which will provide more insight into how vehicles are being used and whether they are the correct vehicles for the task, resulting in increased efficiencies.
8. Transition to Zero Emission Fleet Vehicles	Grey County Transportation Department	 Secured \$100,000 of federal funding to install 20 electric vehicle fleet chargers at County facilities. This will allow the County to begin testing electric vehicles (EVs), with two half ton EV trucks to be purchased summer 2025. 6 municipalities have at least one EV or hybrid vehicle in their fleet
9. Implement a Corporate Waste Reduction Program	Grey County Community Services Department	Continue to collaborate with the Maintenance team to educate staff on waste diversion: Continued use of Food Cyclers at multiple facilities Purchased reusable dishes to reduce use of single-use items Purchased composter to dispose of larger volumes of organic waste
10. Collaborate on Wastewater Efficiency	Municipalities	No initiatives currently underway.
11. Develop a Municipal Climate Lens	All Grey County departments	Secured \$105,000 in external funding to integrate climate adaptation across County work plans.

12. Retain Climate Change Initiatives Manager	CAO's Office	Completed this action in August 2021.
13. Promote a Culture of Conservation	All Grey County departments	 Continue to convene the Grey County Green Team consisting of staff representatives from 4 departments. Engaged County staff from 10 departments in workplace sustainability challenge.

Community Actions

The *Going Green in Grey* action plan identifies 21 community actions to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution by 30% by 2030 and reach net-zero by 2050, relative to 2018 levels. Nine priority community actions (marked with an *) represent 79% of this reduction.

Action / Target	Partners	Progress
1. Afforest and Protect Habitat and Biodiversity*	Grey County Planning and Transportation Services Departments, Conservation Authorities, ALUS, Neighbourwoods North	 Collaborated with NeighbourWoods North on 4 work bees with 40+ volunteers to continue naturalization at the Administration Building Promoting the Living Snow Fence Program and planning 2026 plantings Updating the Grey County Forest Management Bylaw. Local Conservation Authorities and ALUS Grey Bruce continue providing tree planting services and stewardship grants to landowners.
2. Conserve and Protect Wetlands	Planning Department, ALUS	 Delineating and evaluating impacts to wetlands in proposed development areas to identify site-specific loss and appropriate mitigation measures Developing an <u>Ecological Replacement and Enhancement Policy</u>

3. Build Capacity in Sustainable Agriculture Best Practices*	Grey Agricultural Services	 Providing funding and support to local farms through <u>Experimental Acres</u> to encourage soil health, capture more carbon and increase resilience. Through collaboration with <u>Grey Agricultural Services</u>, this program has supported 2024: 7 projects, directly impacting 114 acres 2025: 6 projects, directly impacting 265 acres
4. Promote Local Food	Grey County Economic Development	 Showcasing and promoting local food and local producers through the multi-year [gath-er] initiative. Continue to feature local producers and markets through the Grey County Sustainability Asset Map.
5. Collaborate with Municipalities to Support Waste Diversion*	Municipalities	 Grey County continues to host regular Community of Practice meetings with municipal staff to share waste management knowledge and explore opportunities for collaboration. Currently 4 municipalities have organics/green bin collection
6. Support Re-Use/Re- Build It Centres and Programs	Municipalities, community groups	 6 municipalities have a re-use center or similar initiatives. 5 municipalities host community repair cafes where volunteers repair broken items, diverting them from landfills.
7. Accelerate Zero- Emission Vehicle Adoption*	Bruce, Wellington, Dufferin, Huron, and Perth Counties, Community Energy Association, Ivy Network	Continued participation in the Rural Recharge Regional EV Fast Charging Network Secured \$600,000 in provincial funding for 3 EV fast charging locations in Grey County, in total, \$2.5 million in funding across the region to unlock private investment and a network of 12 EV fast chargers in 2025/26 at no cost to residents.
8. Promote Active Transportation	Grey County Transportation &	Updating County policies using best practices and public input to implement paved shoulders in the most effective areas for safer cycling.

	Planning Departments	Promoting safe cycling routes through signage, an updated cycling map, and a multi-media Share the Road campaign.
9. Expand Rural Bus, Rideshare and On- Demand Transit Programs	Bruce & Dufferin Counties, Saugeen Mobility and Rural Transit (SMART)	 Leveraging up to \$9.5 million in funding to develop a collaborative, regional transit network Supporting transit-ready neighbourhoods in Future Ready Development Program
10. Promote Compact, Mixed-Use Development in Designated Settlement Areas *	Grey County Planning Department, municipalities	 Grey County's Official Plan promotes compact, mixed use development, particularly through the following policies: Support for complete communities (s.1.4.1(8)) and complete streets (Section 8.2) Density target of 25 units/net hectare in primary settlement areas and intensification policies (s. 3.4.1)
11. Develop a Green Standard for New Buildings*	Dufferin and Wellington Counties, municipalities, development industry	Presented a draft <u>Future Ready Development Program</u> to Council with a focus on recognition for high-performance new development, based on consultation with municipal staff, developers, and the public. This project is in collaboration with Dufferin and Wellington Counties and leverages \$445,600 in federal funding.
12. Develop a Residential Building Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program*	Ontario Home Renovation Savings program	 Continued education and awareness on existing programs by developing <u>Home Retrofit webpage</u> and distributing educational postcards. Completed Grey County home retrofit study, with \$120,000 grant funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, to understand opportunities and local residential building archetypes.
13. Commercial/ Industrial Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program	IESO (Save On Energy)	Facilitate knowledge sharing on energy management with other public sector organizations through Public Sector Sustainability Community of Practice

14. Support Renewable and Emerging Energy Technology	Grey County Planning and Economic Development	 Promote federal and provincial incentive programs (i.e., Ontario Home Renovation Savings program) Planning Department continues to monitor the IESO procurement process and related matters, as IESO work towards additional proposal intakes to increase renewable energy supply. Three agrivoltaics projects (70 - 110 MW in total), proposed by private proponents in Grey County, subject to IESO contract award and applicable municipal and provincial approvals.
15. Promote Biogas Capture and Conversion		 No current County-driven initiatives underway to advance this action. Privately bioenergy project proposed by <u>Southgate Renewables</u> in Eco-Park in Dundalk, expected to open in late 2026
16. Develop a Climate Adaptation Plan*	Climate Adaptation Working Group (Multiple County departments and 20+ organizations), ICLEI Canada	 Launched the Resilient Grey community climate adaptation planning process. Hosted three multi-sectorial working group sessions with 20+ participating organizations. Comprehensive public engagement process with 18 community events resulting in 585 engagement touch points, including 145 survey responses. The digital reach of the engagement process was over 15,000 views (including website, social media, newsletter, Spotify ad, mass SMS).
17. Reduce the Risk of Flooding	Grey County Planning Department, municipalities,	 County, municipal and Conversation Authority staff continue to collaborate to align hazard mapping with County and municipal mapping. Updated Grey County technical guidance for development submissions for better stormwater management, erosion control and environmental impact studies.

18. Prevent Shoreline Erosion	conservation authorities	 Conservation authorities require site-specific analysis for flood-prone and erosion prone areas. The Sustainability Project has secured funding to restore natural shorelines on 5 properties in 2025, part of The Natural Edge program.
19. Establish a Climate Action Engagement Program*	Grey Communications, community organizations, school boards, Learning for a Sustainable Future	 Connected with residents at 38 community events, sharing information on current climate action initiatives and opportunities Grew our bi-monthly newsletter by 58% to over 500 subscribers Co-hosted the third Youth Climate Action Conference with The Sustainability Project, Learning for a Sustainable Future, local school boards and 20+ other local organizations. More than doubled attendance with 130 elementary students and 30 educators from 27 local schools in 2024. Over \$40,000 in external funding secured annually in 2024 and 2025 to support the event and youth-led projects. Co-developed a local toolkit and network of local educators and community mentors. Developed "Going Green in Grey Stories" to share success stories from across the County, to launch in Summer 2025
20. Promote Sustainable Tourism Programs and Incentives to Operators	Grey County Planning and Economic Development, RTO7 Sustainable Tourism Working Group	 County Planning and Economic Development staff continue to convene the multi-sectorial Outdoor Management Group to support sustainable management of protected areas and attractions. Continue to participate in RTO7 Sustainable Tourism Working Group, which aims to support tourism stakeholders in sustainability
21. Establish a Climate Action Advisory Group		Reconsidering separate Advisory Group and continue to leverage existing groups and networks to connect with specific audiences and organizations.

Climate Change Initiatives Snapshot 2025

Putting Our Bold Plan into Action

Going Green in Grey is Grey County's bold plan to cut carbon pollution and create a more prosperous, sustainable, and resilient community for all. This report provides a snapshot of progress so far, highlighting successes and initiatives by Grey County, municipalities, and community partners.

The plan and this report are organized into themes and actions. We've captured a few highlights for each from the past year.

For more details, visit grey.ca/climate-action





Leading By Example
Grey County's Corporate Actions

\$91,500

in grants to make Grey County buildings more energy efficient

Net-zero ready

new builds including Rockwood Terrace Long Term Care Home and Durham Paramedic Base

10 departments

engaged in staff sustainability challenge

\$100,000

in federal funding to install 20 EV fleet chargers, allowing us to test our first 2 fleet EVs in 2025

4 work bees

with NeighbourWoods North and 40+ volunteers to plant trees and native plants

Regular meetings with municipalities and

10+ organizations





Waste

Regular meetings with municipal staff to share knowledge and collaborate.



▶ Supporting farms to build soil health, capture more carbon and increase resilience through the Experimental Acres program.

Since 2023, the program has supported 19 projects impacting over 440 acres

> 61 acres 2023

114 265 acres 2024

acres 2025

Nature-Based Solutions & Agriculture

Showcasing local food and producers through the [gath-er] initiative.

▶ Promoting Living Snow Fence program and planning 2026 projects.

► Developing an Ecological Replacement and **Enhancement Policy** and updating the Forest Management Bylaw.

- 4 municipalities have organics/green bin collection.
- ▶ 6 municipalities have re-use centres or initiatives
- 4 community repair centres where volunteers fix broken items, diverting from landfill.

Transportation

Zero-Emission Vehicles

► Through the Rural Recharge Regional EV Fast Charging Network, secured \$600,000 in provincial funding for 3 EV fast chargers in Grey County. In total, secured \$2.5 million in funding across the region to unlock private investment and a network of 12 EV fast chargers in 2025/26 at no cost to residents.



▶ 6 municipalities with 1+ EV or hybrid fleet vehicles

Active Transportation & Rural Transit

- ▶ Leveraging \$9.5 million in government funding and data to develop a regional transit network.
- ▶ Updating County policies to implement paved shoulders in the most effective areas for safer cycling based on best practices and public input.
- ► Safer cycling routes through signage, an updated map, and a multi-media Share the Road campaign.



Climate Adaptation

- ► Launched Resilient Grey, the County's climate adaptation planning process
- 3 working group sessions, 20+ participating organizations
- · Comprehensive public consultation with 18 community events resulting in 585 interactions
- Updated guidance for planning applications for better stormwater management, erosion control and environmental impact studies.
- ▶ Continued collaboration with conservation authorities to align mapping and site-specific analysis to protect flood and erosion prone areas.

Outreach & Engagement

▶ 58% growth in newsletter following to over 500 subscribers

- ▶ 38 community events to connect with residents
- ▶ Co-hosted the 3rd Youth Climate Action Conference with The Sustainability Project, school boards and 20+ organizations.
- 130 students
- 30 educators
- 27 local schools
- . Over \$40,000 in local donations





- ▶ Presented draft Future Ready Development Program to Grey County Council, based on consultation with municipal staff, industry, and the public.
- \$445,600 federal funding over 3 years to Grey, Dufferin and Wellington

Buildings & Development ▶ Promoting current home retrofit programs and opportunities to residents

Township of Georgian Bluffs

- ➤ 3 new fast EV chargers, including one with a future solar canopy to offset grid electricity, expected to generate enough power for 200+ charges annually
- 2 permeable pavement parking lots to provide more resilience to heavy rain
- Updated lawn maintenance practices to reduce fossil fuels and increase biodiversity
- ➤ New green fleet tool developed with Georgian Bluffs Climate Action Team, anticipating for national roll out with Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Nuclear Innovation Institute
- Continued roll out of Food Cyclers with more than 300 in use

Township of Chatsworth

 Through the Experimental Acres program, a local flower farm will be using pastured poultry to increase soil fertility



Town of Hanover

- New net-zero fire hall with solar power and high efficiency equipment to produce as much energy as it uses
- 2 new fast EV chargers through a private partnership agreement

City of Owen Sound

- Launched Green Bin program in 2025
- ▶ Planted 150 trees in 2024, including a planting at the Kiwanis Soccer Complex, and continued the Boulevard Tree Planting Program

Georgian Bluffs

Chatsworth

👣 Hanover

West Grey

- Upgraded building automation systems at two facilities
- Completing energy retrofits and replacing ice surface at the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre
- Considering expanding EV use in new fleet management strategy

THE REAL PROPERTY.

Municipality of Meaford

- ▶ Through Experimental Acres program, local farms are:
- Trying new grazing sources to better support cattle in hot, dry summer months
- Creating apple guilds, a method to reduce disease and produce higher yield

Town of The Blue Mountains

- Completed a natural asset inventory and natural heritage study, with a new Urban Forestry Coordinator role to support implementation starting in 2025
- Supported 20 Youth Climate Action Fund projects
- Over \$45,000 distributed in Round 1 and \$73,000 distributed in Round 2
- 2nd annual Sustainability Summit with 100+ attendees
- Exploring feasibility of floating solar panels at Thornbury Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Committed to a new net-zero fire hall



Municipality of West Grey

- Distributing composters and rain barrels to residents on a cost-recovery basis
- Through Experimental Acres program, local farms are:
- Trying late-summer hay to maintain living roots and increase soil health
- Overseeding turnip to extend fall grazing



Township of Southgate

- Energy efficiency and climate resilience incorporated into new administrative building
- New hybrid vehicle for the building department

Municipality of Grey Highlands

- Assessed buildings to help plan retrofits and replaced oil HVAC with a heat pump
- Approved Asset Management position to help make infrastructure more sustainable and resilient
- Aligning all capital projects with Sidewalk Connectivity Plan, including Lorne Street extension

Celebrating Success

across Grey County

