Washington Grove Sustainability Committee

2026 Climate Action Plan

I. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigation Path

A. Update Plan, Data, & Set Goals

1. Set plan framework
   - *a) Review other climate action plans*
2. Set Goals & Measure Emissions Progress

   a) *Set short- and medium-term quantitative goals and timelines for CO2 reduction in following* sectors:
   - (1) Heating/cooling
   - (2) Power
   - (3) Transportation
   - (4) Waste
   - (5) Sequestration

   b) Update inventory spreadsheet
   - (1) Update heating, cooling and power information
   - (2) Survey transportation usage
   - (3) Secondary household appliance usages

B. Choose Actions and Develop Plans for GHG Reduction

1. Municipal (Town) Actions
   - *a) Plan for energy retrofits for Town buildings*
   - *b) Assess and adapt pilot incentive program*
   - *c) Explore alternatives to town-wide leaf collection*
   - *d) Explore food waste collection alternatives*
   - *e) Develop the community garden*
   - *f) Investigate locations for municipal solar arrays*
   - *g) Explore forest bank and field sequestration options*
   - *h) Explore energy regulations for new construction*
   - *i) Explore options for electrification of landscape equipment*

2. Residential (private) Actions
   - *a) Increase % converting to renewable electricity*
   - *b) Encourage energy audits, weatherization, and retrofits of residences*
   - *c) Promote conversion of residences from fossil fuels to electricity*
   - *d) Encourage purchase of EVs*
   - *e) Develop guidelines for best landscaping practices:*
     - (1) Composting yard and food waste
     - (2) Reduction of gas-powered homeowner yard equipment

(3) Stormwater management and rainscapes
(4) Tree planting on private land
(5) Native/indigenous plantings

f) Encourage converting porchlights to warm LED/timer/motion

g) Make list of houses that could use rooftop solar to encourage adoption

II. Communication and Education Actions

A. WG Community Education

1. Use established communication vehicles

a) Website: continue enhancement of site including Kids Corner and other new features

b) Bulletin: continue monthly articles: relevant to residents, timely

c) Listserv: continue regular posting of tips, etc. Solicit responses from residents

d) Annual presentation to Town

2. Establish new communications vehicles and activities

a) Speaker series: (need topics)

b) Establish subcommittee of residents to promote family-oriented climate actions

c) Town events: Activities for Earth Day

d) Commend/award people's adopting actions

III. Ongoing Coordination

A. Town Committees to tap relevant expertise and plan joint activities

1. Woods, Forestry and Beautification, Lake, Meadow

2. HPC, Streetlighting

3. Emergency Preparation

B. Montgomery County & Other Nearby Communities

1. MoCo Climate Action

2. Gaithersburg, Poolesville, Rockville, Amity

3. Montgomery Green

4. Montgomery County Food Council

C. Statewide organizations

1. MEA, MDE Climate Change Programs

2. Maryland Coalition of Cities and Counties for Climate Action (MC4A)

3. Maryland Municipal League