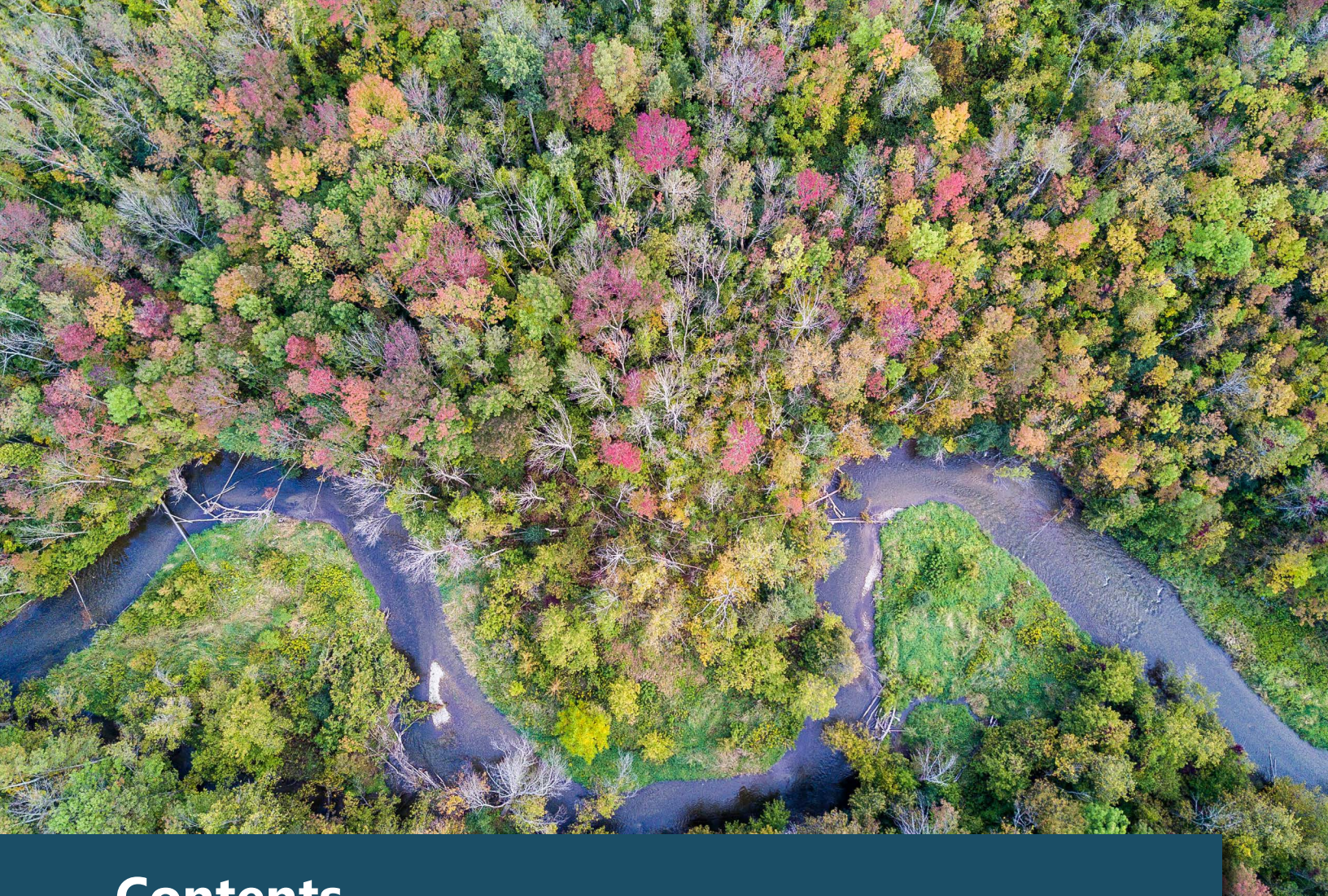




Climate Action in Dufferin

2024 Report Card



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Introduction

The climate crisis requires urgent action. The social, cultural, environmental, and economic well-being of current and future generations of Dufferin County depends on the actions we take now to confront climate change.

The County of Dufferin's climate action journey began in 2018 when we became part of the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program, joining a national network of over 500 municipalities across Canada in a commitment to reducing local greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

In 2022, we reaffirmed our commitment to climate action when Dufferin County Council passed a motion to declare a climate emergency, acknowledging that climate change poses a serious risk to environment, infrastructure, and people.

The County of Dufferin has adopted two climate plans that provide a roadmap to deliver on our climate commitments:



Dufferin Climate Action Plan

The *Dufferin Climate Action Plan (2021)* outlines a pathway for the community to reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Net-zero means reducing our emissions to as close to zero as possible, while simultaneously taking action to remove unavoidable emissions through natural or technological solutions.



Together for Change

This adaptation strategy complements the *Dufferin Climate Action Plan* by proactively identifying opportunities to advance climate resilience in the community's social, economic, built, and natural systems.

This Report Card, prepared for Dufferin County Council and residents, provides a summary of the actions taken in the 2024 calendar year towards the climate goals in the *Dufferin Climate Action Plan* and *Together for Change: Dufferin's Climate Adaptation Strategy*.



Dufferin Climate Action Plan

On March 11, 2021 Dufferin County adopted the *Dufferin Climate Action Plan*.

The [Dufferin Climate Action Plan](#) is a mitigation strategy to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 while also increasing community resilience to the impacts of climate change. Mitigation means taking action to reduce the amount of climate change causing greenhouse gas emissions we release into the atmosphere. The goal of mitigation is to prevent further warming of our climate system.

The implementation of this plan will shift the community towards climate-friendly transportation modes, grow vibrant urban and rural communities, protect water and ecosystems, and create empowered communities that are ready to respond to a changing climate.

Under 6 Focus Areas, the *Dufferin Climate Action Plan* outlines 34 primary actions and 99 sub actions that the County will take to build a net-zero and resilient community:





5 Years, 5 Big Moves

In order to shift away from business as usual and respond quickly and effectively to the climate crisis, the *Dufferin Climate Action Plan* identified 5 priority actions for implementation between 2021 – 2025.

Progress on each of the 5 priority actions is reported below. A detailed status report on individual actions in the *Dufferin Climate Action Plan* is available in Appendix A.

Priority Action 1

Develop a municipally-led financing program for home energy retrofits to encourage and make the uptake of deep energy retrofitting and efficiency measures in residences more accessible for residents.

In 2022, Dufferin County joined the BetterHomes Ontario Consortium, a program designed to support municipalities to develop and deliver community-based retrofit programs. Following the creation of the Consortium, and with funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Clean Air Partnership led feasibility studies with seven Ontario municipalities, including Dufferin County. The report, “Dufferin County Energy Retrofit Program: Design Considerations”, was presented to committee on June 23, 2022.

In March 2023, the County committed \$3.75 million from reserves as recoverable debt for the BetterHomes Dufferin project. This commitment makes the most of the funding available from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Community Efficiency Financing Capital and Grants Stream, for which the County submit an application for in 2024.

The County’s application was successful under a conditional agreement. The BetterHomes Dufferin program will have a total value of \$11.25 million to support energy retrofits on approximately 300 homes.



Priority Action 2

Accelerate the transition to low GHG transportation by developing an electric vehicle charging network across Dufferin and neighbouring municipalities.

Charging Ahead: Electrifying Fleets in Dufferin

In 2022, the Climate and Energy division implemented the project Charging Ahead: Electrifying Fleets in Dufferin, through which 12 Level-2 electric vehicle charging stations were installed across four locations.

In March 2023, Dufferin County completed a Fleet Management Review, which found that transitioning most light-duty vehicles to electric was both feasible and cost-effective. The review identified opportunities for long-term savings while supporting the County's climate goals. In July 2023, the County purchased its first electric fleet vehicle, the Ford F-150 Lightning and in 2024, five additional electric vehicles were purchased as part of scheduled fleet replacement for the Building division.

In 2024, the County applied to the Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program for \$280,000 to support the installation of 14 fleet charging stations to be installed in 2025/2026, if successful.

Rural ReCharge: Regional Electric Vehicle Network Charging Network

In 2022, the Community Energy Association was contracted to develop a [Regional EV Charging Network Strategy](#). In 2023, in partnership, the Counties of Bruce, Dufferin, Grey, Huron, Perth, and Wellington awarded the contract to the Ivy Network to complete the installation of 34 direct current fast chargers across 17 locations, referred to as the Rural ReCharge network. In 2024, the majority of Rural ReCharge network was approved for funding from ChargeON, including a site located in Shelburne, which is scheduled for installation in 2025/2026.

Charge Up in Dufferin

In 2021 the County installed the Charge Up in Dufferin network of 24 public electric vehicle charging stations. Data for the use of the public stations, up to December 31, 2024, is reported below.

12,561	17,467 hours	210,607 kWh	48,709 kg
Charging Sessions	Connection Time	Energy Used	CO2 Saved

Priority Action 3

Empower the community to take climate action by institutionalizing climate action in municipal planning and supporting community awareness, education, and knowledge sharing initiatives.

Home Flood Protection Campaign

In collaboration with Emergency Preparedness, the Home Flood Protection campaign ran from March 8 to April 12, 2024 with the goal of educating and encouraging residents to undertake low-cost measures to reduce home flood risk. Campaign activities included the promotion of home flood protection information via the County website, and social media channels, as well as through ads placed with local newspaper and radio stations. The Climate & Energy and Emergency Preparedness divisions also spoke with residents at Grand Valley Public Library, PROBUS Club of Orangeville, and the Orangeville Lions Home & Garden Show. Campaign highlights includes a reach of 27,059 people across social media, 392 residents engaged at in-person events, and 330 educational materials distributed.

Electrifying BackRoads: Electric Vehicle (EV) Awareness

In 2024, the Climate & Energy division was awarded \$46,000 in funding through Natural Resources Canada's Clean Fuels, Transportation and Industry Fund for the Electrifying BackRoads project. Electrifying BackRoads is a public outreach and education project intended to increase awareness and knowledge of EVs among residents in Dufferin County. In Fall 2024, a Needs Assessment was conducted to expand on existing baseline data, to further a deeper understanding of the knowledge gaps and barriers to EV adoption, which will support the delivery of EV test-drive series and video series in 2025/2026.

Home Energy Efficiency Campaign

From December 1 - 31, 2024, the Climate and Energy division ran a community-wide energy efficiency campaign to educate and encourage residents to take low-cost actions to reduce their climate impact, increase comfort, and unlock savings in their home. The campaign included the promotion of education materials through social media, newspaper ads, and the distribution of 200 free home energy savings kits to residents at the Orangeville, Grand Valley, Shelburne Public Libraries, as well as the Dufferin Muslim Centre, and Polycultural Immigrant & Community Services.

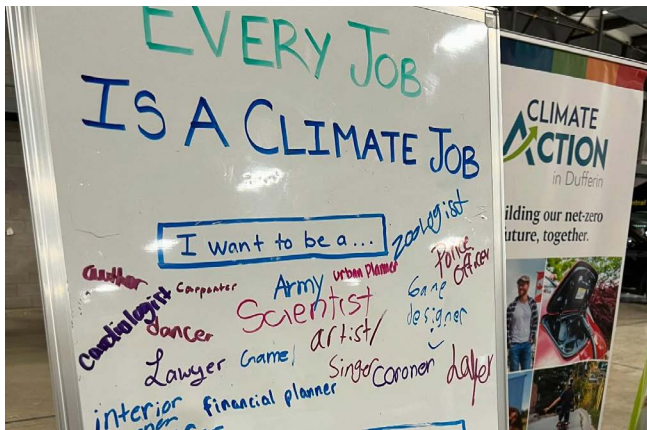
Youth Climate Activation Circle

The Youth Climate Activation Circle (YCAC) is a 10-month volunteer program designed to empower Dufferin youth with the knowledge and skills to champion climate solutions in their community. In 2024 the second cohort of the Youth Climate Activation Circle was launched, comprised of eight youth who completed the training phase of the program in the Fall.

Community Events

In 2024, the Climate and Energy division hosted or presented at events including a Climate Solutions Fair, Regenerative Gardening Earth Day workshop, Dufferin Oaks Clothing Swap, Coffee, Tea, Connection at Grand Valley Public Library, Mulmur Town Hall, PROBUS Club of Orangeville, Orangeville Youth Council, STEM Club, High Country United Church, Dufferin Community Housing, in addition to a number of project specific engagement events.

The division also participated in 9 community events including March Break at the Museum of Dufferin, Orangeville Lions Home Show, Blues and Jazz Festival, Celebrate Your Awesome, Orangeville Rotary Ribfest, A Taste of Orangeville, Orangeville Fall Fair, Dufferin Community Living's 70th Anniversary, and the Dream Dufferin Career Fair.





Priority Action 4

Support climate-resiliency initiatives in agricultural and natural systems to enhance food security, support local farmers, and protect natural systems.

Experimental Acres

Experimental Acres supports farmers in adopting experimental practices which will backstop risk, develop a community of support, and assist in capturing the business cases that can demonstrate what will be worth repeating. Funding was provided to 3 Dufferin farmers to adopt regenerative agriculture practices on a small scale. 2024 projects included:

- Comparison of cover crops and compost on market garden plots
- Establishing beneficial insect habitat to suppress pest pressure on a market garden
- Interseeding cover crops into sweet corn and rhubarb

Dufferin Rural Water Quality Program

The Dufferin Rural Water Quality Program (DRWQP) provides financial and technical assistance to Dufferin farmers and rural landowners implementing projects to improve and protect water quality. In 2024, \$11,716 in DRWQP funding was provided to support five water quality improvement projects worth \$42,266. At the end of 2024, an additional \$44,500 was allocated to 21 projects to be completed in 2025.

A scheduled program review was also undertaken and applied a climate lens to expand eligible projects to include actions that promote carbon sequestration and ecosystem resilience.



Priority Action 5

Create green development standards to ensure new development is environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable.

Dufferin County, in collaboration with Grey and Wellington Counties, has developed the Future-Ready Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from new developments. Formerly branded as the Tri-County Green Development Standards, the name change reflects stakeholder feedback, introducing a flexible points-based system instead of a prescriptive tiered structure.

Each partner committed \$75,000 toward the initiative, bringing the initial funding to \$225,000. In late 2023, the team conducted a competitive procurement process, with Urban Equation and the Planning Partnership awarded to lead the development of the Metrics. To further strengthen financial support, staff from Dufferin, Grey, and Wellington collaborated on a successful funding application to Natural Resources Canada's (NRCan) Codes Acceleration Fund, with Grey County serving as the lead applicant. NRCan awarded \$445,600, increasing the total project budget to \$670,600.

In 2024, Dufferin's Future-Ready Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics were drafted through research and engagement of municipal staff, developers, and the public. The Metrics provide a structured yet adaptable framework for enhancing building performance and community design. They serve as an incentive program for achieving GHG reduction targets while advancing sustainability objectives outlined in municipal Official Plans and supporting climate adaptation.

In 2025, the Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics will be finalized and brought to Council for adoption.



Together for Change

On April 13, 2023, County Council adopted *Together for Change: Dufferin's Climate Adaptation Strategy*. The Strategy complements the Dufferin Climate Action Plan by proactively identifying opportunities to advance climate resilience in the community's social, economic, built, and natural systems.

Local climate projections show that Dufferin can expect warmer year-round temperatures, including more frequent days with extreme heat. Annual precipitation is expected to increase with more frequent and intense rainfall and snowfall events. Investments in adaptation measures are critical to helping Dufferin adapt to a changing climate.

[Together for Change](#) is a strategy for the County, local municipalities, and community members to build climate resilience in the Dufferin County for current and future generations.

The Dufferin Climate Adaptation Strategy is organized under 5 Focus Areas:

-  **Buildings and Infrastructure**
-  **Energy and Economy**
-  **Agriculture and Natural Environment**
-  **People and Health**
-  **Enabling Actions**



First Priority Actions

In order to respond quickly and effectively to high-risk climate impacts, the strategy identified 5 priority actions for implementation. Progress on each of the 5 priority actions is reported below. A detailed status report on individual actions in *Together for Change* is available in Appendix B.

Priority Action 1

Create a framework for adopting a Green Development Standard to build resiliency and complete communities (e.g. low-impact development, flood mitigation measures, access to green space, enhanced tree canopy). (BH.3)

Dufferin County, in collaboration with Grey and Wellington Counties, has developed the Future-Ready Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from new developments. Formerly branded as the Tri-County Green Development Standards, the name change reflects stakeholder feedback, introducing a flexible points-based system instead of a prescriptive tiered structure.

Each partner committed \$75,000 toward the initiative, bringing the initial funding to \$225,000. In late 2023, the team conducted a competitive procurement process, with Urban Equation and the Planning Partnership awarded to lead the development of the Metrics. To further strengthen financial support, staff from Dufferin, Grey, and Wellington collaborated on a successful funding application to Natural Resources Canada's (NRCan) Codes Acceleration Fund, with Grey County serving as the lead applicant. NRCan awarded \$445,600, increasing the total project budget to \$670,600.

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In 2025, the Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics will be finalized and brought to Council for adoption.

Priority Action 2

Encourage homeowners and property owners to improve climate resilience of residential and private property through upgrades and/or retrofits. (BH.1)

Home Flood Protection Campaign

In collaboration with Emergency Preparedness, the Home Flood Protection campaign ran from March 8 to April 12, 2024 with the goal of educating and encouraging residents to undertake low-cost measures to reduce home flood risk. Campaign activities included the promotion of home flood protection information via the County website, and social media channels, as well as through ads placed with local newspaper and radio stations. The Climate & Energy and Emergency Preparedness divisions also spoke with residents at Grand Valley Public Library, PROBUS Club of Orangeville, and the Orangeville Lions Home & Garden Show. Campaign highlights includes a reach of 27,059 across social media, 392 residents engaged at in-person events, and 330 educational materials distributed.

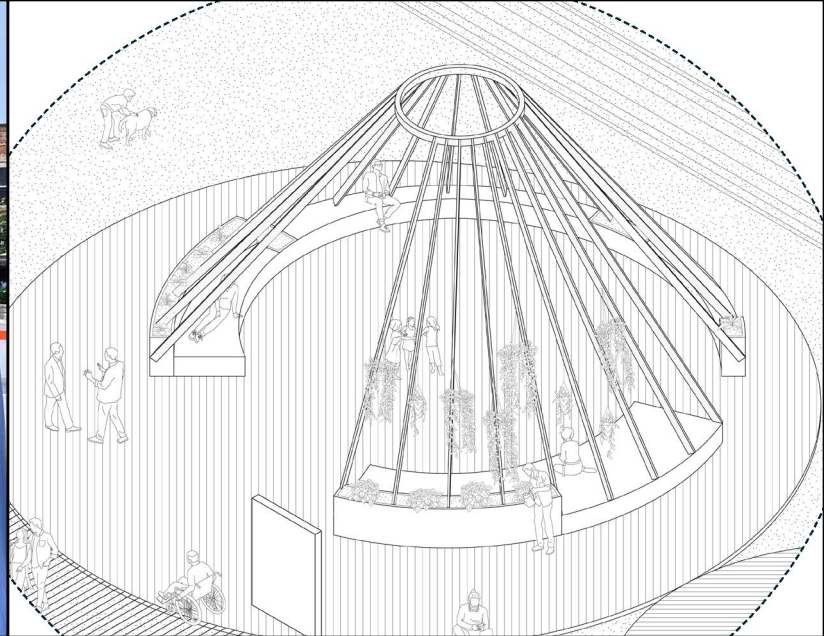
Rain Barrel Program

In 2024, a Feasibility Study was completed to explore a County-run rain barrel program including an environmental scan, cost analysis, education needs, and recommendations for implementation.

This study analyzed how climate change will influence local flooding risks and impacts to Dufferin residents, the efficacy of rain barrels as a climate adaptation measure, compared existing municipal rain barrel programs, and provided distribution and education recommendations for a County-run rain barrel program. The Feasibility Study also considered data from a 2023 survey, completed by 275 respondents, with 93% expressing interest in purchasing a rain barrel at a discounted cost from the County.

During Council Budget deliberations, the County rain barrel program was removed from the 2025 Budget and therefore will not proceed.





Priority Action 3

Establish and enhance emergency preparedness communications and programs for residents to strengthen personal resiliency to climate impacts. (PH.2)

Community Resilience Hub

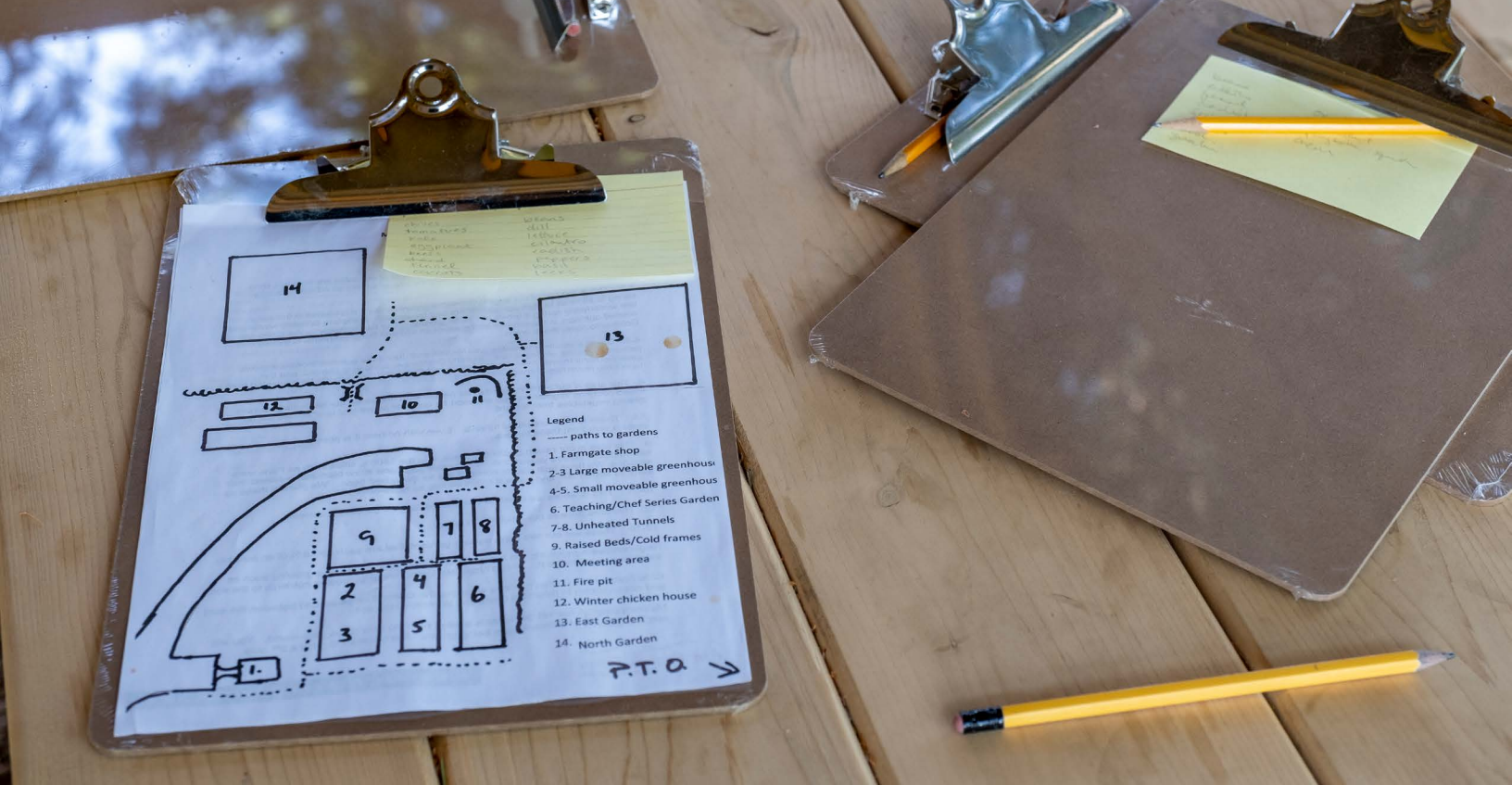
The Climate and Energy Division and Emergency Management are collaborating to develop an outdoor community hub, serving as a focal point for emergency preparedness, climate change adaptation, and community connection.

In 2024, the County was a successful applicant to the Ontario Resource Centre for Climate Adaptation (ORCCA) Staff Capacity grant program, receiving 300 staff hours to support a community engagement process in 2024. This multi-phase project will unfold over several years, progressing from feasibility assessment and community engagement. The first phase, undertaken in 2024, focused on mapping key milestones and gathering input from residents and community leaders to better understand their needs and priorities. Through extensive outreach, this stage of the project engaged 26 organizations, several committees, and connected with 250 community members, gathering diverse perspectives to inform the hub's development.

In the next phase, the County will collaborate with a design team from Toronto Metropolitan University to transform insights from the initial engagement and research into community-driven concepts. This phase will refine design options based on additional community feedback, ensuring the hub aligns with local needs and paving the way for construction and activation in 2025.

Public Education

In 2024 the Emergency Preparedness division completed a variety of public education initiatives through community events, social media, workshops, and print materials. The division provided workshops to the public focused on 'wildfire resistant landscaping and planting' and participated in flood awareness workshops for the public. Additionally the Manager of Preparedness and 9-1-1 met with every resident of community housing to discuss emergency preparedness and risk mitigation.



Priority Action 4

Increase uptake of regenerative agricultural practices in partnership with farmers to increase soil organic matter, reduce soil erosion, and improve water security. (AN.3)

Experimental Acres

Experimental Acres supports farmers in adopting experimental practices which will backstop risk, develop a community of support, and assist in capturing the business cases that can demonstrate what will be worth repeating. Funding was provided to 3 Dufferin farmers to adopt regenerative agriculture practices on a small scale. 2024 projects included:

- Comparison of cover crops and compost on market garden plots
- Establishing beneficial insect habitat to suppress pest pressure on a market garden
- Interseeding cover crops into sweet corn and rhubarb

Dufferin Rural Water Quality Program

The Dufferin Rural Water Quality Program (DRWQP) provides financial and technical assistance to Dufferin farmers and rural landowners implementing projects to improve and protect water quality. In 2024 \$11,716 in DRWQP funding was provided to support five water quality improvement projects worth \$42,266. At the end of 2024, an additional \$44,500 was allocated to 21 projects to be completed in 2025.

A scheduled program review was also undertaken and applied a climate lens to expand eligible projects to include actions that promote carbon sequestration and ecosystem resilience.



Priority Action 5

Incorporate a climate lens into asset management, capital planning, and budgetary processes. (BH.4)

Equity and Climate Lens Assessment Tool

The adoption of a climate lens was committed to in Dufferin County's [2023-2026 Corporate Strategic Plan](#). The lens will be applied across the entire County administration through our day-to-day operations, decision making processes, and policy design. These lenses will help us understand and evaluate the impacts of new or changing County policies, programs and services, ensuring that we are making decisions with social and environmental considerations foregrounded and in alignment with our long-term objectives.

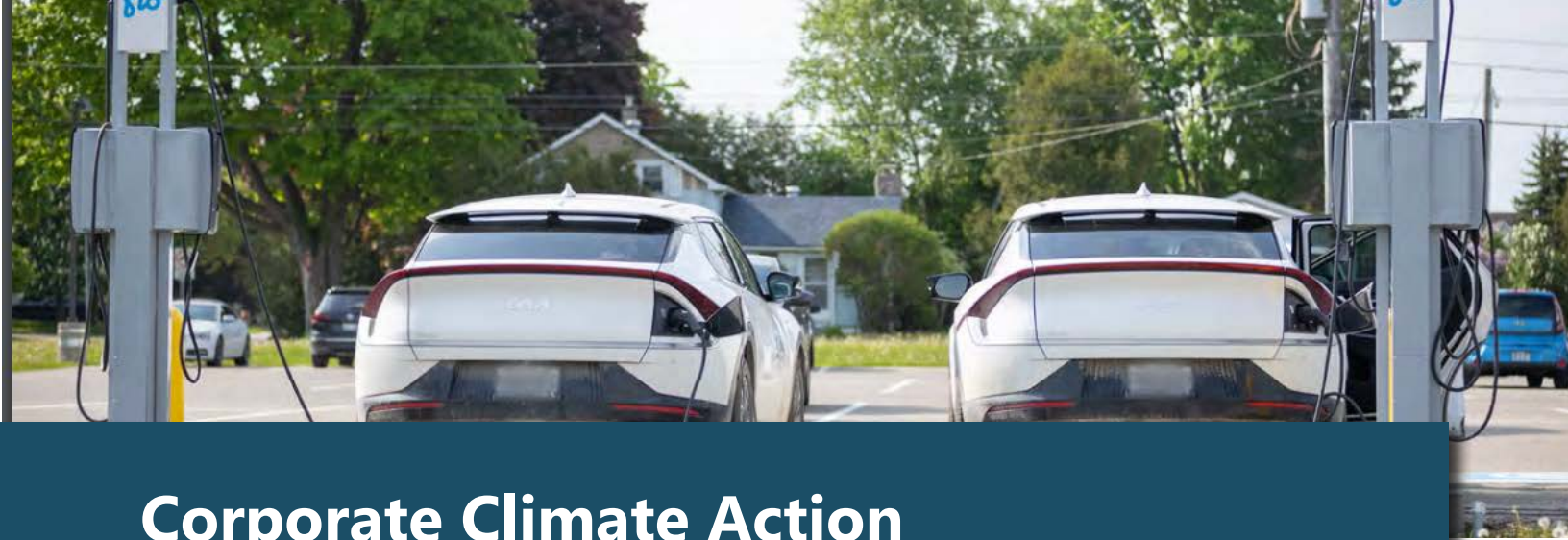
In 2024, a community of practice comprised of representatives from five County divisions was established to facilitate a collaborative environment to trial the implementation of and provide feedback to refine the Equity & Climate Lens tool. Guided by these insights, the tool was finalized in 2024 and a Roll-Out and Engagement Strategy was developed to support the launch and implementation of the tool in 2025.

Municipal Staff Climate Training

In 2024 the Climate & Energy division introduced mandatory climate change training for non-union and union employees as a first step to enhance organizational capacity to deliver upon the County's climate commitments. The training was also integrated into the onboarding process.

Between April and December 2024, 405 staff completed an interactive e-module or in-person training session. The training aimed to build foundational climate literacy, covering climate change causes, risks, and local government's role in climate solutions. It also emphasized Dufferin County's commitments and the importance of integrating climate action across municipal operations and service delivery.

Post-training surveys suggest a significant shift in self-assessed knowledge and survey respondents reported feeling more equipped to apply a climate lens in their roles.



Corporate Climate Action

The County has demonstrated a strong commitment to climate action through various initiatives, including energy conservation programs and sustainable infrastructure projects.

To enhance and streamline existing efforts, the County will establish a strategic roadmap to achieve corporate net-zero emissions by 2035, 2040, or 2045, while simultaneously improving resilience in County operations.

Corporate Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Progress

In 2024, the County achieved an estimated 5.8% total reduction in corporate greenhouse gas emissions compared to 2023, primarily through energy efficiency improvements in buildings and fleet management.

- Buildings: 5.2% reduction achieved through proactive and preventative operation and management of equipment and building systems.
- Fleet: 7.3% reduction achieved through fleet electrification efforts, including an additional five electric vehicles for the building division.

Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan Update (2024-2028)

The County of Dufferin continues to expand its energy management initiatives through the updated Energy Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Plan for 2024-2028. This builds upon previous plans from 2014 and 2019 and aligns with Ontario Regulation 507/18, which mandates that municipalities update their CDM plans every five years. The County remains committed to enhancing energy efficiency within the Broader Public Sector (BPS) and fostering a culture of conservation.

Key Inventory Breakdown:

- Fleet: 29%
- Long-Term Care Facilities: 34%
- Corporate Buildings: 19%
- Community Housing: 18%

The County has set specific energy efficiency targets for its buildings and fleet to be achieved by 2028, ensuring continued progress in conservation efforts.

Corporate Energy Team

In February 2024, the County established a Corporate Energy Team (CET) to strengthen collaboration and oversight of energy management initiatives. The CET consists of representatives from Operations, Facilities, Climate & Energy divisions who are responsible for the development, implementation, measurement, evaluation, and verification of policies and standards in alignment with the Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan. The CET will also contribute to the forthcoming Climate Master Strategy and will convene quarterly to assess progress and strategies.

Climate Risk Assessment on Public Infrastructure

In 2024, the County initiated a climate vulnerability assessment of its public infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and culverts. This assessment follows the Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee (PIEVC) protocol and aims to identify and rank climate-related risks. The results will inform future capital planning and adaptation strategies to enhance the resilience of County infrastructure.

Energy Audit

In partnership with the Facilities division, comprehensive energy audits are being conducted across all County-owned buildings. The audits are expected to be completed by 2025 and will provide valuable insights into energy usage, identifying opportunities for efficiency improvements.

Net-Zero Pathway Study for Community Housing

The County has submitted a funding application to the Green Municipal Fund (GMF) in 2024 to support a study aimed at improving the energy efficiency and climate resiliency of its community housing portfolio. This initiative will play a crucial role in the County's broader sustainability goals, ensuring that community housing remains both energy-efficient and resilient to climate change impacts.





Looking Ahead

Looking ahead to 2025, the Climate and Energy Division will advance the following priority actions in support of the *Dufferin Climate Action Plan, Together for Change: Dufferin's Climate Adaptation Strategy*, and corporate climate commitments.

Climate Master Strategy

Dufferin County will be developing comprehensive Climate Master Strategy (CMS) to guide the County's climate action over the next decade, embedding climate resilience and greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions into all aspects of municipal operations, services, and community development. The Climate Master Strategy will:

- Update and Integrate Existing Frameworks: Enhance and streamline the Dufferin Climate Action Plan and the Dufferin Adaptation Strategy to reflect current climate science, policy advancements, and community priorities.
- Develop a Corporate Climate Action Plan: Establish a roadmap to achieve corporate net-zero emissions by 2035, 2040, or 2045 while improving resilience in County operations.
- Unify Efforts: Create a unified strategy that bridges corporate and community actions, ensuring synergistic efforts to address climate change.

Corporate Priorities

AssureCharge Dufferin County: Community Housing Back-Up Battery Project

To enhance the climate resilience of County-owned buildings, the Climate & Energy division will conduct a feasibility study to assess the potential for installing new battery backup systems or replacing existing backup generators with battery storage solutions. This study will evaluate technical feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and potential benefits, such as improved energy security, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and long-term operational savings. The initiative fulfills one of the actions in the County's adopted Climate Adaptation Strategy and aligns with objectives in the 2023-2026 Corporate Strategic Plan.

Electric Vehicle Chargers for Fleet

In 2024, the County applied to the Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program for \$280,000 to help support the installation of 14 fleet charging stations to be installed in 2025/2026, if successful.

Equity and Climate Lens

The Climate and Energy division will continue collaboration with the People and Equity Department to implement the Equity and Climate Lens Assessment Tool across the organization to help us understand and evaluate the impacts of new or changing County policies, programs and services.

In 2025, the tool will be rolled out across the organization and additional training will be offered to support staff in applying a climate lens. To increase accountability, the Climate and Energy and Equity divisions will establish a policy for mandatory application and a framework to embed the tool within existing reporting structures.

Climate Change Training

In 2024, the Climate & Energy division introduced mandatory climate change training for non-union and union employees as a first step to enhance organizational capacity to deliver upon the County's climate commitments. Building on the positive impact of the training among County staff, the e-module will be made available as a resource to all local municipal staff and Councillors, who may assign training at their discretion. The 3-part online module takes approximately an hour and a half and will support local municipalities in increasing capacity to integrate climate considerations into operations and service delivery.

Climate Risk Assessment on Public Infrastructure

The Climate Risk Assessment on Public Infrastructure project, launched in 2024 in collaboration with the Engineering Division, focuses on assessing the vulnerability of Dufferin County's road assets, including bridges and culverts, to climate change. Following the Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee (PIEVC) protocol, the assessment will identify and rank climate-related risks, providing recommendations for engineering design guidelines, operations, and maintenance practices. The findings will inform the development of a road resiliency program, enhance infrastructure durability, and guide future asset management and capital planning strategies to improve the resilience of County infrastructure.

Community Priorities

Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics

In 2024, the Counties will begin engagement activities with municipal staff, developers, and the public to create unified Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics that outline the standards and guidelines that will be applied through all phases of development planning applications right through to construction. In early 2025, implementation planning will be finalized, including processes, incentives, and recognition strategies. The Business and Talent Attraction Plan will launch and be completed over the following year. A dedicated implementation position will be hired in the spring to support rollout and municipal adoption. In May, the Future-Ready Dufferin: Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics guidebook will be finalized, followed by a presentation to Council in June.

BetterHomes Dufferin

In March 2023, the County committed \$3.75 million from reserves as recoverable debt for the BetterHomes Dufferin project. This commitment makes the most out of the funding available from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Community Efficiency Financing Capital and Grants Stream, for which the County submit an application for in 2024.

The County's application was successful under a conditional agreement. The BetterHomes Dufferin program will have a total value of \$11.25 million to support energy retrofits on approximately 300 homes.

Community Resilience Hub

The Climate and Energy and Emergency Management divisions will continue to advance the Community Resilience Hub project. Drawing on community insights gathered during the first phase of engagement, a design team from Toronto Metropolitan University will develop and refine conceptual designs for the Community Resilience Hub which will be presented to the Community Advisory Group and County and local municipal committees.

The County will also engage the community through events, workshops, and public outreach, gathering feedback to shape the designs. The public will vote on the final concepts, with the selected design moving forward to construction.

Electrifying BackRoads

The Electrifying BackRoads project is helping drive the shift to electric vehicles by making EVs more accessible and familiar to the community. In 2025, a video series will showcase local EV owners and their experiences, while a two-week test-drive trailer and additional single-day test-drive events will give residents hands-on opportunities to explore EV technology. Educational materials will also address common barriers to adoption, providing practical information and resources to support the transition to cleaner transportation.

Home Flood Protection Program

In 2025 the County will seek funding through the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation's Municipal Resiliency Grant to establish a Home Flood Protection Program to provide personalized risk assessments and rebates to help homeowners in Dufferin County protect their property and build long-term resilience to rising flood risks. Through the program homeowners will receive a no-cost home flood assessment and qualify for rebates for eligible flood protection measures, with an income qualifying stream to provide additional support for applicants in neighbourhoods that have historically experienced flooding.



Appendix A: DCAP Action Status

This appendix identifies the County's progress to date on the implementation of the actions in the Dufferin Climate Action Plan since its release in March of 2021.

Each action is categorized in one of the following status categories:

Complete

The action has been implemented.

In Progress

Work on this action is actively underway.

Ongoing

This action will be implemented on an ongoing or reoccurring basis.

Early Stages

Early work has been started, but requires additional work and resources to develop and implement.

Delayed

Implementation of this action is delayed to a later date.

Future Action

Implementation of this action is delayed to a later date.

Discontinued

For specified reasons, this action has been discontinued.

On the Move: Action T1

Expand public transit options and support fleet electrification

T1.1 Review bus routes and optimize connectivity and service within and between local and regional municipalities

Status: In Progress

- 2024: Dufferin County Council has approved a motion to provide subsidy funding for the Grey County Transit Route 2, running between Shelburne and Orangeville, in the amount of \$15,000 on a month-to-month basis for up to four months.
- 2023: Town of Orangeville established new transit terminal and is exploring feasibility of electrifying transit fleet.
- 2022: Dufferin County Council allocated \$25,000 to explore on-demand transit options through Dufferin County Community Support Services.
- 2021: Transit Feasibility Study Report was completed on November 30, 2021.

T1.2 Advocate for increased GO transit service

Status: Future Action

- 2024: No additional progress to date.
- 2022: Dufferin County Council allocated \$25,000 to explore on-demand transit options through Dufferin County Community Support Services.

On the Move: Action T2

Increase public awareness of and education on climate friendly travel modes

T2.1 Develop an accessible educational campaign to prioritize active transportation and public transit, particularly for trips under 5km

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Ongoing social media promotion of active transportation options/benefits.
- 2023: Ongoing social media promotion of active transportation options/benefits.
- 2022: Community Bike Ride hosted on June 25 2022; Workshop on Sustainable Transportation hosted with Upper Grand District School Board in July 2022.
- 2021: Bike Month Scavenger Hunt and cycling safety campaign hosted from June 1 – 30, 2021.

T2.2 Develop an accessible educational campaign for trips over 10km to prioritize carpooling options (particularly for commuters) and telecommuting.

Status: Discontinued. Climate and Energy Division lacks capacity to advance action.

- 2022: Workshop on Sustainable Transportation hosted with Upper Grand District School Board

On the Move: Action T3

Promote climate friendly driving habits to reduce GHG emissions associated with passenger vehicles

T3.1 Develop anti-idling campaigns to improve compliance with local anti-idling by-law

Status: Discontinued. Anti-idling by-laws are already in place in local municipalities such as Mono, Orangeville, and Shelburne. Initial research indicates the potential impact this action on GHG emissions reduce is low, making this action a low priority for implementation. County will support as opportunities arise.

T3.2 Work with businesses and organizations to create anti-idling policies

Status: Discontinued. Initial research indicates the potential impact on GHG emissions reduce is low, making this action a low priority for implementation. County will support as opportunities arise.

T3.3 Promote and increase awareness of existing eco-driving courses and insurance

Status: Discontinued. Outside of mandate of the division without action from other stakeholders.

- 2022: Eco-driving courses and available insurance incentives promoted across Climate Action in Dufferin social media channels in March 2022.

On the Move: Action T4

Work with regional and municipal partners to expand low and zero-emission vehicle uptake and charging networks

T4.1 Partner with municipalities to develop a regional Electric Vehicle Strategy to achieve network connectivity

Status: In Progress

- 2024: Majority of Rural ReCharge network was approved for funding from ChargeON including a site located in Shelburne for installation in 2025/2026.
- 2023: Contract awarded to the Ivy Network to complete the installation of 34 direct current fast chargers across 17 locations as part of the Rural ReCharge project.
- 2022: Feasibility Study completed in May 2022. Initiating Implementation Phase in progress. RFP developed for third-party implementation partner.

T4.2 Develop EV policy at the County level to ensure consistency throughout the development of a County charging network

Status: Complete

- 2024: Updated bylaw fees in Electric Vehicle Charging Station Policy adopted.
- 2023: Update of Electric Vehicle Charging Station Policy in progress for adoption in 2024.
- 2021: Electric Vehicle Charging Station Policy and User Fees passed at Council on September 9, 2021.

T4.3 Leverage funding opportunities to install charging stations throughout County

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Paused to evaluate future public charging needs. County will assess as opportunities arise.
- 2023: 12 EV charging stations for fleet operational. Ford F-150 Lightning purchased for County fleet.
- 2022: 20 Level-2 charging stations installed at 6 sites around the County in collaboration with Town of Orangeville and the Township of Melancthon.
- 2021: Installation of Charge Up in Dufferin Network of 22 Level-2 and 2 Level-3 charging stations complete.

T4.4 Work with local businesses and organizations to encourage low-emission and electric vehicles to be included in fleets

Status: Discontinued. Climate and Energy Division lacks capacity to initiate action.

On the Move: Action T5

Encourage the electrification of public transit vehicles and fleet vehicles

T5.1 Work with local municipalities to develop strategy to transition to electric public transit fleets

Status: In Progress

- 2023: County Green Fleet Strategy Completed; Town of Orangeville is exploring feasibility of electrifying transit fleet.
- 2022: Green Fleet Strategy in development through the Asset Management Initiative; Town of Orangeville is conducting a feasibility study to determine options for fleet electrification

T5.2 Investigate options to electrify school bus fleets

Status: Discontinued. Climate and Energy Division lacks capacity to initiate, but will evaluate opportunities as they arise.

On the Move: Action T6

Create accessible and walkable communities

T6.1 Improve pedestrian crossing, comfortable walking routes, and maps/ signage

Status: In Progress

- 2024: Tri-County Green Development Standards, branded as Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics, in progress, which will advance this action.
- 2022: Town of Orangeville exploring options to enhance active transportation routes including conversion of rail line to shared pathway

On the Move: Action T7

Create accessible and walkable communities

T7.1 Create a TDM Plan in partnership with local employers and neighbouring municipalities

Status: Discontinued. After evaluation, it is too premature to do a TDM without having a public transportation plan. Timeline should be shifted to the next DCAP update.

T7.2 Develop an engagement process to include community members in the TDM planning process

Status: Discontinued. After evaluation, it is too premature to do a TDM without having a public transportation plan. Timeline should be shifted to the next DCAP update.

In Our Buildings: Action B1

Promote deep energy retrofit programs and provide information on resources and financing programs

B1.1 Complete a feasibility study undertaking a baseline assessment of Dufferin County's housing stock and energy upgrade potential, including the cost benefit of different types of retrofits to maximize dollars spent

Status: Complete

- 2021: Completed a feasibility study for a deep energy retrofit financing program with Lightspark Software outlining existing housing stock and initial uptake analysis.

B1.2 Investigate options to develop municipally-led financing program for residential deep energy and resiliency retrofits

Status: In Progress

- 2024: The County's application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Community Efficiency Financing Capital and Grants Stream was successful under a conditional agreement. The BetterHomes Dufferin program will have a total value of \$11.25 million to support energy retrofits on approximately 300 homes.
- 2023: County committed \$3.75 million to the BetterHomes Dufferin project, with support of 7 out of 8 local municipalities.
- 2022: Joined the Ontario BetterHomes Consortium to leverage existing resources in the development of a municipally-led financing program for deep energy retrofits.

B1.3 Implement selected municipally led financing program for residential deep energy and resiliency retrofits with a strategic lens to address energy poverty

Status: In Progress

- 2024: The County's application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Community Efficiency Financing Capital and Grants Stream was successful under a conditional agreement. The BetterHomes Dufferin program will have a total value of \$11.25 million to support energy retrofits on approximately 300 homes.
- 2023: County committed \$3.75 million to the BetterHomes Dufferin project, with support of 7 out of 8 local municipalities.

B1.4 Support existing training programs for contractors to complete home energy work

Status: In Progress

- 2024: RFP issued to develop Talent and Business Attraction Plan, but no bids were received. Seeking additional proponents in 2025.
- 2023: Talent and Business Attraction Plan approved through Tri-County Green Development Standard project, which has been branded Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics.

B1.5 Educational campaign on home energy efficiency and fuel switching

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Education campaign implemented throughout December, including workshop, distribution of 200 free home energy savings kits, radio and social media campaign.
- 2023: Education campaign implemented throughout December, including workshop, distribution of 200 free home energy savings kits, radio and social media campaign.
- 2022: Education campaign implemented throughout November, including workshop, distribution of free home energy savings kits, radio and social media campaign, and web page launch.

B1.6 Explore options for customer utility data comparison

Status: Discontinued. Initial feasibility explored, but privacy concerns identified.

In Our Buildings: Action B2

Promote home resilience programs and provide information on resources and financing program

B2.1 Create resilience check-list for residences

Status: In Progress

- 2024: Exploring options to integrate resiliency measures into Tri-County Green Development Standards; Resilience measures proposed as eligible through BetterHomes Dufferin; Resilience measures for flood protection shared through Home Flood Protection campaign.
- 2022: Resilience measures for flood protection shared through Home Flood Protection campaign.

B2.2 Improve homes and businesses capacity to manage stormwater on-site through education campaigns, trainings, programs, and on-site consultations

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout March including public education booths, video, radio, social media promotion, and presentations.
- 2023: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout May 2023 including public education booths, video, radio, social media promotion, and earned media.
- 2022: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout May 2022 including workshop, development of education video, radio and social media campaign, and web page launch.

B2.3 Support retrofit, energy, and resilience upgrades for rental homes and apartments

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: RFP issued to develop Talent and Business Attraction Plan, but no bids were received. Seeking additional proponents in 2025.
- 2023: Talent and Business Attraction Plan approved through Tri-County Green Development Standard project, which has been branded Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics.

In Our Buildings: Action B3

Support retrofit, energy, and resilience upgrades for rental homes and apartments

B3.1 Educate building occupants and landlords on available energy retrofit programs and encourage participation in future financing options led by the County

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Education campaign implemented throughout December, including workshop, distribution of 200 free home energy savings kits, radio and social media campaign.
- 2023: Education campaign implemented throughout December, including workshop, distribution of 200 free home energy savings kits, radio and social media campaign.
- 2022: Education campaign implemented throughout November, including workshop, distribution of free home energy savings kits, radio and social media campaign, and web page launch.

B3.2 Explore feasibility to require property standards by-law for maximum temperature in rented residences

Status: Delayed. Environmental scan initiated, and feasibility will continue to be explored.

In Our Buildings: Action B4

Ensure all new buildings are net-zero emissions ready through the implementation of green development standards (See Action P2)

B4.1 Prioritize building designs that reduce energy demand and increase efficiency (passive cooling, air source heat pump, ground source heat pump, triple pane windows, light coloured roofs, etc.)

Status: In Progress

- 2024: Green Development Standards, branded as Future-Ready Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics, drafted through research and engagement of municipal staff, developers, and the public.
- 2023: \$445,000 awarded for Tri-County Green Development Standard project by NRCan (Codes Acceleration Fund).
- 2022: Tri-County Green Development Standard project initiated with Grey and Wellington Counties.

B4.2 Prioritize climate resilient building designs (e.g. flood prevention strategies, passive cooling designs, expansion of hurricane clip program)

Status: In Progress

- 2024: Green Development Standards, branded as Future-Ready Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics, drafted through research and engagement of municipal staff, developers, and the public.
- 2023: \$445,000 awarded for Tri-County Green Development Standard project by NRCan (Codes Acceleration Fund).
- 2022: Tri-County Green Development Standard project initiated with Grey and Wellington Counties.

In Our Buildings: Action B5
Develop eco-industrial park/business zone that is a low-GHG development zone

B5.1 Investigate the potential for district energy systems to maximize energy efficiency

Status: Discontinued. Current capacity constraints make this action infeasible at this time and ICI emissions locally are low, making this a lower-priority.

B5.2 Work with local municipalities to review and enhance local Community Improvement Plans (CIP) to enable retrofits to commercial buildings

Status: Discontinued. Current capacity constraints make this action infeasible at this time and ICI emissions locally are low, making this a lower-priority.

In Our Buildings: Action B6
Increase capacity of ICI stakeholders to achieve energy efficiency and GHG reduction goals

B6.1 Encourage ICI stakeholders to take advantage of energy efficiency programs and incentives for new and remodeled buildings

Status: Ongoing. Climate and Energy Division shares programs, resources, and funding opportunities with ICI stakeholders as opportunities arise.

B6.2 Support educational campaigns and training for owners and employees to maximize energy efficiency and options for retrofits

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: RFP issued to develop Talent and Business Attraction Plan, but no bids were received. Seeking additional proponents in 2025.
- 2023: Talent and Business Attraction Plan approved through Tri-County Green Development Standard project, which has been branded Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics.

For Our Land: Action L1

Promote and incentivize the adoption of climate-friendly practices in agriculture sector

L1.1 Complete a study detailing the barriers preventing the adoption of climate-friendly and resilient practices in agriculture and the values that facilitate adoption

Status: In Progress

Insights on barriers and opportunities for uptake of regenerative agriculture practices annually reported through Experimental Acres program and Experimental Acres Handbook for Municipalities.

L1.2 Support evolving research opportunities investigating the carbon sequestration potential of agriculture sector

Status: Discontinued

- 2024: 95620 Amaranth–Grand Valley Townline property Feasibility Study to explore a community pasture, potential for renewable energy, and innovative regenerative agriculture practices was discontinued as per Council directive to shift to Economic Development to implement a community pasture.
- 2023: Ontario Agroforest Network application to the Living Labs Initiative unsuccessful; Work on developing RFP for Master Plan for 195620 Amaranth – Grand Valley Townline property delayed.
- 2022: Support of Ontario Agroforest Network application to the Living Labs Initiative; Research on soil carbon sequestration underway through Experimental Acres Pilot program.
- 2021: Experimental Acres Project in progress with the County of Wellington.

L1.3 Encourage regenerative and ecological agriculture practices where applicable such as no-till and cover crops to control run off, tile, or controlled drainage systems

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Three Dufferin farmers participated in Experimental Acres program; Five projects supported through Dufferin Rural Water Quality Program and a scheduled program applied a climate lens to expand eligible projects to include actions that promote carbon sequestration and ecosystem resilience.
- 2023: Four Dufferin farmers participated in 2023 Experimental Acres Pilot; Updates drafted for Rural Water Quality Program with climate lens for eligible measures.
- 2022: Seven Dufferin farmers participated in first year of Experimental Acres Pilot; Hosted Agriculture Round Table promoting the Rural Water Quality Program.

L1.4 Encourage mapping of existing crop varieties against future climate projections

Status: Complete (2021). University of Guelph research project completed to assess the impact of climate change on the sustainability to agricultural lands to grow a multiple crop varieties.

For Our Land: Action L2

Develop education partnership with agricultural community and partners to support long-term climate friendly practices and knowledge sharing

L2.1 Promote co-learning and networking opportunities for sustainable and resilient agriculture, energy efficiency, crop diversification, new technologies, and water conservation

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Three Dufferin farmers participated in Experimental Acres program; Five projects supported through Dufferin Rural Water Quality Program and a scheduled program applied a climate lens to expand eligible projects to include actions that promote carbon sequestration and ecosystem resilience.
- 2023: Four Dufferin farmers participated in 2023 Experimental Acres Pilot; Updates drafted for Rural Water Quality Program with climate lens for eligible measures.
- 2022: Seven Dufferin farmers participated in first year of Experimental Acres Pilot; Hosted Agriculture Round Table promoting the Rural Water Quality Program.

L2.2 Support a variety of educational opportunities tailored to diverse producers and their unique needs

Status: Ongoing. Promotion of events and resources through website and social media channels.

- 2024: Three Dufferin farmers participated in Experimental Acres program.
- 2023: Four Dufferin farmers participated in 2023 Experimental Acres Pilot.
- 2022: Seven Dufferin farmers participated in first year of Experimental Acres Pilot; Hosted Agriculture Round Table promoting the Rural Water Quality Program.

For Our Land: Action L3

Encourage low-GHG energy alternatives on farms

L3.1 Explore on-site renewable energy production options

Status: Ongoing. Promotion of resources as opportunities arise via Climate Action in Dufferin communication channels.

L3.2 Explore options to incentivize manure management and biogas recovery as an alternative fuel source

Status: Discontinued. Climate and Energy Division lacks capacity to advance action.

For Our Land: Action L4

Protect and enhance local natural assets

L4.1 Complete a natural asset inventory for the County including a risk assessment

Status: Complete (2021). Natural Asset Inventory was completed through the Municipal Natural Asset Initiative for Dufferin County and local municipalities.

L4.2 Develop municipal natural asset management plans based on inventory

Status: Delayed. Scheduled to be completed in 2025 by the Finance division.

For Our Land: Action L5

Increase tree coverage and protection in Dufferin County

L5.1 Create an urban forest/reforest strategy with climate resilient tree species

Status: In Progress

- 2023: Town of Orangeville completed Urban Canopy Study establishing a planting goal of 4030 trees per year to reach 2040 target of 40% canopy coverage.

L5.2 Explore feasibility of developing a Grown in Dufferin” tree supply program and or partner with conservation authorities to leverage existing nursery programs

Status: Delayed

- 2024: 95620 Amaranth–Grand Valley Townline property Feasibility Study to explore a community pasture, potential for renewable energy, and innovative regenerative agriculture practices was discontinued as per Council directive to shift to Economic Development to implement a community pasture.

L5.3 Amend the landscape regulations in both Zoning and Subdivision by-laws to increase tree protection and replacement requirement

Status: In Progress.

- Tree preservation and/or replanting to increase canopy in new developments will be considered as a component of Tri-County Green Development Standards, branded as Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics.

L5.4 Adopt both a private and heritage tree protection by-law

Status: Discontinued

- Identified as a potential student project to undertake survey of existing tree preservation and/or replanting initiatives across municipalities and provide recommendations for next steps. Also being explored through Tri-County Green Development Standards, branded as Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics that only apply to new developments over 10 sites.

L5.5 Ensure tree planting requirements are executed through new construction

Status: Delayed

- Tree preservation and/or replanting to increase canopy in new developments will be considered as a component of Tri-County Green Development Standards, branded as Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics.

For Our Land: Action L6

Encourage green infrastructure and low-impact development initiatives to support resiliency goals

L6.1 Promote educational campaigns on options for and benefits of green infrastructure and low-impact development

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout March including public education booths, video, radio, social media promotion, and presentations; Rain Barrel Feasibility Study completed.
- 2023: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout May 2023 including public education booths, video, radio, social media promotion, and earned media.
- 2022: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout May 2022 including workshop, development of education video, radio and social media campaign, and web page launch.

L6.2 Support backyard habitat creation initiatives to protect native biodiversity

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Hosted Earth-Day workshop on regenerative gardening principles with Orangeville Library and Weathered Rock Farms; Education via social media channels.
- 2023: Workshops held in August 2023 with Youth Climate Activation Circle and Credit Valley Conservation Authority to promote pollinator habitat.
- 2022: Invasive Species Awareness Week social media campaign February 28 – March 7 2022.
- 2021: Hosted Introduction to Rainscaping Workshop with Credit Valley Conservation to encourage uptake of natural stormwater management solutions with 66 participants.

L6.3 Encourage uptake of natural stormwater management solutions such as raingardens, soak-away pits, bioswales, or permeable groundcovers (See P2)

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout March including public education booths, video, radio, social media promotion, and presentations; Rain Barrel Feasibility Study completed.
- 2023: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout May 2023 including public education booths, video, radio, social media promotion, and earned media.
- 2022: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout May 2022 including workshop, development of education video, radio and social media campaign, and web page launch.

L6.4 Support conservation and rehabilitation of ecological systems in rural areas

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Three Dufferin farmers participated in Experimental Acres program; Five projects supported through Dufferin Rural Water Quality Program and a scheduled program applied a climate lens to expand eligible projects to include actions that promote carbon sequestration and ecosystem resilience.
- 2023: Four Dufferin farmers participated in 2023 Experimental Acres Pilot; Updates drafted for Rural Water Quality Program with climate lens for eligible measures.
- 2022: Seven Dufferin farmers participated in first year of Experimental Acres Pilot; Hosted Agriculture Round Table promoting the Rural Water Quality Program.

For Our Land: Action L7

Support conservation and rehabilitation of ecological systems in rural areas

L7.1 Support restoration of degraded lands using erosion control, organic and nutrient amendments

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Three Dufferin farmers participated in Experimental Acres program; Five projects supported through Dufferin Rural Water Quality Program and a scheduled program applied a climate lens to expand eligible projects to include actions that promote carbon sequestration and ecosystem resilience.
- 2023: Four Dufferin farmers participated in 2023 Experimental Acres Pilot; Updates drafted for Rural Water Quality Program with climate lens for eligible measures.
- 2022: Seven Dufferin farmers participated in first year of Experimental Acres Pilot; Hosted Agriculture Round Table promoting the Rural Water Quality Program.

L7.2 Support conservation of marginal farmland to perennial grasses or trees

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Scheduled program applied a climate lens to expand eligible projects to include actions that promote carbon sequestration and ecosystem resilience.
- 2023: One Experimental Acres project converted marginal farmland to perennial grasses.

L7.3 Support restoration of wetlands (See L8, P5)

Status: Future Initiative. Ongoing as opportunities arise. Ducks Unlimited purchased 96 acres of wetland in Amaranth for conversation.

For Our Land: Action L8

Support water protection initiatives

L8.1 Support restoration of wetlands (See L7, P5)

Status: Future Initiative. Ongoing as opportunities arise. Ducks Unlimited purchased 96 acres of wetland in Amaranth for conversation.

L8.2 Work with local municipalities to provide a climate lens to water quality and quantity protection initiatives

Status: Future Initiative. Will support local municipalities as funding opportunities arise.

L8.3 Work with local municipalities to develop and/or update stormwater management plans

Status: Discontinued. Discontinued due to capacity. Will support as opportunities arise.

Planning Our County: Action P1

Plan complete communities

P1.1 Prioritize the design of urban areas to reduce personal vehicle use, vehicle kilometers traveled, and to encourage active transportation. This can be achieved through the development of compact, accessible, and walkable neighbourhoods that integrate residential office and retail developments

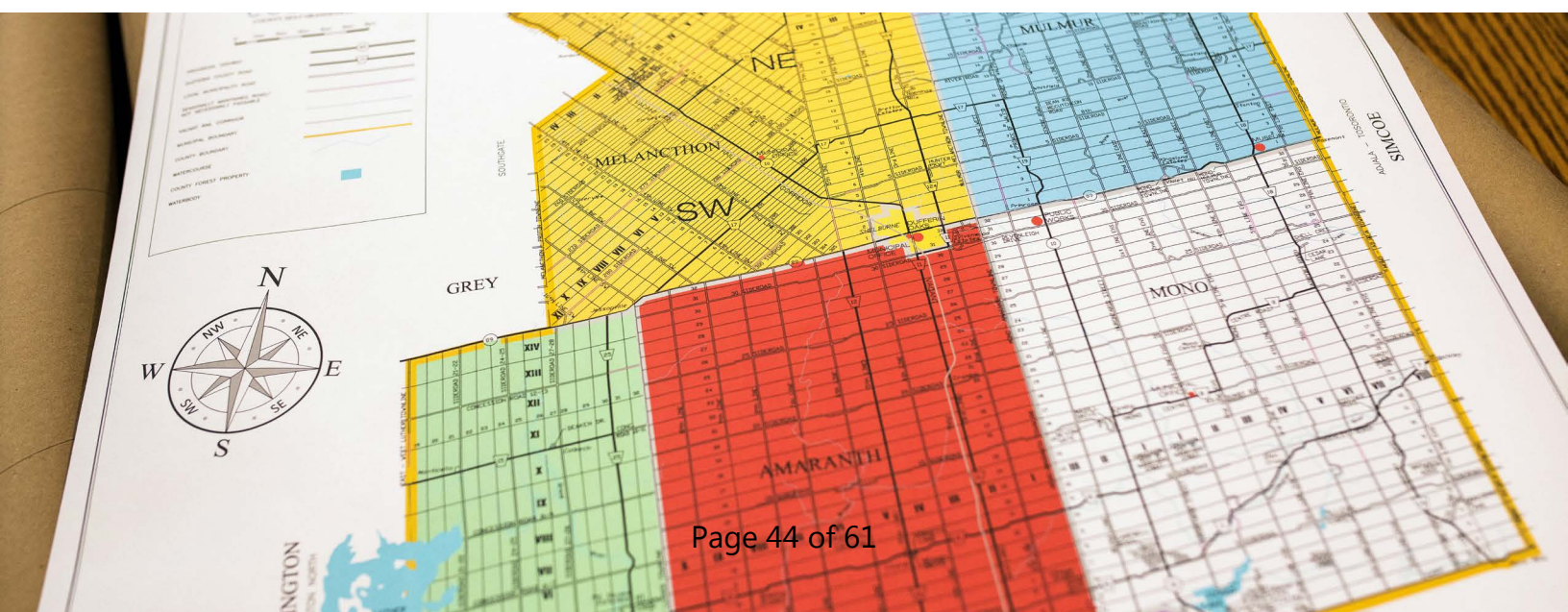
Status: In Progress

- 2024: Green Development Standards, branded as Future-Ready Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics, drafted through research and engagement of municipal staff, developers, and the public.
- 2023: \$445,000 awarded for Tri-County Green Development Standard project by NRCan (Codes Acceleration Fund); Municipal Comprehensive Review is in progress; Transportation Master Plan completed in October 2023.
- 2022: Tri-County Green Development Standard project initiated with Grey and Wellington Counties; Municipal Comprehensive Review is currently in progress that addresses active transportation via Transportation Master Plan.

P1.2 Prioritize infill and high-density housing in the downtown core, commercial zones, and along transit routes through policies

Status: In Progress

- 2024: Green Development Standards, branded as Future-Ready Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics, drafted through research and engagement of municipal staff, developers, and the public.
- 2023: \$445,000 awarded for Tri-County Green Development Standard project by NRCan (Codes Acceleration Fund); Municipal Comprehensive Review is in progress.
- 2022: Tri-County Green Development Standard project initiated with Grey and Wellington Counties.



Planning Our County: Action P2

Create green development standards (GDS) and practices

- P2.1 Create GDS that align with existing or upcoming policy goals and plans related to community energy, climate change, growth and intensification, resilience, and asset management
- P2.2 Engage the building and development community to integrate experiences and leading practices into a GDS
- P2.3 Create requirement for a 'climate impacts' section in all development applications and explore options to incentivize application of GDS by local developers
- P2.4 Embed GDS in the Official Plan, especially as an implementation tool to achieve goals concerning sustainability, health, growth, and infrastructure management
- P2.5 Work with member municipalities to integrate GDS into development standards with a focus on regional alignment

Action P2 is comprised of the objectives outlined above, with a shared progress update:

Status: In Progress

- 2024: Green Development Standards, branded as Future-Ready Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics, drafted through research and engagement of municipal staff, developers, and the public.
- 2023: \$445,000 awarded for Tri-County Green Development Standard project by NRCan (Codes Acceleration Fund); Municipal Comprehensive Review is in progress.
- 2022: Tri-County Green Development Standard project initiated with Grey and Wellington Counties.

Planning Our County: Action P3

Reduce extreme heat risks across public and private properties

P3.1 Conduct a study to identify priority areas to mitigate extreme heat across private and public properties

Status: Complete

- 2022: Preliminary project completed by students at University of Guelph mapping tree canopy cover overlaid with marginalization index.

P3.2 Implement potential recommendations from extreme heat study such as installation of reflective white roofs, urban street tree planting, shading park structures, and the conversion of streets to light colours

Status: Early Stages

- 2023: Town of Orangeville completed Urban Canopy Study establishing a planting goal of 4030 trees per year to reach 2040 target of 40% canopy coverage.

Planning Our County: Action P4

Minimize flood risks in communities through enhancement of built infrastructure

P4.1 Increase capacity to apply climate lens to infrastructure planning for stormwater management

Status: Discontinued due to staff capacity constraints.

P4.2 Update floodplain mapping and develop/update natural stormwater management plans to ensure no increase in vulnerability

Status: Discontinued. Will be advanced through Adaptation Strategy.

Planning Our County: Action P5

Minimize flood risks in communities through enhancement of green infrastructure

P5.1 Enhance the amount of green space/permeable surface incorporated into all communities

Status: In Progress

- 2024: Green Development Standards, branded as Future-Ready Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics, drafted through research and engagement of municipal staff, developers, and the public.
- 2023: \$445,000 awarded for Tri-County Green Development Standard project by NRCan (Codes Acceleration Fund).
- 2022: Tri-County Green Development Standard project initiated with Grey and Wellington Counties.

P5.2 Support an increase in tree coverage through planning policy (See L5)

Status: In Progress

- 2024: Green Development Standards, branded as Future-Ready Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics, drafted through research and engagement of municipal staff, developers, and the public.
- 2023: \$445,000 awarded for Tri-County Green Development Standard project by NRCan (Codes Acceleration Fund).
- 2022: Tri-County Green Development Standard project initiated with Grey and Wellington Counties.

P5.3 Strategically manage natural assets through the directives of the natural asset management plan (See L4)

Status: Future Initiative

- Natural Asset Management Plan scheduled to be completed in 2025 by Finance division; however, this action has been determined that it will be more effectively accomplished through other initiatives.

P5.4 Increase uptake of low impact development technologies on private and public properties (See L6)

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout March including public education booths, video, radio, social media promotion, and presentations; Rain Barrel Feasibility Study completed.
- 2023: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout May 2023 including public education booths, video, radio, social media promotion, and earned media.
- 2022: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout May 2022 including workshop, development of education video, radio and social media campaign, and web page launch.

P5.5 Support wetland restoration and creation initiatives (See L8)

Status: Ongoing as opportunities arise.

Planning Our County: Action P6

Explore opportunities to implement low GHG fuels and/or renewable energy generation and storage

P6.1 Determine renewable energy potential in Dufferin, including potential sites for wind and solar installations

Status: Delayed. Current capacity constraints have delayed initiation of this action.

P6.2 Identify options for local energy generation and storage options, such as microgrids that can also serve as back-up power supply during emergencies

Status: Delayed. Will explore as opportunities arise.

- 2023: Exploration of battery energy storage project by Enfinite Corporation in Amaranth.

P6.3 Collaborate with the agricultural community and energy specialists to identify local options for on-farm renewable energy (See L3)

Status: Delayed. Current capacity constraints have delayed initiation of this action.

P6.4 Identify opportunities for low GHG fuel use in the community such as hydrogen and renewable natural gas

Status: Delayed. Current capacity constraints have delayed initiation of this action.

Planning Our County: Action P7

Explore opportunities to develop a district energy and cogeneration system to decentralize energy production

P7.1 Explore potential sites for a district energy system

Status: Discontinued. Current capacity constraints have discontinued this action until there is additional capacity or as opportunities arise.

P7.2 Create a municipal energy map

Status: Delayed. Current capacity constraints have delayed initiation of this action.

P7.3 Conduct an initial assessment to identify local fuel sources such as biomass or biogas products (See L3)

Status: Discontinued. Current capacity constraints have discontinued this action until there is additional capacity or as opportunities arise.

Planning Our County: Action P8

Enable the uptake of renewable and low GHG energy within the community through education

P8.1 Provide learning and training opportunities for residents, developers, building owners, and businesses on renewable energy options such as ground mount solar, rooftop PV, geothermal, and renewable natural gas

Status: Early Stages

- 2024: RFP issued to develop Talent and Business Attraction Plan, but no bids were received. Seeking additional proponents in 2025.
- 2023: Talent and Business Attraction Plan approved through Tri-County Green Development Standard project, which has been branded Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics.

P8.2 Promote financing opportunities for neighbourhood level energy generation and ownership, such as solar installations

Status: Delayed. Current capacity constraints have delayed initiation of this action. Will initiate as opportunities arise (e.g. Provincial support).



In Our Bins: Action W1

Enable the uptake of renewable and low GHG energy within the community through education

W1.1 Work with Waste Services to increase rates of, and participation in, composting through educational campaigns

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Neighbourhood campaign in 4 neighbourhoods, 1 in Grand Valley, 1 in Shelburne, 2 in Orangeville (participation study and engagement for Green Bin program); BYC engagement.
- 2023: 2961 tonnes diverted for green bin; 1800 tonnes diverted in yard waste; Neighborhood campaign in Shelburne neighborhood (participation study and engagement for Green Bin program).
- 2022: 930 tonnes of organics through Dufferin Waste's Green Bin program; 2265 tonnes of yard waste diverted through Dufferin Waste; Green Bin program promoted through multi-residential engagement and neighborhood campaign.
- 2021: 3,200 tonnes of organics through Dufferin Waste's Green Bin program.

W1.2 Work with Waste Services to support food waste reduction efforts

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Food Waste Holiday Tips feature and Food Waste Friday posts on social media.
- 2023: Food Waste Friday Social Media Campaign collectively reached over 4100 accounts on social media.
- 2022: Dufferin Waste's Love Your Leftovers Draw reached 150 people; Climate Action in Dufferin amplified the Love Food, Hate Waste, campaign in March 2022.
- 2021: Dufferin Waste engaged over 100 people through the Plan to Save, Reduce Food Waste campaign.

W1.3 Develop organic waste diversion educational opportunities for ICI stakeholders

Status: Ongoing

- 2023: Approximately 100 ICI service & engagement visits/calls to determine organics program (and garbage/recycling) participation; Distributed green bins/carts to those interested and/or needed new containers.
- 2022: Service & engagement visits to 150 businesses.

In Our Bins: Action W2

Support local circular economy initiatives

W2.1 Support individuals, businesses, and industry efforts to reduce waste through circular economy initiatives

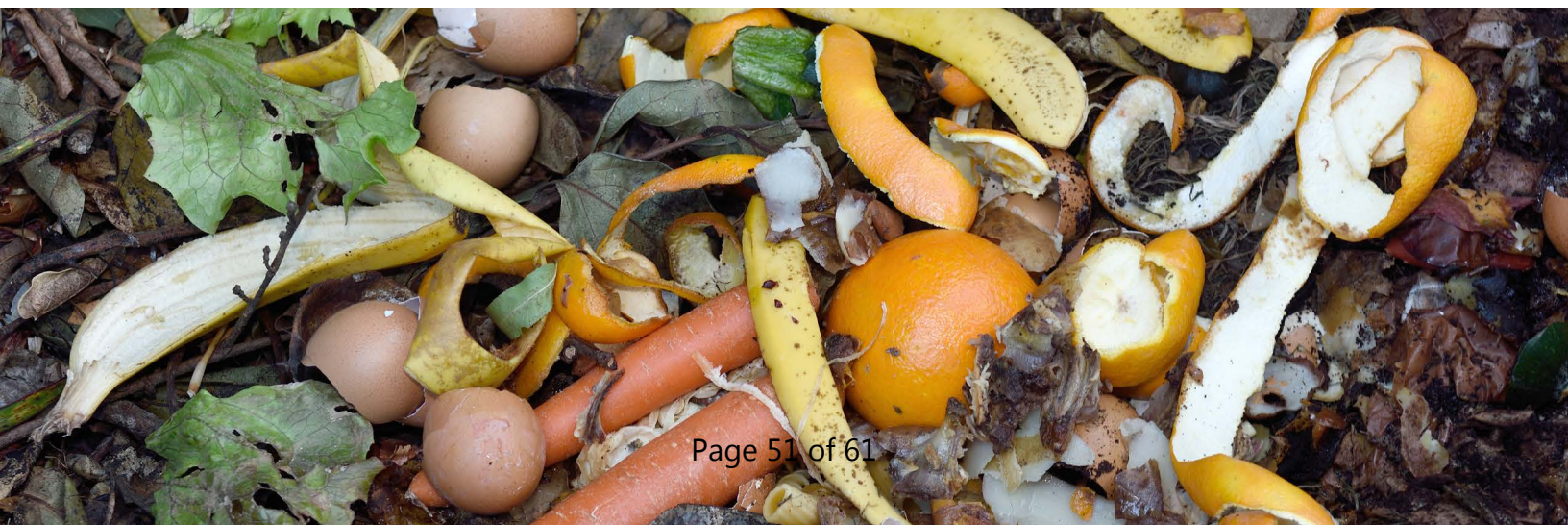
Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Winter Warmth Clothing Swap Party with Grand Valley Public Library.
- 2023: Dufferin Waste's Take it Back Directory reached over 22,000 through newspaper ads and reached over 1,100 social media accounts; Promotion of Clothes'ing the Loop on Textiles campaign & map tool with over 1,400 social media engagements. The map tool had over 1200 visits between March and December; Held 2 clothing swap parties. Over 15 staff members attended. Donated over 30 pieces of textiles after the event.
- 2022: Over 50 business and organization promoted through Dufferin Waste's Take it Back Directory; Promotion of Clothes'ing the Loop on Textiles campaign & map tool with over 700 social media engagements; Textiles feature blog on Climate Hub.

W2.2 Work with community stakeholders to increase knowledge of and participation in circular economy initiatives

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Distribute newsletter for Circular Economy Month; Hosted community presentations; Promoted Take it Back Directory.
- 2023: Over 50 business and organization promoted through Dufferin Waste's Take it Back Directory; Clothes'ing the Loop on Textiles map tool features 19 listings for textiles donations and recycling with 8 different businesses and organizations.
- 2022: Over 50 business and organization promoted through Dufferin Waste's Take it Back Directory; Promotion of Clothes'ing the Loop on Textiles campaign & map tool with over 700 social media engagements.



Empowering Our Community: Action C1

Provide capacity building opportunities for residents, businesses, and institutions

C1. 1 Provide resources and learning opportunities for residents with detailed information on tools, resources, and supports to reduce GHG emissions

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Hosted or presented at Climate Solutions Fair, Regenerative Gardening Earth Day workshop, Dufferin Oaks Clothing Swap, Coffee, Tea, Connection at Grand Valley Public Library, Mulmur Town Hall, PROBUS Club of Orangeville, Orangeville Youth Council, STEM Club, High Country United Church, Dufferin Community Housing, in addition to a number of project specific engagement events; Attended 9 community events including March Break at the Museum of Dufferin, Orangeville Lions Home Show, Blues and Jazz Festival, Celebrate Your Awesome, Orangeville Rotary Ribfest, A Taste of Orangeville, Orangeville Fall Fair, Dufferin Community Living's 70th Anniversary, and the Dream Dufferin Career Fair; Educational resources shared on an ongoing basis via social media channels and e-newsletter.
- 2023: Hosted 10 workshops and events including a Climate Solutions Fair, pop-ups booths at Grand Valley and Orangeville Home Hardware and Canadian Tire, Earth Day Art Workshop, pop-up tick education booths, Storytime and STEM Club at Shelburne Public Library, electric vehicle test-drive events, and Youth Climate Activation Circle workshops; Attended 11 community events including Orangeville Lions Home Show, Emergency Management Forum, Blues and Jazz Festival, Celebrate Your Awesome, Orangeville Rotary Ribfest, EEE at Orangeville Hydro, Grand Valley Farmer's Market, International Plowing Match and Rural Expo, Dufferin Farm Tour, Dream Dufferin Career Fair, and STREAMS Hub Very Merry Market; Educational resources shared on an ongoing basis via social media channels and e-newsletter.
- 2022: Launched two new web pages to provide resources on home flood protection and residential energy efficiency; Hosted 7 workshops and events including an Earth Day action workshop, Community Bike Ride, Home Flood Protection webinar, Energy Efficiency Workshop, Storytime at Shelburne Library, Coffee, Tea, and Connection at Grand Valley Library, PD session at Upper Grand District School Board, and a Climate Solutions Fair.
- 2021: Launched the Climate Hub and Climate Action in Dufferin e-newsletter; Educational resources shared on an ongoing basis via social media channels; Saved 3,500 pounds of carbon dioxide and took 753 climate actions through the Earth Month Ecochallenge, led with Headwaters Communities in Action and Sustainable Orangeville; Attended 5 community events including Orangeville Lions Home Show, Blues and Jazz Festival, Orangeville Rotary Ribfest, Let's Make Mono Shine, and Melancthon Day; Educational resources shared on an ongoing basis via social media channels and e-newsletter; Led the Earth Month Ecochallenge, in partnership with Headwaters Communities in Action, County of Wellington, and Upper Grand District School Board.

C1. 2 Create a “Community Climate Fund to support existing programs in the community for organizations undertaking environmental or social justice work

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Community Grants Program accepting applications under “Climate” stream.
- 2023: Community Grants Program accepting climate projects. Collaborating with HCIA to tailor promotional materials to support submissions to the Climate Stream
- 2022: Community Grants Program accepting climate projects. Collaborating with HCIA to tailor promotional materials to support submissions to the Climate Stream.
- 2021: Climate Action stream incorporated into Community Grants Program.

C1. 3 Develop a climate change toolkit for businesses to assist with climate change impact analysis and continuity planning for extreme weather

Status: Delayed. Current capacity constraints have delayed initiation of this action.

C1. 4 Develop a green procurement guide for ICI stakeholders

Status: Delayed. Current capacity constraints have delayed initiation of this action.

Empowering Our Community: Action C2

Create a community culture around climate action

C2. 1 Create a “Climate Engagement and Cultural Plan” with diverse community groups, particularly with equity and sovereignty seeking groups

Status: Discontinued. Annual communications strategy developed; however, it did not include consultation. Identified as element of 2025 plan update.

C2. 2 Conduct market research to identify barriers and motivations for desired sustainable behaviours

Status: Early Stages

- 2024: Successful applicant to Natural Resource Canada’s Clean Fuels Clean Transportation Fund; Conducted Needs Assessment to expand on existing baseline data, to further a deeper understanding of the knowledge gaps and barriers to EV adoption for the Electrifying BackRoads project.
- 2023: Submitted an application to Natural Resource Canada’s Clean Fuels Clean Transportation Fund for the Electrifying BackRoads project.

C2. 3 Promote educational campaigns to encourage sustainable behaviours, such as supporting local food and farming

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Lead and/or amplified Home Flood Protection and Residential Energy Efficiency campaigns; Conducted Needs Assessment to expand on existing baseline data, to further a deeper understanding of the knowledge gaps and barriers to EV adoption for the Electrifying BackRoads project.
- 2023: Lead and/or amplified 4 campaigns including Home Flood Protection, Electric Vehicle Awareness, Tick Talk, and Residential Energy Efficiency; Engaged over 1200 students at the International Plowing Match in September 2023 on regenerative agriculture.
- 2022: Lead and/or amplified 5 campaigns including Invasive Species Awareness Week, Love Hate Food Waste, Home Flood Protection, Bike Month, and Residential Energy Efficiency.
- 2021: Lead and/or amplified 3 campaigns including Bike Month, Charge Up in Dufferin, and Climate Stories of Dufferin.

C2. 4 Promote local stories and highlight success in the community

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Spotlights local producers through the Dufferin Rural Water Quality Program and Experimental Acres. Amplified story of youth volunteers through Youth Climate Activation Circle.
- 2021: Spotlights local climate champions through the Climate Stories of Dufferin Project. Ongoing amplification of submitted stories.

C2. 5 Establish a multi-level Climate Ambassadors Program to facilitate the inclusion of all community members in climate action initiatives

Status: Complete

- 2024: Second cohort of Youth Climate Activation Circle initiated.
- 2023: Youth Climate Activation Circle volunteer program launched concluded first cohort with 8 participants who hosted a Climate-Friendly Landscaping workshop series in summer 2023.
- 2022: Youth Climate Activation Circle established through ICLEI Canada's Agents of Change Project.
- 2021: Proposal submitted to ICLEI Canada's Agents of Change Project to establish youth programming.

C2. 6 Support initiatives such as composting, sewing repair, bicycle repair hub

Status: Ongoing

- 2024: Phase 1 of engagement completed for Resilience Hub which engaged 26 organizations and committees and connected with 250 community members, gathering diverse perspectives to inform the hub's development.
- 2023: Planning for a community resiliency hub has begun and will receive 300 staff hours to support the project's community engagement courtesy of the Ontario Resource Centre for Climate Adaptation.



Appendix B: DCAS Action Status

This appendix identifies the County's progress to date on the implementation of the actions in *Together for Change: Dufferin's Climate Adaptation Strategy* since its release in April 2023.

Each action is categorized in one of the following status categories:

Complete

The action has been implemented.

In Progress

Work on this action is actively underway.

Ongoing

This action will be implemented on an ongoing or reoccurring basis.

Early Stages

Early work has been started, but requires additional work and resources to develop and implement.

Delayed

Implementation of this action is delayed to a later date.

Future Action

Implementation of this action is delayed to a later date.

Discontinued

For specified reasons, this action has been discontinued.

Buildings and Infrastructure

Objective: Strengthen the resilience of private buildings and infrastructure to climate-related risks and impacts

Action	Status	Progress to Date
Bl.1 Encourage homeowners and property owners to improve the climate resilience of residential and private property through upgrades and/or retrofit	In Progress	<p>2024: The County's application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Community Efficiency Financing Capital and Grants Stream was successful under a conditional agreement. The BetterHomes Dufferin program will have a total value of \$11.25 million to support energy retrofits on approximately 450 homes; Green Development Standards, branded as Future-Ready Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics, drafted through research and engagement of municipal staff, developers, and the public.</p> <p>2023: Pre-application for funding was submitted to support the BetterHomes Dufferin project; Tri-County Green Development Standards project started, with \$445k in funding secured. Project will include resilience measures for new homes and encourage climate-resilient building materials and design.</p>
Bl.2 Encourage home and property owners to implement best practices in stormwater management on their home or property to reduce flooding risk	In Progress	<p>2024: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout March including public education booths, video, radio, social media promotion, and presentations.</p> <p>2023: Home Flood Protection campaign held throughout May 2023 including public education booths, video, radio, social media promotion, and earned media.</p>
Bl.3 Create framework for adopting a Green Development Standard to build resiliency and complete communities (e.g. low-impact development, flood mitigation measures, access to green space, enhanced tree canopy)	In Progress	<p>2024: Green Development Standards, branded as Future-Ready Sustainable Neighbourhood Metrics, drafted through research and engagement of municipal staff, developers, and the public.</p> <p>2023: Tri-County Green Development Standards project started, with \$445k in funding secured. Project will include resilience measures for new homes and encourage climate-resilient building materials and design.</p>

Objective: Strengthen resilience of corporate assets and infrastructure to climate-related risks and impacts

Action	Status	Progress to Date
BI.4 Incorporate a climate lens into asset management, capital planning, and budgetary processes	In Progress	2024: An infrastructure risk assessment was initiated in 2024 climate vulnerability assessment of its public infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and culverts; Community of Practice established to support finalization of Equity & Climate Lens Assessment Tool scheduled for roll-out in 2025. 2023: Budget allocated in 2024 to support a climate risk assessment on roads infrastructure; Climate lens tool is being developed with the support of an internal community of practice. It is anticipated to be applied in 2025 budget.
BI.5 Periodically review and implement best practices in climate resilient infrastructure, design, materials, storm water management and flood mitigation measures.	Future Initiative	Not started
BI.6 Develop a County road infrastructure resiliency program.	Early Stages	2024: An infrastructure risk assessment was initiated in 2024 climate vulnerability assessment of its public infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and culverts; Funding application submitted to Green Municipal Fund in 2024 to conduct a study to improve the energy efficiency and climate resiliency of community housing portfolio. 2023: Budget allocated in 2024 to support a climate risk assessment on roads infrastructure intended to support the development of a comprehensive road resiliency program

Energy and Economy

Objective: Enable local businesses and organizations to plan for climate-related risks

Action	Status	Progress to Date
EE.1 Provide guidance to local businesses on how to maintain business continuity	Future Initiative	Not started

Objective: Improve the resilience of energy infrastructure to weather-related disruptions

Action	Status	Progress to Date
EE.2 Increase the resilience of energy distribution infrastructure to extreme weather through strategic planning and retrofits	Future Initiative	Dufferin County will support Utilities as opportunities arise
EE.3 Ensure all municipal-owned facilities providing critical services (i.e. critical road intersections, vulnerable population facilities such as LTC homes, etc.) have reliable, low-carbon, backup power systems in place.	Early Stages	2024: In partnership with Facilities, energy audits are being completed on all County-owned buildings with expected completion in 2025; Funding application submitted to GMF in 2024 to conduct a study to improve the energy efficiency and climate resiliency of community housing portfolio.

Agriculture and Natural Environment

Objective: Support the protection, rehabilitation, and enhancement of natural systems to foster climate resiliency

Action	Status	Progress to Date
AN.1 Increase uptake of sustainable land use and management practices by residents and landowners	In Progress	2024: Three Dufferin farmers participated in Experimental Acres program; Five projects supported through Dufferin Rural Water Quality Program and a scheduled program applied a climate lens to expand eligible projects to include actions that promote carbon sequestration and ecosystem resilience. 2023: 5 farmers participated in 2023 Projects Experimental Acres program; The budget for the RWQP has been increased from \$40k to \$60k to account for expected increase in uptake.
AN.2 Implement and support nature-based solutions to enhance water security, habitat restoration, and reduce habitat fragmentation.	In Progress	2024: Three Dufferin farmers participated in Experimental Acres program; Five projects supported through Dufferin Rural Water Quality Program and a scheduled program applied a climate lens to expand eligible projects to include actions that promote carbon sequestration and ecosystem resilience. 2023: The budget for the RWQP has been increased from \$40k to \$60k to account for expected increase in uptake

Objective: Support best practices within agricultural management systems to enhance climate resilience

Action	Status	Progress to Date
AN.3 Increase uptake of regenerative agricultural practices in partnership with farmers to increase soil organic matter, reduce soil erosion, and improve water security.	In Progress	2024: Three Dufferin farmers participated in Experimental Acres program; Five projects supported through Dufferin Rural Water Quality Program and a scheduled program applied a climate lens to expand eligible projects to include actions that promote carbon sequestration and ecosystem resilience. 2023: 5 farmers participated in 2023 Projects Experimental Acres program

People and Health

Objective: Minimize and manage climate-related health and safety risks for municipal staff

Action	Status	Progress to Date
PH.1 Review, develop and update policies, procedures, and training to ensure County staff are safe during extreme weather conditions and encourage local municipalities to adopt similar policies and procedures.	Ongoing	2024: Ensured compliance with the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act for all nine Dufferin County emergency management programs to the satisfaction of provincial auditors; Produced multi-media training resources for lower tier municipalities to provide consistent training to emergency volunteers; Hosted an EM Workshop focused on the very real risk of wild-land urban interface fires. Attendees included all lower tier municipalities, neighbouring upper and lower tier municipalities and representatives from provincial ministries; Actively participated in working groups focused on revisions to provincial legislation and regulations to address the threat of a changing climate; Developed and implemented an emergency response procedure for staff working off-site or at festivals and events. 2023: Conducted an annual review of all emergency response plan with the nine Emergency Management Program Committees; Reviewed the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment framework and the Community Risk Profile; Provided training and conducted severe weather (tornado) drills at all County facilities.

Objective: Enhance social infrastructure in order to minimize and manage climate-related health and safety risks for residents

Action	Status	Progress to Date
PH.2 Establish and enhance emergency preparedness communications and programs for residents to strengthen personal resiliency to climate impacts.	In Progress	2024: Implemented an internal multi-platform emergency alerting system that ensures crucial information can be sent to all County personnel and lower tier decision makers; Revised the County-wide emergency contact list to ensure consistency and accuracy; Provided workshops to the public focused on 'wildfire resistant landscaping and planting'; Participated in flood awareness workshops for the public; 2023: Creation of emergency preparedness media toolkit initiated; Emergency Management launch emergency support services (ESS) trailers.
PH.3 Review, develop and update policies, and procedures to ensure residents, in particular those most vulnerable, are safe during extreme weather conditions.	Ongoing	2024: Met with every resident of community housing to discuss emergency preparedness and risk mitigation; Assisted childcare centres with severe weather emergency procedures; Aided medical and long-term care professionals in developing appropriate response plans to extreme threats; Negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding with the Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services to provide vital assistance to people affected by disasters as well as important support to emergency responders at protracted incidents; Worked with five lower tier municipalities and on volunteer agency to secure funding for enhancing emergency response capabilities. 2023: Facilitated emergency exercises for all nine municipalities. This exercise focused on coordinating a multi-site Emergency Support Services response using supplies recently acquired by each lower tier municipality and supporting the staff and volunteers assigned to shelters
PH.4 Enhance community connectivity to increase emergency response capacity during climate change related emergencies	In Progress	2024: Facilitated Emergency Support Services training for lower-tier staff and volunteers; Designed and acquired two (2) mobile emergency operations centre kits that will ensure a municipal emergency control group can coordinate a severe weather response from anywhere. 2023: Provided training to more than 60 community members who volunteered to assist at ESS shelter sites during community emergencies; Planning for a community resiliency hub has begun and will receive 300 staff hours to support the project's community engagement courtesy of the Ontario Resource Centre for Climate Adaptation.
PH.5 Monitor and plan for increasing risk of vector-borne diseases in the community	Early Stages	2023: Traveling tick education exhibit for youth, developed by Public Health Agency of Canada, hosted at Dufferin EarlyON Centers and Museum of Dufferin

Objective: Protect tenants in multi-residential buildings from excessive heat in their units

Action	Status	Progress to Date
PH.6 Establish maximum temperature by-law for rental properties.	Early Stages	Preliminary scans of municipal efforts began in 2023.

Enabling Actions

Objective: Increase capacity of municipalities to respond to extreme weather (mitigating damages, restoring services, etc.)

Action	Status	Progress to Date
EA.1 Secure new tools and technologies to accelerate and enhance adaptation initiatives	Future Initiative	2024: Designed and acquired two (2) mobile emergency operations centre kits that will ensure a municipal emergency control group can coordinate a severe weather response from anywhere.
EA.2 Build redundancies into operations to ensure service continuity and improve response to significant weather events and emergencies.	Early Stages	2024: Pre-project planning documents completed, and contract awarded for engineering analysis for Southern Operations Centre. Short list of potential sites established in 2024. Work is progressing as planned.
EA.3 Establish mandatory training for County and local municipal staff on climate change	Complete	2024: Climate change training delivered to all non-union County staff and embedded into on-boarding process. Additional training to be delivered to County and local municipal staff on an ongoing basis.

Objective: Optimize public communications strategies for extreme weather and other climate impacts

Action	Status	Progress to Date
EA.4 Enhance efficacy of public communications for emergency preparedness and response	Future Initiative	Not started

Objective: Build financial capacity to plan for and respond to climate related threats

Action	Status	Progress to Date
EA.5 Create a Climate Reserve Fund to build financial capacity to respond to impacts of climate change and build resiliency	Future Initiative	Not started