Action Highlights

Energy Policy Programs

- The Home Energy Report Program provided periodic reports to more than 25,000 homeowners, with educational information about their electricity use compared to similar homes in Fort Collins. Recipients of the report achieved electric savings of more than 5,000 megawatt-hours (MWh).
- The Home Efficiency Program completed 518 comprehensive home efficiency audits, leading to 248 energy retrofit projects.
- Customer savings from 2011 efficiency programs totaled more than 20,434 MWh in annual electricity use, or 1.4% of the community's electric use. This is equivalent to the annual electric use of more than 2,250 typical Fort Collins homes.
- Photovoltaic (PV) capacity additions totaled 350 kW (130 kW residential and 220 kW commercial).

ClimateWise

- Partner volunteers and student interns supported the program by logging more than 606 hours valued at $12,944 in areas such as website redevelopment assistance, research and related reporting, and more. ClimateWise partners contributed more than $17,550 to the program through sponsorship, service and in-kind donations.
- Natural Capitalism Solutions named ClimateWise as a national best practice program, along with six outreach programs spanning from Boston to Seattle.
- Agencies that explored the ClimateWise model include State of New Mexico, Pollution Prevention Department (Green Zia Environmental Leadership Program), University of Chicago (through a student project), and Town of Durango's Four Core Program.

Solid Waste/Recycling

- Citizens' 2011 survey responses showed a strong support for recycling and many comments indicated citizens' increasing interest in food and yard waste compost collection options.
- The Integrated Recycling Facility Study examined the feasibility of creating a facility to accept many of the recyclables still currently being landfilled, especially from small-scale construction and demolition projects.
- A Waste Stream Study analyzed the composition of materials currently being landfilled and looked at waste conversion technologies (waste-to-energy) and their feasibility.
- Green building codes were established, which went into effect in January 2012. New on-site recycling requirements may help divert more construction and demolition material from landfills.

Transportation

- Transfort purchased six new Compressed Natural Gas buses and seven more are planned to be purchased in 2012.
- The final design of the Mason MAX Bus Rapid Transit system was completed and conversion of Mason Street to two-way operation commenced in 2011.
- Almost ten percent (9.9%) of Fort Collins' work force cycled to their jobs each day.
- A Bike Box was installed at Plum and Shields, the first in Colorado.
- Several street improvements were made in 2011 to Fort Collins' streets that helped to reduce congestion or increase bicycling, thereby reducing associated greenhouse gas emissions.

For more information visit *fcgov.com/climateprotection* or call (970)221-6600

2011 Status Report
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Fort Collins Climate Action Plan
2011 Status Report - Executive Summary

City of Fort Collins

August 2012

Executive Summary

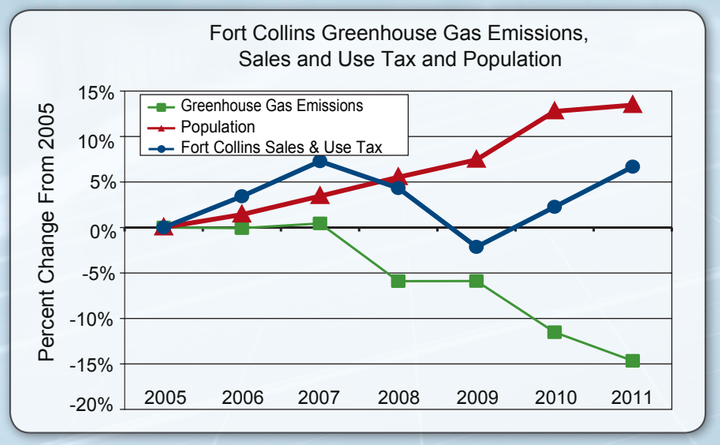
Climate change poses a real and serious threat to the world at large and to the quality of life that we value in Fort Collins. Climate change can affect us locally by contributing to more frequent and severe storms, increased drought and risk of forest fires and changes in the timing and amount of spring runoff. Painfully close to home in 2011, we have all witnessed or been directly impacted by the recent wildfires raging in our county and state. Climate change adds to wildfire risk through the proliferation of pine beetle-killed trees and vulnerability to extreme weather events such as heat waves and drought.

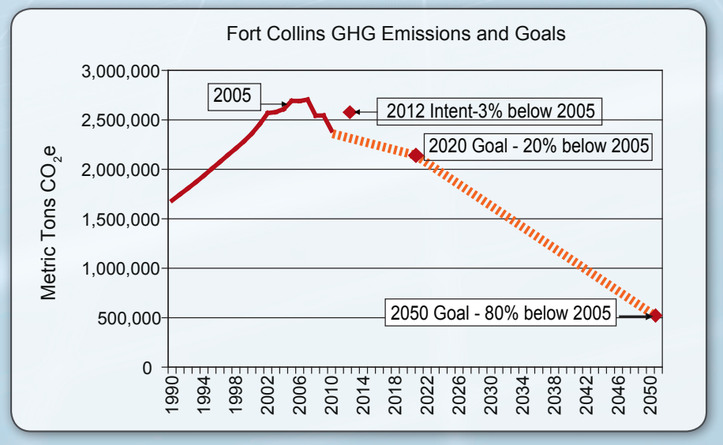
Fort Collins Climate Stewardship

In 2008, City Council adopted carbon reduction goals for the Fort Collins Community.

- Reduce communitywide emissions 20% below 2005 levels by 2020
- Reduce communitywide emissions 80% below 2005 levels by 2050

Through community engagement in energy efficiency and renewable energy programs, and waste and transportation reduction efforts, Fort Collins' greenhouse gas emissions are now 14.7% lower than they were in 2005, despite a population growth of 13.5%. And, during 2011, Fort Collins was ranked 5th Best Place for Businesses and Careers (Forbes, June 2011) and Top Colorado City for Job Growth, Fort Collins-Loveland (*newgeography.com* - May 2011), confirming that carbon reductions and high quality of life can, and do, go hand in hand.





Good News by the Numbers

Between 2005 and 2011:

- Total community greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions dropped by 14.7%.
- Core community emissions (electricity, natural gas and vehicle travel) dropped by 9%.
- Per capita GHG emissions dropped by 25%.
- Per capita electricity use dropped by 8%.
- 6.5% of our electricity investments provided clean, renewable energy.
- Tons of waste sent to the landfill dropped by 45%.
- Non-Industrial Community Waste Diversion Rate increased to 47%.
- ClimateWise partners avoided more than 149,000 metric tons of CO_2e while saving more than $13M in 2011.
- The number of VanGo vans increased by 49% from 2005.
- Transfort saw more than 2.1 million riders in 2011 (46% increase from 2005), avoiding more than 8.4 million miles in 2011.
- The Fort Collins community collectively avoided more than 365,000 metric tons of CO_2e in 2011 alone.

These reductions are comparable to avoiding:

- Annual GHG emissions of more than 71,000 passenger cars
- Emissions from the energy used in 31,000 homes for one year
- GHG emissions avoided by recycling more than 127,000 tons of material each year

Air Pollution Benefits

2011 climate mitigation actions also reduced air pollution in Fort Collins:

- 199 tons nitrogen oxides avoided
- 178 tons sulfur oxides avoided
- 59 tons of carbon monoxide avoided