Climate Action Plan

THE VINEYARD WAY

CONNECTED TO OUR PAST
COMMITTED TO OUR FUTURE

October 2021 – August 2022
Today’s Objectives:

● Thank you!
● Share the final plan overview
● Discuss town collaboration for implementation
Plan Overview

- Land Acknowledgement
- Executive Summary
- What Motivates Us
  - MV Climate Emissions Baseline
  - Climate Hazards and Impacts
  - Climate and the Environment
  - Climate Equity
- Engaging our Community
- Timeline of Key MV Climate Milestones
- Thematic Group Chapters
- Overarching Goals
- Moving Forward
- Acknowledgements
Thematic Planning Area Sections

• Thematic Area Description and Climate Impacts

• What’s Happening Now

• Equity and Questions to Consider

• Goals and Measures of Success

• Objectives, Actions, Leads, Cost, Co-Benefits
15 Goals
56 Objectives
191 Actions

Lead Organizations/Groups:
Ag Society, C&D Waste Committee, Vineyard Vision Fellowship, Cape Light Compact, Dukes County Emergency Managers Association, Dukes County health sub-committee, local CERT teams, Fire Chiefs, I2, Island Grown Initiative, Island Health Care, Kinship Heals, Morning Glory Farm, MV Center for Education and Training (formerly ACE MV), MV CLC Reps, MV Fishermen’s Preservation Trust, MV Shellfish Group, MV Food Waste Initiative Committee, MV Seafood Collaborative, MV Shellfish Group, Cottage City Oysters, MV Tick Program, Martha’s Vineyard Commission, MVC Climate Action Task Force, Polly Hill, BiodiversityWorks, President of Health Council, Prospective Emergency Manager, Steamship Authority, Town energy committees, Vineyard Conservation Society, Vineyard Power, Vineyard Sustainable Energy Committee

Town Collaboration: Climate & Energy Committees (on VSEC and CRC)
Land Use, Natural Resources, and Biodiversity

Actions include
• discontinuing or managing development in vulnerable areas (e.g., flood zones);
• preservation of salt marshes for their many community values;
• setting maximum disturbance limits for new development and standards for the use of native plantings; and
• protecting coastal pond water quality and our drinking water through increased collaboration and enhanced regulations.

Town Collaboration for Implementation: Planning Boards, Conservation Commission
Transportation, Infrastructure, and Waste

Actions include:

• planning for the protection or relocation of critical vulnerable roads that includes nature-based strategies,
• collaboration with the Steamship Authority to build resilient port infrastructure,
• assessing and addressing supply chain vulnerabilities, and
• reducing solid waste and increasing self sufficiency (food & construction waste).

Town Collaboration for Implementation: Department of Public Works, Joint Transportation Committee Representative
Public Health and Safety

Actions include

• bilingual community outreach to the public and health care providers on health-related climate impacts and ways to reduce vulnerability (e.g., heat stress, wildfire, tick borne disease)
• regional database of vulnerable populations
• one or more regional emergency shelters stocked and staffed
• development of an Island-wide emergency preparedness, response and recovery plan; and
• implementation of the regional Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

Town Collaboration for Implementation: First Responders, Board of Health, Town Emergency Managers
Economic Resilience

Actions for a resilient economic future include

- assessment of vulnerable businesses and options for new economic conditions (diversifying the economy)
- training residents for climate-related jobs,
- assisting the transition of vulnerable businesses (fossil fuel-related businesses and those in at-risk locations)
- encouraging businesses to adopt resilient and sustainable practices

Town Department Collaboration for Implementation: Finance Committee and Board of Assessors
Food Security

Actions include
- improving Northeast-based supply chains that minimize risk of disruptions
- developing standards for climate-friendly farming practices;
- increase aquaculture production and local purchase of local seafood
- ensuring that a consistent food supply will be in place for the food insecure and during emergencies;
- increasing access to lands for the Indigenous community;
- increased aquaculture production; and support for careers in commercial fishing.

Town Collaboration for Implementation: Shellfish Constable, Zoning Board
Energy Transformation

Actions include:
• increasing efficient electric home heating, the use of electric vehicles, and solar energy;
• increase participation for energy transition assistance to low-and-moderate income residents.
• microgrids and battery storage at critical facilities (working with emergency management);
• advocacy for the transition of ferries to electric power;
• collaboration with Eversource for sufficient electric grid capacity
• towns develop plan for energy resilience with Island wide guidance
• Aid in implementation of stretch code with outreach and training

Town Collaboration for Implementation: Building Department/Inspectors, Select Boards, Planning Boards
How this plan helps you:

- Grant agencies look favorable on regional projects (that help us all)
- One plan goal is to find sustainable funding
- Access more technical resources and expertise that support town initiatives and public awareness
- Collaboration on specific topics can reduce town staff workloads (e.g., updating floodplain bylaws)
- Blueprint for island climate resilience that includes specific “town actions” that can be used for town planning (e.g., Master Planning)

How you can help with this plan:

- Encourage and support your town staff and boards members to engage in regional collaboration on specific actions
- Encourage your finance committee to begin considerations for town and regional climate funding needs
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME & SUPPORT!

Please download the plan and keep checking back on our progress at:
www.vineyardway.org

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