



Connecticut Climate Change

Fairfield Committed to 20% Clean Energy by 2010

In February 2005, Fairfield became the first town in severely congested Fairfield County to commit to the 20% by 2010 Clean Energy Campaign. First Selectman Kenneth Flatto appointed a nine-member Clean Energy Task to hold monthly meetings to view presentations about different clean energy technologies and the suppliers under the CT Clean Energy Options program. The Town has promoted clean energy options to the residents through notices on the municipal website, frequent notices in local newspapers, and a town wide mailing. The town also promotes clean energy on television and radio and at Earth Day celebrations, adult education classes, the local transfer station, and summer concerts.



Fairfield has earned two free solar photovoltaic systems from the CT Clean Energy Fund as part of the CT Clean Energy Communities program because more than 200 town residents and businesses have followed the town's commitment to purchase clean energy. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held in October 2006 to celebrate the installation of this 2-kilowatt (kW) system at Fairfield Woods Middle School. In addition to buying clean energy through the electric grid, the town has various on-site clean energy systems including a 200 kW fuel cell that provides combined heat and power for the composting facility; two 30 kW micro-turbines that run off methane from the wastewater treatment plant and generate approximately 500 mega watt hours of clean energy and heat for the digesters; six 60 kilowatt micro-turbines that run off natural gas and provide clean energy for the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA); and a 200 W stand-alone solar photovoltaic system at Fairfield Woods Middle School, purchased by the school's PTA, that provides power for shop tools and computers.

The Town of Fairfield also has plans to add additional onsite renewable systems including a 55 kW solar photovoltaic system at the composting facility that will generate approximately 65 MWh of clean energy; a 200 kW solar photovoltaic system that was donated by a parent at Riverfield Elementary School, and a small wind turbine that was donated to Fairfield Woods Middle School. The Town task force is considering options for additional fuel cells, solar projects, and a wind turbine at the site of the wastewater treatment plant and other municipal properties.

Fairfield is a prime example of a clean energy community in Connecticut that is devoted to the reduction of greenhouse gases and the support of clean energy. First Selectman Flatto noted that Fairfield is already supporting clean energy with the installation of the WPCA fuel cell, and that the Town is committed to "seeking environmentally friendly approaches wherever possible and the 20% by 2010 campaign is the next logical step in the process."

For more information on **CT Clean Energy Options**, visit
<http://www.ctcleanenergyoptions.com/>