



Inventory and Assess Historic Resources

Beginning in 2021, Sustainable CT has adopted a new numbering system for its actions. To translate between the new and prior numbering schemes, please visit our website to view a numbering translation guide.

Action Updates

This action has been revised for the **current certification cycle**. A version of this action from the prior program year is [available for comparison](#). Edits are highlighted in yellow. (Last updated 2020)

Objective

Educate on, plan for, and implement projects to protect your community's historic resources.

Complementary Action:

- [Assess Climate Vulnerability](#)

What to Do

Best practices for historic places can be found within the Secretary of the Interior's [Standards for the Treatment of Historic Places](#).

The more you do, the more points you earn.

1. Identify multiple priority historic assets within your community. Inventories containing fewer than 5 assets may earn 5 points, those with 5-10 assets may earn 10 points, and those with more than 10 assets may earn 15 points. Actions should be specific to each asset listed. Please include a short description of each location, and note if the location is privately or municipally owned. Assets may include: **(up to 15 points)**
 - o Historic buildings,
 - o Parks,
 - o Natural resources,
 - o View-sheds,
 - o Public spaces,
 - o Stone walls,
 - o Other

Submit: The list of priority historic resources and the list of actions required to sustain their long-term viability. The State Historic Preservation Office can help pay for such services.

Timeframe for Credit: Eligible for new action credit and rolling credit. This action falls under the action type "Websites, Maps, Inventories, Checklists, Assessments, Plans, Ordinances, Policies, Regulations and Resolutions" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

2. For one historic asset included in your priority list, assess its viability and long-term health. Include in the assessment the sustainability of each building present, possibility of energy retrofits, vulnerability to natural hazards and climate change, etc. You may assess the viability for up to three different assets. **(10 points per asset, up to 3 assets or 30 points)**

Submit: A completed worksheet and either the conditions assessment, feasibility study, or long-term maintenance plan that uses the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Places for each historic resource listed in your inventory. The State Historic Preservation Office can help pay for such services.

Timeframe for Credit: Eligible for new action credit and rolling credit. This action falls under the action type "Websites, Maps, Inventories, Checklists, Assessments, Plans, Ordinances, Policies, Regulations and Resolutions" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

3. Sponsor or host an educational workshop or program to educate owners of historic homes on how to manage their historic building(s) sustainably (for example, through energy audits or energy efficiency upgrades). **(5 points)**

Submit: A description of outreach (5 sentences maximum); documentation of educational programming at least one example from among materials disseminated; and estimated number of property owners reached through education program.

Timeframe for Credit: Eligible for new action credit and rolling credit. This action falls under the action type "Outreach, Education, Programs, Campaigns, Recognition/Designation in External Program, and Funding" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

4. Achieve "Certified Local Government" status. See the Certified Local Government Program on the CT Department of Economic and Community Development website for additional information on how to work towards your certification **(5 points)**

Submit: Proof of recognition from the National Park Service regarding attainment of **Certified Local Government** status.

Timeframe for Credit: Eligible for new action credit and rolling credit. This action falls under the action type "Outreach, Education, Programs, Campaigns, Recognition/Designation in External Program, and Funding" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

Timeframe for Credit

Actions can either be "New" or considered for "Rolling Credit."

New Action Credit. Any action completed within the past three years (from January 1 of the year seeking certification) is eligible for potential certification points. If you are applying for recertification in your year of expiration, you may not claim *New Action Credit* for items that previously received credit.

Rolling Credit. For any action older than three years (from January 1 of the year seeking certification), you must demonstrate ongoing, currently relevant, and meaningful impact in your community to be considered for certification points. If you are applying for recertification in your year of expiration, you must apply for *Rolling Credit* for any item that previously received credit, even if it was completed within the past three years.

View the "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for detailed submission requirements.

Engaging Partners

Sustainable CT encourages regional collaboration and other forms of partnership. For every action, please complete the "partners" box in your submission, indicating the name(s) of any municipalities and/or organizations you partnered with (if any) and a brief description of your municipality's role. For additional information, please see the Partners Guidance Document.

Potential Municipal and Community Collaborators

Staff from the planning and zoning, parks and recreation, public works, and economic development departments could be helpful in implementing this action. Your historic preservation commission, planning and zoning commission, energy commission, local historic society, local art league, CT Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Culture and Tourism could help implement this action.

Why This Matters

Historic resources can be buildings, monuments, art installations, traditional community practices,

archaeological sites, public spaces, stonewalls, etc.

Benefits

Historic resources perform a vital function in a community by:

- Contributing to local community character,
- Instilling attachment to place,
- Attracting a talented workforce, and
- Encouraging tourism.

By protecting local historic resources from a host of threats, (for instance, climate change), you ensure that present and future generations can enjoy these sites.

For a complete list of funding opportunities, implementation resources, and success stories specific to this action, please visit the full Action write-up on the [Sustainable CT Actions webpage](#).