Sustainable CT Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable CT Certification Report of Chester, a Sustainable CT silver certified applicant.

Chester was certified on October 01, 2026 with 730 points. Listed below is information regarding Chester's Sustainable CT efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable CT contact for Chester is:

Name:	CINDY LIGNAR
Title/Position:	FIRST SELECTMAN / TOWN OF CHESTER
Phone:	860-526-0013 X 202

Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Chester was approved for in 2026 appears below. Please enjoy this opportunity to view and learn from the information and materials provided.

Notes: Submission content was created by Chester, and Sustainable CT makes no claims, promises or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the submission, beyond that an individual reviewer approved at least some elements of the action for certification. Further, standards for actions below may have changed, and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Finally, approved actions here may include some documents and descriptions in support of action elements that were not approved, in addition to elements that were approved. In preparing your own application, please rely only on the action write-ups for the current certification year to guide your submission. Please contact info@sustainablect.org with specific questions.

1. Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts

1.1 Optimize for Equity – REQUIRED for All Certification Levels

30 Points

Approved Information: 1.1 - 30 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT #1 1.1, 13.1 AD HOC CITIZENS' LIAISON COUNCIL MEETING & NEXT STEPS 4-16-24

WORD: 1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT #1 1.1, ACTION 13.1 FIRST SELECTMAN'S WEEKLY REPORT 5-8-24 - PROMOTING PROG -SERV SURVEY

WORD: 1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT #1 1.1, 13.1 CITIZENS' LIASON MEETING MINS 07082024 - FIRST OFFICIAL MEETING

PDF: 1,1 EQUITY TOOLKIT #1 1.1, 13.1 JUNE 2024 CHESTER TOWNWIDE SURVEY - PROGRAMS-SERVICES -ON-LINE RESULTS REPORT.PDF

EXCEL: 1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT #1 1.1-13.1 CHESTER PARK REC PROGRAMS BEFORE -AFTER 2024 SURVEY.XLSX

WORD: 1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT #1 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FINAL

WORD: 1.1, 6.5.3 TOOLKIT #2 CHESTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WALK AUDIT TOOLKIT FINAL

WORD: 1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT #2 1.1 AND 6.5.3 CES CHALK TALK ANNOUNCING WALK BIKE AND ROLL EVENT

WORD: 1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT #2 CES CHALK TALK WALK BIKE AND ROLL

WORD: 1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT #2 CES CHALK TALK ANNOUNCED SCHOOL WALK AUDIT

WORD: 1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT #2 CES CHALK TALK STUDENT TRAVEL QUESTIONNAIRE

PDF: 1,1 EQUITY TOOLKIT #3 CHESTER EARTH MONTH EVENTS APRIL 2023 - TOWN-WIDE RESIDENT SURVEY RESULTS 04-11-2023 (2).PDF

WORD: 1.1 EQUITY TOOLKIT #3- 8.1 HOLD A SUSTAINABILITY EVENT- APRIL 2023 EARTH DAY EVENT.DOCX

Documentation Details: #1 Action 13.1 Implement Your Own Sustainability Action 2026 Equity Toolkit #2 – Programs & Services #2 Action 6.5.3 Chester Elementary School walk audit #3 Equity Toolkit: this toolkit refers to action 8.1, Hold a sustainability event. Refer to the write up, and the attached Townwide Earth Month survey results.

Partners: Any partner listed in the Equity Toolkits under Groups and Stakeholders

2. Thriving Local Economies

2.2 Implement Sustainable Purchasing

5 Points

Approved Information: 2.2.1 - 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: CHESTER2.2.1FINAL.DOCX

Documentation Details: 2.2.1, New Action Credit, Participate in sustainable procurement training, 7/22/2023

Partners: 2.2.1, none

2.3 Inventory and Promote Local Products and Services

35 Points

Approved Information: 2.3.1a - 15 points; 2.3.1b - 10 points; 2.3.2 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 2.3.2 WORKSHEET- BUY LOCAL CAMPAIGN VERSION 2023

IMAGE: 2.3.2 MARCH 3RD 2023 "IT'S MARCH FIRST FRIDAY IN CHESTER" EMAIL ANNOUNCEMENT/ BLAST

PDF: 2.3.2 CHESTER RACK CARD V9 - MARCH 2023

PDF: 2.3.2 ADDITIONAL OUTREACH .PDF

WORD: 2.3.1 2026

Documentation Details: 2.3.1a Refer to 2023 VisitChesterCT Website Print Screens Home Page. The website includes links to the lists of restaurants, brewery, shops, etc. When clicking on each business, the searcher is linked to that business' specific website. Revisions are maintained by Mandy Carroll and other Chester merchants. Attached is a map as well. Two of the attached files show an inventory and map of the local retail options in Chester. Every store has a stack where staff hand them out to visitors and customers as a guide to fully explore all of the options in town, as well as to advertise and promote special events including First Fridays (on the first Friday of every month from 5:00-8:00pm) and the Sunday Farmers Market (season from mid-June to mid-October). 2.3.1a and b. The Chester village map is on VisitChesterCT. To view the rack card map on the website, select Plan Your Visit from the header then select Village Map from the drop-down menu. 2.3.1b Refer to the attached print screens to view the list of businesses and their related special designations marked by their respective, explained symbols. 2.3.2 Worksheet re: the Buy Local Campaign was reviewed, revised and completed by 3/19/23 by Chester Group of Merchants Facilitator Mandy Carroll, Cindy Lignar, Sustainability Team & Economic Development Commission and Chester's recently appointed Tourism Liaison Bekah Wright. 2.3.2 It's March First Friday in Chester email blast/ announcement is emailed monthly by Mandy Carroll. 2.3.2 Refer to the revised Rack Card V9- March 2023. New businesses are included along with a business numbered map. Another attached file is a screen shot of the website (VisitChesterCT.com) page where all of the retail business options are listed and described. There is also a page for restaurants and other town attractions.

Partners: Chester Merchants Chester Merchants Facilitator Chester Sustainability Team Chester Economic Development Commission The Chester Merchants Group is a group with representatives from each of the retail businesses that gathers once a month on the last Wednesday of every month at 8:30 am. The group is supported by the Board of Selectmen, Economic Development Commission and Sustainability Team, as well as the recently appointed Chester Tourism Liaison. The merchants group created the Rack Card with the list and map of all the businesses to guide visitors. Their goal is to make their businesses as accessible and successful as possible. The merchants meet monthly, along with invited First Selectman and Economic Development & Sustainability Team reps to support each other in various ways including the creation of events to attract new visitors and returning customers. Rack Cards are available at all businesses where they are provided to customers. The Rack Card is also posted on the downtown kiosk outside of the Little House Brewery.

2.4 Provide Resources and Supports to Local Businesses

10 Points

Approved Information: 2.4.6 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 2.4.6 CHESTERASSESSMENTREPORT3.4.2026.PDF

PDF: 2.4.6 CHESTERASSESSMENTRESULTSREPORT8.19.2024.PDF

PDF: 2.4.6 CT MAIN STREET ACCELERATOR PROGRAM- CEO LETTER OF SUPPORT 7-15-26.PDF

WORD: 2.4.6.DOCX

PDF: 2.4.6 CT MAIN STREET WEBSITE AND LINK.PDF

Documentation Details: 2.4.6: CT Main Street Assessment done in 2024, and then follow-up assessment in 2026, Chester joined the CT Main Street Center (CSMC) to utilize their data, templates, and tools to systematically support the key elements of a healthy downtown: place, economic vitality, stewardship, inclusiveness, sustainability, and connectivity. CSMC's consulting, technical training, professional programs, statewide legislative advocacy, and networking have enhanced Chester's EDC efforts and are helping the Town develop stronger, more collaborative relationships with merchants and community groups. This work aims to improve visitor experiences and create a long-term strategy to help Village Center businesses become more resilient. https://ctmainstreet.org/what-we-do/education-training/main-street-accelerator/

Partners: CT Main Street

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

3.1 Provide Watershed Education

20 Points

Approved Information: 3.1.1a - 5 points; 3.1.1b - 15 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.1.1 A 2026 NOTICE FOR INVASIVE PLANT WORKSHOP HOSTED AT CHESTER TOWN HALL OCT 2025

IMAGE: 2026 HYDRILLA WARNING SIGN AT BOAT LAUNCH - INSTALLED JUNE 30, 2025

WORD: 3.1.1 A 2026 CAES GUIDE TO AQUATIC INVASIVE PLANTS DISTRIBUTED AT OCT 2025 WORKSHOP

IMAGE: 2026 HYDRILLA WARNING SIGN AND SILT CURTAIN AT CEDAR LAKE BOAT LAUNCH

Documentation Details: 3.1.1 a 2026 Notice for and photo of the cover of the guidebook distributed at Invasive Plant workshop hosted by the Lower CT River Land Trust and RiverCOG at Chester Town Hall, October 9, 2025. The guidebook itself is too large to upload, but can be accessed here, https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/CAES/OAIS/Publications/Plant-Identification/Plant-Guide-4th-Edition.pdf. 3.1.1b 2026, The biggest threat to Chester's Cedar Lake is the invasion of Hydrilla. Motorized boats are launched regularly throughout the year when the lake is not iced over. Many of these boats are also used in the Connecticut River where Hydrilla abounds in shallow water. If not cleaned properly, these boats and trailers could potentially infect the lake. As part of their prevention strategy, the Chester Cedar Lake Watershed Commission erected a sign on Town property (below highwater mark) at the Cedar Lake boat launch alerting those launching boats to the dangers of hydrilla and how to prevent its spread. See uploaded photos.

Partners: 2026. The Lower CT River Land Trust and Lower CT River Council of Governments hosted an invasive plant identification and control workshop at the Chester Town Hall on Oct 9, 2025. This was attended by members of the Chester Conservation Commission and interested volunteers from neighboring towns.

3.3 Engage in Watershed Protection and Restoration

30 Points

Approved Information: 3.3.1- 30 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: CEDARLAKEWATERSHEDCOMMISSION-BENTHICBARRIERPERMIT-.PDF

WORD: 3.3.1 CHESTER CEDAR LAKE BENTHIC BARRIERS UPDATE 2026

WORD: 3.3.1 2026 SILT CURTAINS AT CEDAR LAKE BOAT LAUNCH

PDF: 3.3.1 2026 CEDAR LAKE WATERSHED COMMISSION MINUTES_05192025

WORD: 3.3.1 2026 SILT CURTAINS AT CEDAR LAKE BOAT LAUNCH_THANKYOU FROM 1ST SELECTMAN.DOCX

Documentation Details: 3.3.1 2026 update regarding benthic barriers used at Cedar Lake swimming areas: Benthic barriers reinstalled in 2024 in a deeper part of the lake. This document describes the continued use and recent changes in methodology to use benthic barriers in swimming areas to control invasive and some native aquatic plants. This novel approach is and all volunteer effort by members of the Cedar Lake Watershed Commission. 3.3.1 2026 description of installation and maintenance of silt curtains deployed from the Cedar Lake boat launch as a novel approach to capture plant fragments from boats and trailers before they can infest the lake. 3.3.1 2026 Minutes from the Cedar Lake Watershed Commission, 5-29-25 describing both benthic barrier and silt curtain actions

Partners: Cedar Lake Watershed Commission and volunteers Chester Conservation Commission Chester Board of Selectmen Chester Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency

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3.4 Develop an Open Space Plan

10 Points

Approved Information: 3.4.3 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 3.4.3_WORKSHEET_NH.DOCX

PDF: CHESTER 2019 POCD

Documentation Details: 3.4.3: see attached worksheet and POCD

Partners: none

3.5 Create a Natural Resource and Wildlife Inventory

10 Points

Approved Information: 3.5.1 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 3.5.1.CHESTERNATURALRESOURCESANDWILDLIFEINVENTORYDESCRIPTION.DOCX

PDF: 3.5.1.CHESTERNATURALRESOURCEINVENTORY1.PDF

EXCEL: CHESTER EBIRD DATA_LCWAHLE.XLSX

Documentation Details: 3.5.1. Inventory created 6/2023 and added to 7/2026 Conservation planning tool: https://rivercog.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/filtergallery/index.html?appid=42dd2394a73f407e969ebf45bd383ac7 Tool is linked on RiverCOG website, Lisa Wahle of the Chester Conservation Commission was a subcommittee member for this tool. See website for more details. This is a vital conservation planning tool that incorporates core forest, cold water streams, wetlands, climate vulnerable areas, critical habitats, shrublands and more to be used for conservation planning.

Partners: None

3.9 Manage Woodlands and Urban Forests

30 Points

Approved Information: 3.9.3 - 30 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: RIGHT-TREE-RIGHT-PLACE - NATURE CONSERVANCY.PDF

PDF: 3.9.3 CONTINUED USE.PDF

WORD: TOWN OF CHESTER MUNICIPAL TREE MAINTENANCE POLICY.DOCX

PDF: 3.9.3 WOODLAND INVASIVES MANAGEMENT

Documentation Details: Documentation provided to support Chester's continued tree pruning work. This proactive maintenance is a critical part of Chester's tree maintenance program. Documentation is also provided to support Chester's continued woodland's invasive management.

Partners: None

3.10 Facilitate Invasive Species Education and Management

15 Points

Approved Information: 3.10.1c - 5 points; 3.10.3a - 5 points; 3.10.3b - 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.1.1B REFER TO THE 2 ZIP06 ARTICLES: "GRANT TO BENEFIT CLT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT" AND "CHESTER LAND TRUST FIGHTS JAPANESE KNOTWEED"

PDF: 2023 3.10.3A PDF CHESTER TOWN WEBSITE - INVASIVE SPECIES EDUCATION RESOURCES

PDF: 3.1.1B CARINI POSTER 27 FEB 2023 (1)- CARINI PRESERVE JAPANESE KNOTWEED MITIGATION PROJECT

PDF: 3.1.1B CHESTER EVENTS CLT KNOTWEED 13 MARCH 2023

WORD: 3.10.3A 2026 CONSERVATION COMM WEBPAGE WITH INVASIVE INFO

PDF: 3.10.1C C. EVANGELISTI - DPW DIRECTOR & TREE WARDEN - INVASIVE PLANT CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION.PDF

PDF: 3.10.1C - DESCRIPTION OF COURSE.PDF

PDF: 3.10.3B FACILITATE INVASIVE SPECIES EDUCATION_MGT-FOREST PRESENTATION MAR 2025.PDF

Documentation Details: 3.10.1c - certificate of completion attached, and description of course attached 3.10.3a 2026: see attached word document for documentation on the education materials on invasives listed on Chester's municipal site 3.10.3b: see attached pdf for information on the education workshop held in March 2025 on invasive species for Chester residents 3.10.3.a On the Chesterct.org town website PDF attachment, under Conservation Commission/ Native & Invasive Plants are listed resident education resources that include fact sheets on locally occurring invasive plants. The fact sheets include general information, identification and control methods. Links to on-line resources include the "CT Invasive Plant List" and "Invasive Plants in Your Back Yard," as well as a link to the report "Tree Mortality in Eastern CT." 3.10.3.b The Grant receipt article was published on Jan. 29th and Feb 14th 2023. The Fights Japanese Knotweed article was published Nov. 3rd and 10th 2022. The "Japanese Knotweed Mapping and Management in Chester" presentation was provided by UCONN-trained plant specialist/ professional invasive plant management specialist Christian Allyn to the public/ Chester residents on Dec. 6th, 2022 at the CLT annual meeting. See also the attached Carini poster "Carini Preserve Japanese Knotweed Mitigation Project" placed on the back of the Carini Preserve kiosk and in the CLT newsletter for resident/ public education. See also the attached Chester Events article "Chester Events CLT Knotweed 13 March 2023" from CLT VP Jenny Kitsen. 3.10.3.a & b New Action Credit: New website links and information and recent CLT Japanese Knotweed project

Partners: 3.10.3.a. Chester Conservation Commission 3.10.3.b Chester Land Trust, Chester Conservation Commission, UCONN plant and invasive species specialist Christian Allyn and other partners for funding as listed.

Additional Information: In 2020, the Conservation Commission established a Native and Invasive Plants Subcommittee staffed by commission members and volunteers from the community. The subcommittee has completed fact sheets about invasive plants commonly found in Chester along with information about how to control them. As the fact sheets are prepared, articles about the specific invasive plants are published in the quarterly Chester Events magazine mailed to all Chester households.

3.12 Enhance Pollinator Pathways

20 Points

Approved Information: 3.12.1 - 5 points; 3.12.2 - 15 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.12.2 CREATE POLLINATOR GARDENS 2026.PDF

IMAGE: 2023 3.12.2 POLLINATOR GARDEN SIGN - THIS PROPERTY IS ON THE POLLINATOR PATHWAY

IMAGE: 2023 3.12.2 POLLINATOR GARDEN SIGN - WELCOME TO CHESTER'S WATER STREET POLLINATOR GARDEN-EDUCATION SIGNAGE

PDF: 3.12 CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES DEC 1, 2022- POLLINATOR GARDEN PLANNING IN SECTION 5.E.

PDF: 3.12.1 ENHANCE POLLINATORS - EDUCATION ON CHESTER WEBPAGE AND SUSTAINABLE CHESTER FB POSTS.PDF

Documentation Details: 3.12.1: refer to attached 3.12.2: refer to attached, pollinator garden creation supported by the Chester Conservation Commission and Sustainability Team

Partners: 2023: Chester Pollinator Garden lead Felise Cressman, Chester Conservation Commission, Chester Rotary 2021: 3.12 University of Connecticut Extension Center, Haddam CT has supplied excellent advice and services. 3.12. Camp Hazen YMCA in Chester is interested in incorporating this into their program and is planning to install a pollinator garden on-site. (see "additional information" below.)

Additional Information: 2023: New signage at the Pollinator Garden location and the Garden is now listed as a Pollinator Pathway garden. https://www.pollinator-pathway.org/ 2021: 3.12. As a result of the distributed information and the demonstration garden on Water Street, Camp Hazen YMCA applied for, and was given a grant by the Rockfall Foundation (Middlefield CT) to construct a pollinator garden near the camp office this fall.

3.13 Promote Dark Skies

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.13.1 - 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.13.1 LETTER TO IWWA AND PZ
PDF: 3.13.1 LETTER TO BOS
PDF: 3.13.1 ETIP BIRD MIGRATION 2024
IMAGE: 3.13.1 ETIP BIRD 2024
IMAGE: 3.13.1 ETIP BIRD 2025
IMAGE: 3.13.1 ETIP BIRD 2026

Documentation Details: The Chester Conservation Commission promotes dark skies through regular notices in the townwide email that reaches over 1,600 people. These notices highlight how night lighting can disrupt and be fatal to migrating birds and can affect other wildlife and people. The Conservation Commission has also commented on lighting with regard to a proposed cell tower in town and a proposed apartment complex. Each ETip Bird image was used as outreach.

Partners: 3.13.1 Chester Conservation Commission.

3.14 Implement Sustainable Snow Management

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.14.1a- 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 3.14.1A CHESTER.DOCX
PDF: CT GREEN SNOW PRO CAMERON EVANGELISTI DPW DIRECTOR.PDF
PDF: CT GREEN SNOW PRO JOSHUA VILLA DPW.PDF
PDF: CT GREEN SNOW PRO JAMES SMULLIN DPW.PDF
PDF: CT GREEN SNOW PRO STEVEN PYTLIK DPW.PDF
PDF: CT GREEN SNOW PRO RYAN MALCARNE DPW.PDF

Documentation Details: 3.14.1a, New Action Credit, Participate in sustainable snow management practices training, 7/5/2023. Certificates of completion attached for the following: Cameron Evangelisti, Public Works Director: completed 12/14/2023 (attached) Joshua Villa, Public Works: completed 3/25/2025 (attached) James Smullin, Public Works: completed 3/25/2025 (attached) Steven Pytlik, Public Works: completed 3/25/2025 (attached) Ryan Malcarne, Public Works: completed 3/25/2025 (attached)

Partners: University of Connecticut

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

4.1 Inventory Tourism and Cultural Assets

5 Points

Approved Information: 4.1.2 - 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 4.1.2 CTVISIT.COM - LINK TO CHESTER UPDATES AS OF 3/27/23

PDF: 4.1.2 EMAIL - CHANGES TO CHESTER PAGE ON CTVISIT.COM COMPLETED ON 3/27/23

Documentation Details: 4.1.2 CTVisit Profile was last updated on 3/27/23. See the attached "Changes to Chester Page on CTVisit.com." 4.1.2 ctvisit.com - Link to Chester Updates as of 3/27/23. https://ctvisit.com/listings/town-chester

Partners: None

4.2 Support Arts and Creative Culture

20 Points

Approved Information: 4.2.2 - 5 points; 4.2.10 - 5 points; 4.2.13 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: 4.2.2 SCREENSHOT OF TOWN OF CHESTER FACEBOOK PAGE

PDF: 4.2.10A TOWNWIDE EMAIL 5_19_2023 PDF CHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY- PATRIOTIC MUSIC FOR CELLO.PDF

PDF: 4.2.13_WORKSHEET.PDF

PDF: 4.2.10A TOWNWIDE EMAIL 4_7_2023 PDF CHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY - NIGHT OF POETRY.PDF

PDF: 4.2.13 TOWN EMAIL.PDF

EXCEL: 4.2.10A CHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY OFFERINGS 2023- ARTS & CULTURE.XLSX

PDF: 4.2.13 MEETING HOUSE RENTAL APPLICATION 6-4-26.PDF

PDF: 4.2.10 TOWNWIDE EMAIL 7_7_2023 PDF SUPPORTING CHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY ACTIVITIES (1).PDF

Documentation Details: 4.2.2: See attached screenshot of promotion on Town of Chester Facebook page. Many events posted here. Link to page: https://www.facebook.com/chesterct/ 4.2.10 Townwide emails promoting Chester Public Library provision of arts and culture programs, and a list of the library's 2023 program offerings. 4.2.13: see attached

Partners: 4.2.10a The Town of Chester provides funding for Chester Public Library programs and services. The First Selectman's Office/ Town of Chester promotes Chester Public Library arts & cultural offerings and programs prior to each event/ offering in the townwide emails. Refer to the attached townwide email examples dated 4/7/23 and 5/19/23. The Friends of the Chester Public Library funds programs and services that are not paid for by the town. Friends — Chester Public Library (chesterctlibrary.com). ShopRaise has partnered with the Chester Public Library. Purchases via the ShopRaise app provides a percentage of funds to the Library. Community Foundation of Middlesex County provided a grant for Chromebooks in collaboration with the Friends of the Library. Shell & Bee provides on-going workshops for all ages. Tri-Town DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) provides a monthly Book Club for Deep River, Chester and Essex residents.

5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

5.1 Integrate Sustainability into Plan of Conservation and Development

25 Points

Approved Information: 5.1.1b - 25 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 5.1_CHESTER PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

WORD: 5.1.1B_WORKSHEET2

Documentation Details: 5.1.1b Worksheet 2: Chester's POCD was built with an eye to integrating sustainability throughout the entire document; along with Goal 6 which deals directly with Sustainability and Resiliency. All projects of the town are important to complete with these concepts for a resilient municipal future. 5.1.1b, Rolling Credit, Integrate Sustainability into Plan of Conservation and Development (original POCD adopted and approved by Chester 2019), no updates need (POCD is still current and relevant)

Partners: 5.1. Chester Planning and Zoning Commission, 5.1. RiverCOG (Regional Council of Governments)

5.3 Develop Agriculture-Friendly Practices

20 Points

Approved Information: 5.3.1 - 20 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 5.3.1.DOCX

PDF: TOWN OF CHESTER ZONING REGULATIONS.PDF

Documentation Details: 5.3.1: See attached from Chester's zoning regulations. Section permitting roadside stands can be found on page 33 of the attached zoning regulations.

Partners: None

5.4 Assess Climate Vulnerability

30 Points

Approved Information: 5.4.1a - 10 points; 5.4.2 - 20 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: CLIMATE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT - TRITOWN FINAL MEETING PRESENTATION-3-18-26 FUSS & O'NEILL

PDF: CHESTER-DR-ESSEX FINAL WRAP UP STAKEHOLD MEETING 03-18-2026 FUSS & O'NEILL

PDF: CHESTER CLIMATE VULN ASSMNT MEETING #1 5-29-2025 FUSS & O'NEILL

PDF: 5.4.2 FINAL CHESTER COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING SUMMARY OF FINDINGS - APRIL 2026

WORD: 5.4.1A_WORKSHEET CHESTER FLOOD VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT.DOCX

PDF: 5.4.1 LINK TO FUSS AND ONIELL CVA.PDF

Documentation Details: Long Island Sound Resilience Planning - Towns of Essex, Deep River, and Chester This project, funded by the Long Island Sound Partnership and Connecticut Sea Grant, was designed to move beyond traditional planning studies by not only identifying climate-related flood risks, but also establishing a clear, implementable roadmap from assessment to priority project development. A central objective has been to: •Develop a comprehensive understanding of current and future flood vulnerabilities; •Identify realistic, fundable, and actionable priority projects; •Position each Town (Essex, Deep River, and Chester) to pursue state and federal resilience funding; and •Incorporate multi-benefit strategies, including protection of vulnerable populations. At the initial 5/29/2025 Town meeting (see attached), the project team presented the overall project scope, objectives, and planned tasks for the three towns, including the upcoming Climate Vulnerability Assessment and the process for identifying priority projects. Stakeholders were briefed on the project approach, timeline, planned level of engagement, and project deliverables. Following the presentation, discussion focused on establishing Town-specific goals, identifying areas of concern, and confirming critical assets and vulnerable populations. Input gathered at this meeting was intended to inform the baseline for data collection and help guide prioritization for future project scopes. At the Tritown 2nd and final meeting on 3/18/2026 (see attached 3/18/26 Final Wrap Up Stakeholder meeting and 3/18/26 Presentation), the Project Team (Fuss & O'Neill and Resilient Land & Water) provided a recap of project goals, methodology, and findings. •Project funded by Connecticut Sea Grant with the goal of advancing from planning to actionable, fundable resilience projects. •Focus areas: o Flood vulnerability assessment o Field reconnaissance of key assets o Development of priority project scopes for each town Refer to completed 5.4.1a Worksheet 1 For 5.4.2, The Final Chester Community Resilience Building Summary of Findings - April 2026 is attached for the workshop held on April 29,2026

Partners: Chester: Board of Selectmen, Chester EMD, Business Owners, Artist, Conservation Commission, Sustainability Team, Inland Wetlands, Planning & Zoning Commission, Chester Land Trust. Town Partners: Towns of Deep River and Essex Funding: Long Island Partnership, Connecticut Sea Grant Implemented by Fuss & O'Neill and Resilient Land & Water

Additional Information: We held a Community Resilience Building Workshop facilitated by The Nature Conservancy on April 29th 2026.

5.5 Inventory and Assess Historic Resources

40 Points

Approved Information: 5.5.1 - 10 points; 5.5.2 - 30 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: MARCH 2023 AND APRIL 2026: CHESTER ACTION 5.5.2 WORKSHEET

PDF: 5.5 CEMETERIES AS HISTORIC RESOURCES 4-13-26

PDF: 5.5.1 2023 ASSET #1 THE MEETING HOUSE - REVIEWED & REVISED BY C. LIGNAR AS INFORMED BY SELECTMAN ED MEEHAN AND FIRST SELECTMAN'S ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT ON 3/24/23

WORD: 5.5.1 2023 - ASSET #2 - CHESTER MUSEUM AT THE MILL- CHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WORD: 5.5.1 2023 - ASSET #3 - THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHESTER

WORD: 5.5.1 2023 - ASSET #4 THE CHESTER HOSE COMPANY

WORD: 5.5.1 2023 - ASSET #5 - THE CHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

WORD: 5.5.1 2023 - ASSET #6 - THE NORMA TERRIS THEATER

Documentation Details: 2023 and 2026: 5.5.1, Refer to the attached Assets #1 - #6 documents. Submitted in March 2023 and reviewed and submitted in April 2026. Added Cemeteries as a historic resource/ asset- Refer to "5.5 Cemeteries as Historic Resources" document. 5.5.2. Refer to the completed 5.5.2 Worksheet. Submitted in March 2023 and reviewed and submitted in April 2026. 5.5.1 Previously submitted Action Credit. 5.5.2 Previously submitted Action Credit for completed Worksheet.

Partners: 2023: 5.5.1: Sources are specifically listed in each Asset document. These include individuals from the Chester Historical Society, the Chester Public Library Director, a Chester Hose Company Trustee, the Marketing Director of the Goodspeed Opera House, the United Church Parish Administrator and a Sustainability Team member who is a church member. Added Cemeteries as a historic resource from the Chester Cemeteries Association. 5.5.2: Bibliography sources are cited under the 3 Assets where requested.

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

6.1 Implement Complete Streets

30 Points

Approved Information: 6.1.6 - 30 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 6.1.2 COMPLETE STREETS TRAINING.DOCX
WORD: 6.1.6_WORKSHEET #1 - STRAITS RD. SEALING .DOCX
WORD: 6.1.6_WORKSHEET #2 - MAPLE ST. SEALING.DOCX
IMAGE: 6.1.6 MAPLE ST. ROAD SEAL (CORRESPONDING TO WORKSHEET #2) (1).JPG
IMAGE: 6.1.6 MAPLE ST. ROAD SEAL (CORRESPONDING TO WORKSHEET #2) (3).JPG
WORD: 6.1.6 WORKSHEET #3 - TOWN HALL PARKING LOT 2023.DOCX
WORD: 6.1.6 WORKSHEET #4 - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WATER OVER ROAD SIGNS.DOCX
WORD: 6.1.6_WORKSHEET #5 NORTH MAIN STREET NEW SIDEWALKS.DOCX
WORD: 6.1.6 WORKSHEET #6 - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SIGN ON CASTLE VIEW RD. EXT.DOCX
WORD: 6.1.6_WORKSHEET #7 NORTH MAIN STREET SIGNAGE.DOCX
WORD: 6.1.6_WORKSHEET #8 - EAST LIBERTY ST. PAVING.DOCX
WORD: 6.1.6 WORKSHEET #9 - DRAIN PERIMETER REPAIR AT LIBERTY ST AND GOOSE HILL INTERSECTION.DOCX
WORD: 6.1.6_WORKSHEET #10 KINGS HIGHWAY.DOCX
WORD: 6.1.6_WORKSHEET #11 BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN REST CENTER.DOCX

Documentation Details: 6.1.6: 11 total projects, 10 spot improvements and 1 area-wide improvement (worksheet #10).

Partners: 6.1.2 (training) none 6.1.6: Town of Chester/ First Selectman's office #1-6 Chester Department of Public Works - For all #1-6 Winthrop Construction for the road projects (not Walkway) Project #1: Tilcon CT, Inc., Bobcat of CT, Inc., M & S Trucking LLC, Connected Systems, LLC, Essex Hardware Project #7: Main St. Project Committee, Chester Board of Selectmen, Chester Board of Finance, Jacobson & Associates, Kent & Frost, GNCB Consulting Engineers, CT DOT, RiverCOG, Chester Tree Warden, Chester Conservation Commission, CT Water Co., Chester Planning & Zoning Commission, Chester Inland Wetlands & Watercourse Agency, Chester Fire Marshall, Eversource, Frontier, Comcast, Chester Historical Society, Chester Merchants, Colonna Concrete & Asphalt Paving, LLC. Projects #8 and #9: Chester Board of Selectmen, Chester Board of Finance, Department of Public Works Project #10: Chester Board of Selectmen, Chester Board of Finance, Department of Public Works, J.J. Dibble Construction, Inc.

6.4 Support Zero Emission Vehicle Deployment

15 Points

Approved Information: 6.4.2 - 5 points; 6.4.4 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 6.4.4 CHARACTERISTICS OF SITE SELECTED FOR EV CHARGING STATION

WORD: 6.4.4. MINUTES OF ENERGY TASK FORCE MEETING 9/9/2019

WORD: 6.4.2 CHESTER.DOCX

WORD: 6.4.4 ZEV CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE ASSESSMENT_ENERGY TEAM MINUTES.DOCX

WORD: 6.4.4 ZEV CHARGING STATION LOCATION ASSESSMENT. SUMMARY.DOCX

Documentation Details: 6.4.2: Electric Vehicle Training information attached in word document, New Action Credit, 5/4/2023 6.4.4: The discussion of the best site was reported near the bottom of the first page of the Energy Team Minutes. The test has been underlined. See updated documents for new updates on assessing locations for charging infrastructure in Chester.

Partners: 6.4.2, Board of Selectman/ First Selectman, Chester Conservation Commission and Chester Sustainability Team 6.4.4 None

6.5 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies

20 Points

Approved Information: 6.5.3 - 10 points, 6.5.4 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 6.5.3 CES CHALK TALK ANNOUNCING WALK BIKE AND ROLL EVENT.DOCX

WORD: 6.5.3 CES CHALK TALK WALK BIKE AND ROLL.DOCX

PDF: 6.5.4 CHESTER POCD-2019-2029.PDF

WORD: 6.5.3 CES CHALK TALK ANNOUNCED SCHOOL WALK AUDIT.DOCX

PDF: 6.5.4 CHESTER_ROADSAFETYAUDIT_REPORT - FINAL RECEIVED ON 3-21-23.PDF

WORD: 6.5.3 CES CHALK TALK STUDENT TRAVEL QUESTIONNAIRE.DOCX

WORD: 6.5.3_WORKSHEET - CHESTER ELEM SCHOOL SRTS WALK AUDIT .DOCX

WORD: 6.5.4_WORKSHEETCHESTER_V2.DOCX

PDF: 6.5.4 6-30-23 EMAIL WITH SR. TRANSPORTATION PLANNER RIVERCOG - CHESTER RSA RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOW UP.PDF

Documentation Details: 6.5.3: Walk audit report: https://maps-ctdot.hub.arcgis.com/apps/6e374d553ae04634b4abf647a6acb40f/explore 6.5.4. Pages of the POCD and RSA are referenced in the worksheet, and the email shows efforts of continued actions and work to implement bike/pedestrian infrastructure, March 2023

Partners: 6.5.4: Chester's Plan of Conservation & Development (POCD) was adopted and effective beginning April 1st, 2019, including the municipal bike/ pedestrian plan. The POCD was completed by hired consultants Milone & MacBroom: Engineering Consulting & Landscape Architecture - MMI (miloneandmacbroom.com) in coordination with town leadership and Chester Boards & Commissions representatives. Chester's Board of Selectmen approved the Chester Sustainability Team's effort to apply for and obtain approval for Chester's Road Safety Audit (RSA), offered free to municipalities via the CT DOT. FHI Consultants and CT DOT representatives completed the RSA walk and report in collaboration with Sustainability Team, Economic Development and Board of Selectmen involvement. The Sustainability Team solicited input also from the public and other related town departments, ie, the DPW, Fire Dept., First Student, Inc. school bus company, police department. RiverCOG's Senior Transportation Planner is working with the Town of Chester on next steps.

7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations

7.6 Install Efficient Exterior Lighting

10 Points

Approved Information: 7.6.1 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 7.6.1 FINAL INVENTORY OF MODIFIED STREETLAMPS - COBRA HEADS
PDF: 7.6 FINAL INVENTORY OF MODIFIED DECORATIVE STREETLAMPS -- POLE-TOP
PDF: 7.6 FINAL CONTRACTOR'S REPORT ON STREETLIGHT MODIFICATIONS (TO LEDS)
PDF: 7.6 LED STREETLIGHT CONVERSION PROJECT - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PDF: 7.6.1 E-TEAM MINS A JAN COPY.PDF
PDF: 7.6. INTERACTIVE STREET LIGHT MAP
WORD: 7.6.1 LIGHTING NEEDS ASSESSMENT MODIFIED
PDF: 7.6.1 CHESTER STREETLIGHTS- BIENNIAL REVIEW.PDF
PDF: 7.6.1 MAINTENANCE RECORD FOR TOWN STREETLIGHTS 2023-26.PDF

Documentation Details: 7.6.1: See attached streetlight inventory and lighting needs assessment. The inventories detail the streetlamps ("cobraheads") as well as decorative lighting (mostly pole-top). There are two inventories to clarify that both streetlights and decoratives were modified. This should meet the separate requirements of category 7.6.1. Maintenance record is also attached. The 2026 biennial review addresses any 2026 updates to the lighting needs assessmen (see attached document 7.6.1 Chester streetlights- biennial review). This streetlight inventory is still relevant in and is used by the Energy Team to conduct biennial reviews of performance, and by the Administrative Assistant to identify any problems to the town's electrical contractor. Each member of the Energy Team (Holloway, Harding, Prisloe, and Meehan), who conducted the biennial review looked at the inventory in their assigned sector and all reported that no updates were needed.

Partners: 7.6. Tanko Lighting (California)was selected as the project coordinator ; they provided the design and the purchasing of lights. 7.6. RedThread electrical contractors did the actual installation , 7.6. Eversource. supplied the before-conversion inventory of streetlights. 7.6. The Chester Clean Energy Task force coordinated everything for the town, and worked with the Town of Chester Main Street Committee in designing the decorative lighting in the center of town. 7.6. We took field trips to view the newly installed lighting in Old Lyme and in Essex to verify the color temperatures we specified.

Additional Information: 7.6. We have revised some of the documents which may not have been clear in the April submission, e.g. 7.6 Interactive Street Light Map (reloaded on 7/25/2021). The document leads to a link which seems to work well in opening the map. 7.6. Planning for this project started before 2018, under the guidance of the Chester Clean Energy Task Force. The most recently available inventory of exiting streetlights was provided by Eversource and served as the basis of the project. This inventory had not changed in many years. 7.6 See the last sentence under "Documentation Details" for the statement that there is no exterior lighting in any of Chester's parks -- by design.

7.7 Implement a Community Energy Campaign

20 Points

Approved Information: 7.7.1 - 20 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 7.7 CHESTER_RIVERCOG MOA FOR CPI GRANT
WORD: 7.7 CHESTER MONTHLY REPORT SEPT 2025
WORD: 7.7 CHESTER MONTHLY REPORT OCT 2025
PDF: 7.7 CHESTER MONTHLY REPORT NOV 2025
WORD: 7.7 CHESTER MONTHLY REPORT DEC 2025
WORD: 7.7 CHESTER MONTHLY REPORT JAN 2026
WORD: 7.7 CHESTER MONTHLY REPORT FEB 2026
WORD: 7.7 CHESTER MONTHLY REPORT MAR 2026
WORD: 7.7 HES ARTICLE IN CHESTER EVENTS MAGAZINE 2025, 4TH QUARTER
PDF: 7.7 LETTER TO RESIDENTS FROM FIRST SELECTMAN PROMOTING HES_NOV 2025
PDF: 7.7 NOTICE FOR DEEP RIVER HES INFO SESSION WITH CHESTER
PDF: 7.7 NOTICE FOR CHESTER INFO SESSION WITH DEEP RIVER MARCH 2026
PDF: 7.7 SAMPLE PROMO FLYER1 FOR HES FOR SOCIAL MEDIA AND TOWNWIDE EMAIL
IMAGE: 7.7 SAMPLE PROMO FLYER2 PROMOTING HES FOR SOCIAL MEDIA AND TOWNWIDE EMAIL
EXCEL: 7.7 HEATSMART DATA-WHERE PEOPLE LEARNED ABOUT HES
IMAGE: 7.7 LISA TABLING AT CHESTER FAIR, AUGUST 2025
PDF: 7.7.1 SOLAR OPPORTUNITY FOR CHESTER RESIDENTS! FLYER - EXTENDED.PDF
IMAGE: 7.7.1 SOLARIZE LAWN SIGN.JPEG
WORD: 7.7.1_WORKSHEET_.DOCX
IMAGE: 7.7.1SOLARIZE ESSEX AND FRIENDS MAY 14 INFO SESSION.JPG

Documentation Details: Each Chester monthly report contains a table documenting activities to support the education and promotion of Home Energy Solutions. The other documents support the items listed in the monthly report. Campaign 1: In September of 2025, the Town of Chester in partnership with the Lower CT River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG or LCRVCOG), HeatSmart and the Towns of Deep River, East Hampton and Portland, received a Community Partnership Initiative Grant from Eversource to promote Home Energy Solutions (HES) assessments and services with a target goal of enlisting at least 4 Income Eligible (IE) households. The grant money is being used to educate the public and promote HES services. The partners meet monthly to discuss accomplishments and strategy. Teams from Chester and Deep River collaborate routinely on outreach. We have tabled at Chester Earth Day (2025 with plans for 2026), the Chester Farmers Market (summer 2025) and Chester Fair (August 2025) and held two information sessions with contractors (one in Deep River Nov 2025 and one in Chester March 2026). A letter was sent to all households promoting the program under the First Selectman's signature. The program has been promoted through social media, the town website and an article in Chester Events magazine. Flyers have been provided to Chester Social Services and the local Food pantry promoting the program. While the grant runs through August, to date, Chester has provided 100 leads to HES contractors; 53 households have scheduled or completed services including 8 IE households (200% of our goal). Three major events (see uploads): Info Session Deep River, Nov 2025 (See Monthly Report Nov 2025); Info Session Chester, March 2026 (see Monthly Report Mar 2026); Tabling at Chester Fair (also Farmers Market) - See Monthly report Sep 2025 and photo Lisa tabling at Fair. See also HeatSmart data - where people learned about HES Campaign 2: Participated and promoted Solarize Essex and Friends (Chester and Deep River). This program was initiated by the Essex Sustainability Team and included discounts on solar and battery installation for the towns of Chester and Deep River. The Chester Sustainabiliy Team participated in one formal presentation in Essex and one virtual event. Chester actively promoted the program through flyers, posters, posts on the Sustainable Chester and Town websites and Facebook pages.

Partners: Town of Deep River Sustainability Team - neighbor, collaborate closely on educational events and postings Town of East Hampton Energy Task Force - member of CPI Grant, collaborate and share strategies Town of Portland Clean Energy Task Force HeatSmart - provides a website for promotion, tracks signups and scheduling of households for HES services, provides outreach materials and mailing lists RiverCOG - fiduciary for grant; compiles town reports and meets with representative from Eversource monthly; pursues an analogous program for small businesses, (Eversource Small Business Energy Initiative)

Additional Information: In September of 2025, the Town of Chester in partnership with the Lower CT River

Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG or LCRVCOG), HeatSmart and the Towns of Deep River, East Hampton and Portland, received a Community Partnership Initiative Grant from Eversource to promote Home Energy Solutions (HES) assessments and services with a target goal of enlisting at least 4 Income Eligible (IE) households. The grant money is being used to educate the public and promote HES services. The partners meet monthly to discuss accomplishments and strategy. Teams from Chester and Deep River collaborate routinely on outreach. We have tabled at Chester Earth Day (2025 with plans for 2026), the Chester Farmers Market (summer 2025) and Chester Fair (August 2025) and held two information sessions with contractors (one in Deep River Nov 2025 and one in Chester March 2026). A letter was sent to all households promoting the program under the First Selectman's signature. The program has been promoted through social media, the town website and an article in Chester Events magazine. Flyers have been provided to Chester Social Services and the local Food pantry promoting the program. While the grant runs through August, to date, Chester has provided 100 leads to HES contractors; 53 households have scheduled or completed services including 8 IE households (200% of our goal). Three major events (see uploads): Info Session Deep River, Nov 2025 (See Monthly Report Nov 2025); Info Session Chester, March 2026 (see Monthly Report Mar 2026); Tabling at Chester Fair (also Farmers Market) - See Monthly report Sep 2025 and photo Lisa tabling at Fair. See also HeatSmart data - where people learned about HES

7.9 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program

20 Points

Approved Information: 7.9.1 - 20 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 7.9 CHESTER AND CEFIA C-PACE AGREEMENT JULY 25TH 2013

WORD: 2023 7.9 PARTICIPATE IN AND PROMOTE C-PACE PROGRAM - TOWN WEBSITE PRINT SCREENS SAVED MARCH 2023 RE: C-PACE LINK, ENERGY TEAM AND ENERGY TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Documentation Details: 2023: 7.9.1 Attached are: Chester and CEFIA C-PACE Agreement signed 7/25/2013. Town website, chesterct.org, print screens (2) demonstrating the municipality's link to C-PACE, Energy Team and Energy Team accomplishments. 7.9.1 New Action Credit. Current Chester and CEFIA C-PACE Agreement and new Town of Chester (chesterct.org) website Print Screens.

Partners: Energy Team, Chester Sustainability Team, Board of Selectmen, C-PACE, CT Green Bank.

8. Inclusive Engagement, Communication and Education

8.1 Hold a Sustainability Event

20 Points

Approved Information: 8.1.1 - 20 points

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: 8.1 SUSTAINABILITYEVENTSCHESTERV3

PDF: 8.1 TOWNWIDE EMAIL EARTH DAY & WEEKEND EVENTS 4_21_2023 PDF.PDF

Documentation Details: 8.1.1 Refer to the attached sustainability template that documents Chester sustainability events. The 8.1 town wide earth day and weekend events email contains some of the outreach for some of the events that are listed on the spreadsheet.

Partners: 8.1. Chester Sustainability Team, Chester Land Trust, Chester Conservation Commission, Chester Historical Society, Masonicare at Chester Village.

8.6 Collaborate with Other Municipalities on Sustainability Actions – REQUIRED for Gold Certification

15 Points

Approved Information: 8.6.1 - 15 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 8.6_WORKSHEET_1 - TRITOWN SUSTAINABILITY R4 FOOD SCRAPS PROGRAM.DOCX

WORD: 8.6 REGION 4 SCHOOL SYSTEM FOOD SCRAPS PROGRAM SUMMARY

Documentation Details: Submitted: Completed worksheet and a summary of the timeline of this program, as specified in the action guidelines. All other information regarding this action is uploaded into 9.4.2. 8.6, New Action Credit, January- June 2023

Partners: Sustainable Essex Deep River Sustainability Committee Chester Sustainability Team Region 4 Superintendent of Schools Brian White Sustainable CT for matching funding All 5 Region 4 Schools as stated above in the summary Tri-town Boards of Selectmen and Boards of Finance Tri-town residents Blue Earth Compost

8.7 Engage with Youth on Community Sustainability

10 Points

Approved Information: 8.7.1 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 8.7_WORKSHEET1_SUPPORT YOUTH-LED PROJECTS.DOCX

IMAGE: CHESTER ELEM SCHOOL SUST TREE PIC 4 - TREE LOOKING TOWARD THE STREET.JPG

Documentation Details: 8.7: See attached worksheet with 2 projects

Partners: 2023 Town of Chester allowed the Tourism Liaison, with support from the Sustainability Team, to close the downtown Main St. area on Earth Day for the village events. Troopers were stationed on each end of the blocked-off area to direct traffic. Superintendent of Region 4 Schools, Brian J. White approved circulation of the 2023 April Earth Month Events flier in the schools mentioned above. Chester Elementary School, along with the JW Middle School and VRHS circulated the survey flier by email and by posting it. Tourism Liaison coordinated many of the Earth Month and Day events and connected the Sustainability Team with the CES art teacher Lori Lenz. The connection resulted in the CES Sustainability Tree becoming part of the Sustainability Team's tent offerings/ displays. 2025 Eagle Scout project with town support - kayak-canoe-paddleboard rack at Cedar Lake

9. Strategic Materials Management

9.3 Recycle Additional Materials

40 Points

Approved Information: 9.3.1 - 40 points

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: 9.3 CHESTER EVENTS MAGAZINE Q4 2025_DR TRANSFER STATION RECYCLING AND BULKY WASTE.JPG
WORD: THE CYLINDER COLLECTIVE CHEAT SHEET.DOCX
IMAGE: CYLINDER COLLECTIVE.JPG
PDF: CYLINDER COLLECTIVE DEEPRIVERCT SIGNEDEXECUTED SITE SERVICES AGREEMENT 6-2026.PDF
PDF: CHESTERDRBULKYWASTEAGREEMENT SIGED 7-1-26 TO 6-30-27.PDF
PDF: 9.3.1 PROOF OF RECYCLING .PDF
WORD: 9.3_WORKSHEET_1_RECYCLE ADDITIONAL MATERIALS_CHESTER 2026-1.DOCX

Documentation Details: 9.3.1: See attached materials for proof of recycling non-mandated materials. Worksheet describes materials being recycled and proof of recycling document contains necessary documentation.

Partners: Town of Deep River. As Chester does not have its own transfer station, Chester pays a fee to utilize certain services at the Deep River Transfer Station including being able to drop off certain items to be recycled as indicated in our documentation.

9.4 Compost Organic Waste

15 Points

Approved Information: 9.4.1 - 15 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 9.4 COMPOST ORG WASTE_REGION 4 CAFETERIA VISITS.PDF
WORD: 9.4 COMPOST ORGANIC WASTE-CHESTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.DOCX
PDF: 9.4.1 BLUE EARTH CONTRACT

Documentation Details: Please refer to the three documents uploaded on 7/19/26 for the R4 composting program

Partners: Blue Earth Compost hired for hauling food scraps/ compostable waste. Region 4 Food Scraps: Sustainable Essex Deep River Sustainability Committee Chester Sustainability Team Region 4 Superintendent of Schools Brian White Sustainable CT for matching funding All 5 Region 4 Schools as stated above in the summary Tri-town Boards of Selectmen and Boards of Finance Tri-town residents Blue Earth Compost Each year the First Selectman's office/ Town of Chester supports the Chester Fair by promoting it in the townwide emails and on the Town of Chester Facebook page. See 2 attached FB page screenshots. Chester Sustainability Team and Conservation Commission members and other residents in town volunteered at Zero Waste sorting stations to direct the public to discard their waste into appropriate bins.

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

10.2 Conduct Health Impact Assessments

5 Points

Approved Information: 10.2.1 - 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 10.2.1 CHESTER.DOCX

Documentation Details: 10.2.1, New Action Credit, training was watched 7/22/2023

Partners: None

10.3 Improve Air Quality in Public Spaces

20 Points

Approved Information: 10.3.3 - 20 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 10.3.3 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES- NO SMOKING RESOLUTION PASSED ON 3-22-23

PDF: 10.3.3 CHESTER SMOKING BAN RESOLUTION SIGNED 3-22-23

Documentation Details: 10.3.3 The Chester Board of Selectmen passed a No Smoking resolution on 3/22/23 as stated in the attached BOS meeting minutes. The resolution document was signed and certified by the First Selectwoman, Charlene Janecek, on 3/22. No Smoking resolution passed by the Board of Selectmen on 3/22/23.

Partners: None

10.5 Support Equitable Food Access and Local Farmers

15 Points

Approved Information: 10.5.1 - 15 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 10.5.1 CHESTER SUNDAY FARMER'S MARKET HISTORY.DOCX

IMAGE: 10.5.1 SCREENSHOT OF CHESTERS SUNDAY FARMERS MARKET WEBSITE LINK

PDF: 10.5.1 CHESTER SUNDAY FARMER'S MARKET 2026 INFORMATION

IMAGE: 10.5.1 JUNE 2023 FARMERS MARKET PICTURE 2

Documentation Details: 10.5.1: attached is a social media post promoting the market with the hours of the market from the Town of Chester Facebook page, information on it, and the dates and times of the Sunday Market. See the history document for more information about the market, the screenshot of the website with the schedule, and attached photo from June 2023 of the market.

Partners: 10.5.1: The Town of Chester authorizes the closing of the village center on Main St. for each Sunday Farmers' Market, and the Resident Trooper's office provides a vehicle at each end of the Market to ensure traffic is diverted and public safety. The First Selectman's office/ Town of Chester promotes the Sunday Farmers' Market in townwide emails and on the Town of Chester's Facebook page. Refer to the attached townwide email and FB page screenshot. The Chester Merchants Group promotes the Sunday Farmers' Market on VisitChesterCT.com. Deep Hollow Farm in Chester participates weekly as a vendor and promotes the Market on their website at FARMERS MARKET | Deep Hollow Farm (deephollowfarmct.com).

10.6 Plan and Prepare for Extreme Heat

15 Points

Approved Information: 10.6.2c - 15 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 10.6.2_WORKSHEET3_COOLING CENTERS.DOCX

PDF: GOVERNOR LAMONT ACTIVATES EXTREME HOT WEATHER PROTOCOL.PDF

PDF: GOVERNOR LAMONT ACTIVATES EXTREME HOT WEATHER PROTOCOL 81125.PDF

Documentation Details: 10.6.2c: See attached worksheet. All new cooling center amenities are bolded on the worksheet and state "new".

Partners: None

10.7 Improve Outdoor Access for All

35 Points

Approved Information: 10.7.1 - 5 points; 10.7.3 - 30 points

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: 10.7.1 ETIP_CCC_BIRD WALK AT COCKAPONSET 5-5-26.JPG

PDF: 10.7.3 IMPROVE OUTDOOR ACCESS FOR ALL - PAVILION AT NORTH QUARTER PARK.PDF

PDF: 10.7.3 IMPROVE OUTDOOR ACCESS FOR ALL- TRAIL WORK BY VOLUNTEERS

Documentation Details: 10.7.1: On May 5, 2026, Chester Conservation Commission Chair and retired habitat biologist, Lisa Wahle, and State Forester, Alex Amendola, hosted a bird walk in the Cedar Swamp Block of Cockaponset State Forest in Chester. The objective was to see and hear forest-dwelling birds that were setting up nesting territories and describe how various-aged forest stands support different suites of bird species. We walked through mature forest, an area that had been cut 15-20 years ago and an area that was cut about 5 years ago and also visited a shrub wetland. Forest health and habitat diversity were highlighted. In addition to the hosts, 6 residents from Chester attended. the attached notice that ran in the townwide email "Chester Events and Happenings" on 4/28/26. That email goes to 1,652 subscribers. The Conservation Commission hopes to host more of this type of event in the future. 10.7.3- see attached narratives for all details on the trail improvements and pavilion at North Quarter Park.

Partners: 10.7.1 Chester Conservation Commission, Lisa Whale, and Alex Amendola.

11. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

11.1 Implement an Affordable Housing Plan

25 Points

Approved Information: 11.1.1 - 5 points; 11.1.2 - 15 points; 11.1.3 - 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 11.1.3 CHESTER AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN - FINAL ADOPTED 5/25/22
PDF: PARTNERSHIP FOR STRONG COMMUNITIES - CHESTER 2024 HOUSING DATA PROFILE
PDF: AGREEMENT WITH TYCHE PLANNING & POLICY GROUP- DOH GRANT SOW 7-25-2025
WORD: 11.1.3 AHAHC WORKSHEET 3- HOUSING PLAN TRAINING NOV. 2025
IMAGE: RIVERCOG REG HOUSING COMM MEMBERS -WEBSITE SCREENSHOT 3-2-26.PNG
WORD: 11.1.2 WORKSHEET 1 - HOUSING DATA PROFILE ANALYSIS 3-6-26 AND 4-10-26
WORD: 11.1.2 WORKSHEET 2 - ADDITIONAL HOUSING DATA PROFILE ANALYSIS 3-20-26
PDF: AHAHC 2/3/2026 MEETING MINUTES
WORD: 11.1.3 TYCHE - NOV 30 2025 QUARTERLY REPORTING CHESTER TECH ASSISTANCE GRANT 2025
WORD: 11.1.3 TYCHE - FEB 28, 2026 QUARTERLY REPORTING CHESTER TECH ASSISTANCE GRANT 2025
WORD: CHESTER AHAHC 2026 MEETING SCHEDULE
EXCEL: 11.1.3VISIONINGTRAININGHOSTEDBYRIVERCOG11202025ATTENDANCE_REDACTED.XLSX
PDF: 11.1.1 REGIONAL-HOUSING-COMMITTEE-BYLAW-SECTION.PDF
WORD: 11.1.1 RESOLUTION TO FORM OUR AD HOC AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE 5/14/2024
IMAGE: TOWN WEBSITE SCREEN SHOT- LIST OF AD HOC AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE MEMBERS
PDF: CHESTER AHAHC 2/3/2026 MEETING AGENDA

Documentation Details: 11.1.1 Please refer to the attached 5/14/2024 Resolution to form our Ad Hoc Affordable Housing Committee (AHAHC), the Website screenshot of AHAHC Committee members, AHAHC 2/3/2026 Meeting Agenda, AHAHC 2/3/2026 Meeting Minutes, and the AHAHC 2026 meeting schedule. Chester continues to participate in RiverCOG's Regional Housing Committee, with Selectman Pat Bandzes now as Chair, and resident Bonnie Bennet as a Chester rep. alternate. See the attached 3/2/26 RiverCOG Reg Housing Committee Members screenshot. 11.1.2 Refer to the 2024 (most recent) Partnership for Strong Communities Chester Housing Data Profile and updated 11.1.2 worksheet 1 and additional worksheet 2. 11.1.3 On November 20, 2025, Chester's Affordable Housing Committee hosted a training for its members and commissioners from the Planning & Zoning and Economic Development Commissions. The training which focused on "Community Visioning" was provided by River COG. The training helped participants understand the purpose of the Plan of Conservation & Development (POCD) and how to engage community members in the process of creating comprehensive vision plans. Participants also studied the relationship between the vision plan and zoning and wrestled with real world examples of how to lean on the shared values and goals outlined in the POCD when making decisions. See attached 11.1.3 Worksheet 3 and Visioning Training Attendance List. 11.1.3 Refer to the attached Tyche Planning & Policy Group Agreement for implementation of a Dept. of Housing $35,000 Grant obtained by the AHAHC. Chester contracted with Tyche to use the DOH grant to conduct a zoning regulations review, providing housing related educational trainings, and explore a GIS-based parcel feasibility analysis, etc. Please refer to the agreement's stated Scope of Services, etc. The $35K Dept. of Housing Grant obtained and Scope of Services defined (15 points) - Refer to Agreement with Tyche Planning & Policy Group DOH grant Scope of Work completion - Refer to Tyche November 2025 and February 2026 Quarterly DOH grant Progress Reports (20).

Partners: Ad Hoc Affordable Housing Committee, RiverCOG staff and Regional Housing Committee, Town residents, Partnership for Strong Communities, Chester Board of Selectmen, Planning & Zoning Commission, Town Assessor, Tyche Planning & Policy Group.

11.2 Grow Sustainable and Affordable Housing Options

10 Points

Approved Information: 11.2.2 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 2025 AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPEALS LIST

PDF: 2022 AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPEALS LIST

Documentation Details: 11.2.2: Chester has increased from 2.03% affordable in 2022 to 2.29% affordable in 2025, which is an increase of 0.26%.

Partners: None

12. Effective, Compassionate Homelessness Prevention

12.1 Strengthen Municipal Workforce Capacity to Address Homelessness

10 Points

Approved Information: 12.1.1a - 5 points; 12.1.1b - 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 12.1.1A HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS LINK ADDED TO SOCIAL SERVICES ON CHESTERCT PDF (1).PDF

WORD: 12.1.1A CHESTER.DOCX

WORD: 12.1.1B CHESTER.DOCX

Documentation Details: 12.1.1a: Refer to the attached PDF for 12.1.1a details, including municipal designate for homeless services, partners, print screens and links. https://www.chesterct.org/1378/Social-Services 12.1.1b: Refer to the attached information on the attended trainings 12.1.1a New Action Credit for new homeless action submission, 2023 12.1.1b, New Action Credit, August 2023

Partners: 12.1.1a :Chester Director of Social Services, Tri-Town Youth Services, United Church of Chester, Sustainability Team, Board of Selectmen 12.1.1b: Rosie Bininger, Human & Social Services Director First Selectwoman Charlene Janecek Chester Sustainability Team

13. Innovative Strategies and Practices

13.1 Implement Your Own Sustainability Action

15 Points

Approved Information: 13.1.1 - 15 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 13.1 CHESTER FAIR EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

PDF: 13.1 CHESTER FAIR PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

WORD: 13.1 CHESTER FAIR ZERO WASTE AGREEMENT 2026

EXCEL: 13.1 CHESTER FAIR 2025 DATA

WORD: 13.1 CHESTER FAIR ZERO WASTE SUMMARY - FINAL.DOCX

EXCEL: 13.1 CHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY RESPONSE TO 2024 PROG-SERV SURVEY - BEFORE-AFTER.XLSX

PDF: 13.1 TOWN OF CHESTER RESIDENT SURVEY - PROGRAMS & SERVICES 2024.PDF

WORD: 13.1 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AD HOC CITIZENS LIAISON COUNCIL MEETING NEXT STEPS 41624.DOCX

WORD: 13.1 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FIRST SELECTMANS WEEKLY REPORT 5824 PROMOTING PROGSERVSURVEY.DOCX

PDF: 13.1 EMAILS RE TURTLE CROSSING SIGNS FOR STRAITS RD_ BRIDGE AREA PDF.PDF

WORD: 13.1 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES CITIZENS LIASON MEETING MINS 07082024 FIRST OFFICIAL MEETING.DOC

IMAGE: 13.1 TURTLE CROSSING SIGN 1.JPG

WORD: 13.1 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES DESCRIPTION

WORD: 13.1 TURTLE CROSSING SIGNS ON STRAITS RD SUMMARY (1).DOCX

IMAGE: 13.1 TURTLES SITTING ON THE LOG IN LITTLE JENNINGS POND.JPG

IMAGE: 13.1 TURTLE CROSSING SIGN 2.JPG

Documentation Details: 13.1 2026 submissions: Chester Zero Waste Fair program- see attachments Chester Library New Programs and Services- see attachments 2023 - 13.1 Turtle Crossing Signs: Refer to: Email communications dated 4/29/23 and 5/1/23 between Cindy Lignar (Sustainability Team), the First Selectman, Dept. of Public Works Interim Foreman Cameron Evangelisti, and Richard Holloway (Sustainability Team), Lisa Wahle (Conservation Commission Chair & Sust. Team) and neighbor Caroline Miller. 2 turtle crossing signs secured to the Narrow Bridge caution signs' posts. A significant decline in turtle deaths on the road has been observed by frequent passersby.

Partners: 2023 - 13.1 Turtle Crossing Signs Residents on Pleasant St., Straits Rd. and Spring St. brought forward the issue of turtle fatalities. Chester First Selectwoman Charlene Janecek granted permission for the signs placements. Department of Public Works Interim Director Cameron Evangelisti and staff assisted in hanging the signs in their optimal positions. In consultation between the Sustainability Team and the Conservation Commission, the decision to hang the signs was decided and requested of the First Selectwoman. Approval was obtained. The Chester Sustainability Team engaged the partners with the outcome of posted turtle crossing signs at the turtle crossing section of Straits Rd in the dam area.