

CLIMATE
ACTION 
COLLABORATIVE

2022 IMPACT REPORT



Walking
Mountains

MISSION

CLIMATE ACTION COLLABORATIVE PURPOSE & GOAL

The effects of climate change are impacting us now and will continue to do so into the foreseeable future. The Eagle River Valley community urgently prioritizes climate action so current and future generations of citizens and guests can enjoy a flourishing year-round economy, recreational experiences, and a healthy, resilient ecosystem that enhances the wellbeing of all. The Eagle County Climate Action Plan's goal is to reduce county-wide carbon emissions 50% by 2030 and 80% by 2050.









TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME

Climate Action, Together → 5
2020 Climate Action Plan Update → 7
2022 Eagle County Energy Inventory → 8

KEY METRICS

 Buildings → 10
 Transportation → 11
 Energy Supply → 12
 Materials Management → 13
 Water → 14
 Natural Climate Solutions → 15

GRATITUDE

Eagle River Valley Community → 17
Collaborative Partners → 18
Organizational Partners → 19

WELCOME

#BeBetterTogether

CLIMATE ACTION, TOGETHER



Dear Eagle County Community Members,

We are pleased to bring you the Climate Action Collaborative (CAC) Impact Report for the 2022 calendar year.

For the past five years, the CAC's local government leaders, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and community members have worked relentlessly on our collective climate action goal. Thanks to generous contributions of time, money, and expertise from our community partners, the CAC has become the trusted local resource for climate action. We are grateful to our founding members for their vision and commitment, and to our more recent members for the renewed energy and urgency they bring to our work.

The CAC accomplished a lot in 2022. We elicited the expertise of 2,000 people through our six specialized working groups, facilitated more than 80 meetings on diverse sustainability topics, hosted our first-ever Climate Action Week, added 500+ kilowatts to the electric grid through the Solarize Eagle County program, and developed a plan to build the infrastructure needed to meet future electric vehicle demand in Eagle County. This momentum continues in 2023 with a robust suite of programs that enable meaningful reductions in our community's greenhouse gas emissions.



CLIMATE ACTION, TOGETHER

As we go to press with this report in the summer of 2023, the devastating impacts of ignoring the climate crisis for decades is being felt around the world. This deepens our resolve to engage everyone in the community to take action for the sake of our environment, our economy, and our future generations who deserve to inherit a healthy planet.

So connect with us! Join the conversation, ask us questions, and understand how to be part of the solution. Together, we can create a resilient Eagle County.

Sincerely,

Gina McCrackin, Manager
Gina McCrackin

Sarah Smith Hymes, Board Chair
Sarah Smith Hymes

CLIMATE ACTION COLLABORATIVE BOARD

Sarah Smith Hymes, Town of Avon (chair)
Eric Heil, Town of Avon
Elyse Hottel, Town of Basalt
Sara Nadolny, Town of Basalt
Ellen Bodenheimer, Town of Eagle
Geoff Grimmer, Town of Eagle
Tori Franks, Eagle County
Matt Scherr, Eagle County
Earle Bidez, Town of Minturn
Michelle Metteer, Town of Minturn
Ben Kleimer, Town of Red Cliff
Kristen Bertuglia, Town of Vail
Kim Langmaid, Town of Vail (Vice Chair)

CLIMATE ACTION COLLABORATIVE STAFF

Gina McCrackin, Manager
Will Barror, Coordinator



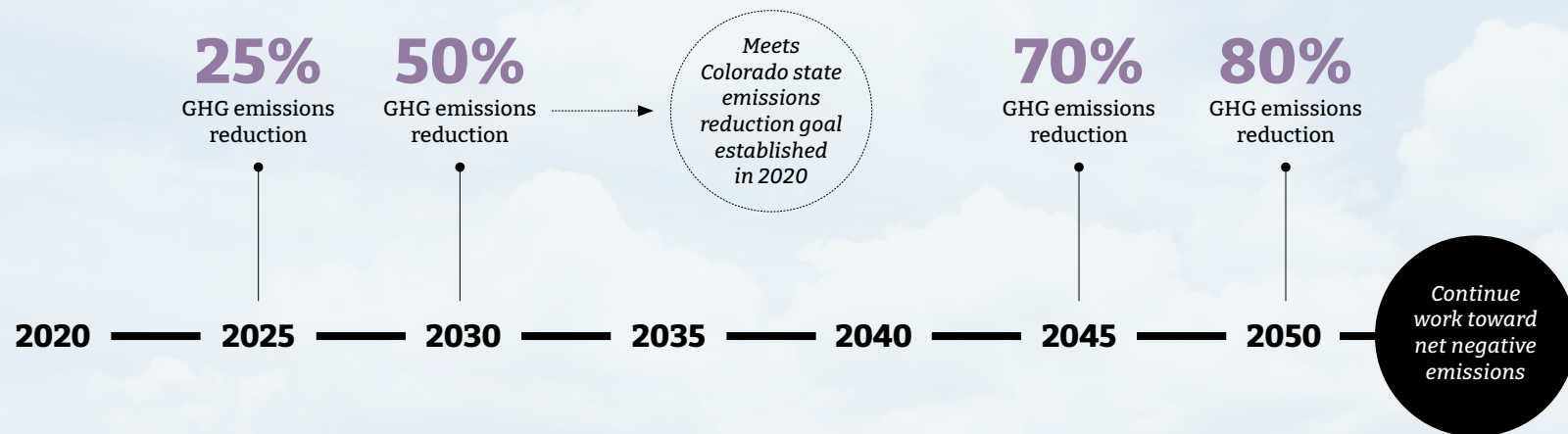
2020 CLIMATE ACTION PLAN UPDATE

The Climate Action Collaborative chose to update the Eagle County Climate Action Plan in 2020 in lieu of a 2020 Annual Report. This decision was based on the tremendous strides being made in our community that empowered us to set more rigorous CO2 emissions reduction targets. The Eagle County Climate Action Plan now has a goal to reduce carbon emissions from our six sectors 50% by 2030 and 80% by 2050.

**READ THE
CLIMATE ACTION
PLAN UPDATE**



TARGET MILESTONES GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION PLAN*



* COMPARED TO A 2014 BASELINE



2022 EAGLE COUNTY ENERGY INVENTORY

Each year, Clean Energy Economy for the Region (CLEER), a mountain region partner out of Garfield County, produces the Eagle County Energy Inventory. Yearly energy inventories allow us insights to our climate action progress.

The 2022 Eagle County Energy Inventory shares a number of highlights, some of which reflect our progress, and others demonstrate the need for more improvements. Buildings and transportation remain our two highest emissions sources, therefore more resources must be put behind building and transportation electrification and efficiency. Additionally, COVID-19 had a favorable impact on our emissions reduction efforts in 2020 and 2021, but with the economic rebound, we've seen emissions tick back up. This is a global trend that emphasizes the interconnection between the economy and greenhouse gas emissions. Click the link below to review the most recent Eagle County energy inventory.

**READ THE
MOST RECENT ENERGY
INVENTORY REPORT**



KEY RESULTS

2022 COUNTY-WIDE METRICS

The Climate Action Plan in Action



BUILDINGS

2022 RESULTS

146

rebates awarded by
Energy Smart Colorado
and Holy Cross Energy

170

Energy Smart Colorado
home energy assessments
completed

103

LED bulbs swapped

4,838

pounds of CO2 saved
from LED swaps

659

all-electric commercial
buildings in Eagle County,
a 0.15% increase since 2021

7,581

all-electric homes in
Eagle County

86

buildings benchmarked,
a 56.36% increase
since 2021

2023 PRIORITIES

- ▶ Launch an Eagle County Code Cohort to pass consistent 2021 IECC building codes and supporting amendments that make new construction as sustainable and efficient as possible
- ▶ Continued research and development on a future Eagle County benchmarking and building performance standards ordinance
- ▶ Assist Eagle County building owners complying with the State of Colorado's Building Performance Colorado ordinance and forthcoming building performance standards





TRANSPORTATION

2022 RESULTS

2022 RESULTS

692

light duty EVs registered in Eagle County, a 65.95% increase since 2021

142

Level 2 chargers in Eagle County, a 15.45% increase since 2021

24

Level 3 chargers in Eagle County, a 50% increase since 2021

7,393

number of trips taken via ShiftBike

21,735

number of miles traveled via ShiftBike

8.68

metric tons of GHG emissions reduced via ShiftBike trips

2023 PRIORITIES

- ▶ Strive for expanding e-bike share program across the County

- ▶ Implement the strategies and actions found in the Eagle County EV Infrastructure Plan with the goal of increasing the amount of public EV charging stations in our community

- ▶ Research and advocacy around securing electric school buses for Eagle County School District

- ▶ Strive for expanding e-bike share program across the County





ENERGY SUPPLY

2022 RESULTS

50% of energy is renewable on Holy Cross electric grid

1,310

participants in the [PuRE Program](#), a 15% decrease since 2021

3.0%

participation rate out of 42,454 accounts

1,461

participants in [Peak Time Payback](#), a 10.42% decrease since 2021

3.4%

participation rate out of 42,454 accounts

2023 PRIORITIES

- ▶ Apply for the National Renewable Energy Lab's (NREL) Waste to Energy Technical Assistance Program to receive consulting services related to waste to energy solutions for Eagle County
- ▶ Support the development of large scale solar and storage projects in Eagle County

GET INVOLVED

If you're interested in helping our community achieve our climate action goals, please visit the [Holy Cross Energy website](#) for more information on enrolling in their renewable energy programs.





MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

2022 RESULTS

72%

increase in organic
waste diverted
from landfill as
compared to 2021

2%

increase in diversion
of recoverable
construction waste as
compared to 2021

2023 PRIORITIES

- ▶ Create a construction and demolition management plan to divert 100% of recoverable C&D from the landfill by 2030
- ▶ Create an Eagle County specific diversion toolkit for local contractors
- ▶ Assist communities in preparing for the state-wide plastic bag ban





WATER

2022 RESULTS

5,978

square feet of turf replaced
under ERWSD's turf
replacement program

10

residential and commercial
irrigation audit rebates
provided by ERWSD

2023 PRIORITIES

- ▶ Support the Beyond Lawn program and Eagle River Water and Sanitation District with their water conservation, lawn conversion, and rebate programs

- ▶ Create a water-greenhouse gas calculator to determine the emissions associated with water treatment and distribution across Eagle County, then use reports to advocate for efficiency improvements





NATURAL CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

2022 RESULTS

135

number of conservation easements in Eagle County

31,937

total acres of land under a conservation easement in Eagle County

\$15.86

donated to Walking Mountains Sustainability via the **Good Traveler** program

2023 PRIORITIES

- ▶ Work with a CU Denver student to develop a public-private partnership natural climate solutions report specific to Eagle County
- ▶ Support education efforts from partner organizations related to regenerative agriculture and soil health



GRATITUDE

Our Most Sincere Thanks

THANK YOU

EAGLE RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY



The Climate Action Collaborative excels at educating our community about our critical climate action work in creative, inspiring ways. We know that public engagement and educational opportunities allow Eagle County residents to feel they have agency in addressing the impacts of climate change. We're thrilled to report that we hosted 22 successful community events in 2022, including our first ever Climate Action Week, along with our mainstay events such as the EV Ride n Drive.

<p>6</p> <p>speaker series and civic engagement events</p>	<p>4</p> <p>EV and multimodal transportation events</p>
<p>5</p> <p>building and energy events</p>	<p>7</p> <p>land, waste, or water events</p>



THANK YOU COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

The Climate Action Collaborative recognizes that the most effective way to achieve the scalable change we need is through thoughtful, reciprocal partnerships. As such, our passionate, steadfast, and consensus-driven alliance of leaders in our community have driven forward the material impact of our climate work. We could not have realized our important climate accomplishments without our Collaborative Partners.



THANK YOU

ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

Additionally, we would like to extend a thank you to each of our committed, participating Organizational Partners.

- ◆ About Saving Heat
- ◆ Active Energies
- ◆ Adam Palmer Sustainability Fund
- ◆ Backyard Irrigation
- ◆ Betty Ford Alpine Garden
- ◆ Black Hills Energy
- ◆ Clean Energy Economy for the Region
- ◆ Colorado State University Extension
- ◆ Eagle County Conservation District
- ◆ Eagle County School District
- ◆ Eagle River Watershed Council
- ◆ Eagle Valley Community Foundation
- ◆ Eagle Valley Land Trust
- ◆ East West Family of Companies
- ◆ EC Solid Waste and Recycling
- ◆ ECO Trails
- ◆ Encore Electric
- ◆ Ethos Landscape and Design
- ◆ EV Connect
- ◆ Evergreen Zero Waste
- ◆ Lotus Engineering and Sustainability
- ◆ Mountain Recreation
- ◆ Mountain Youth
- ◆ New Roots CO
- ◆ North 29 Energy
- ◆ Partners Environmental Consulting
- ◆ R&H Mechanical
- ◆ Schneider Electric
- ◆ Southwest Energy Efficiency Project
- ◆ Sunsense Solar
- ◆ The Ground Up
- ◆ Trinity Recycling
- ◆ US Green Building Council (USGBC)
- ◆ Vail Honeywagon
- ◆ Vail Valley Foundation
- ◆ Vail Valley Partnership
- ◆ White River National Forest
- ◆ Wint Water Intelligence
- ◆ Zehren and Associates





**CLIMATE
ACTION**
COLLABORATIVE

CONNECT WITH US

#BeBetterTogether
climateactioncollaborative.org
ginam@walkingmountains.org
willb@walkingmountains.org



**Walking
Mountains**