

2023 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.

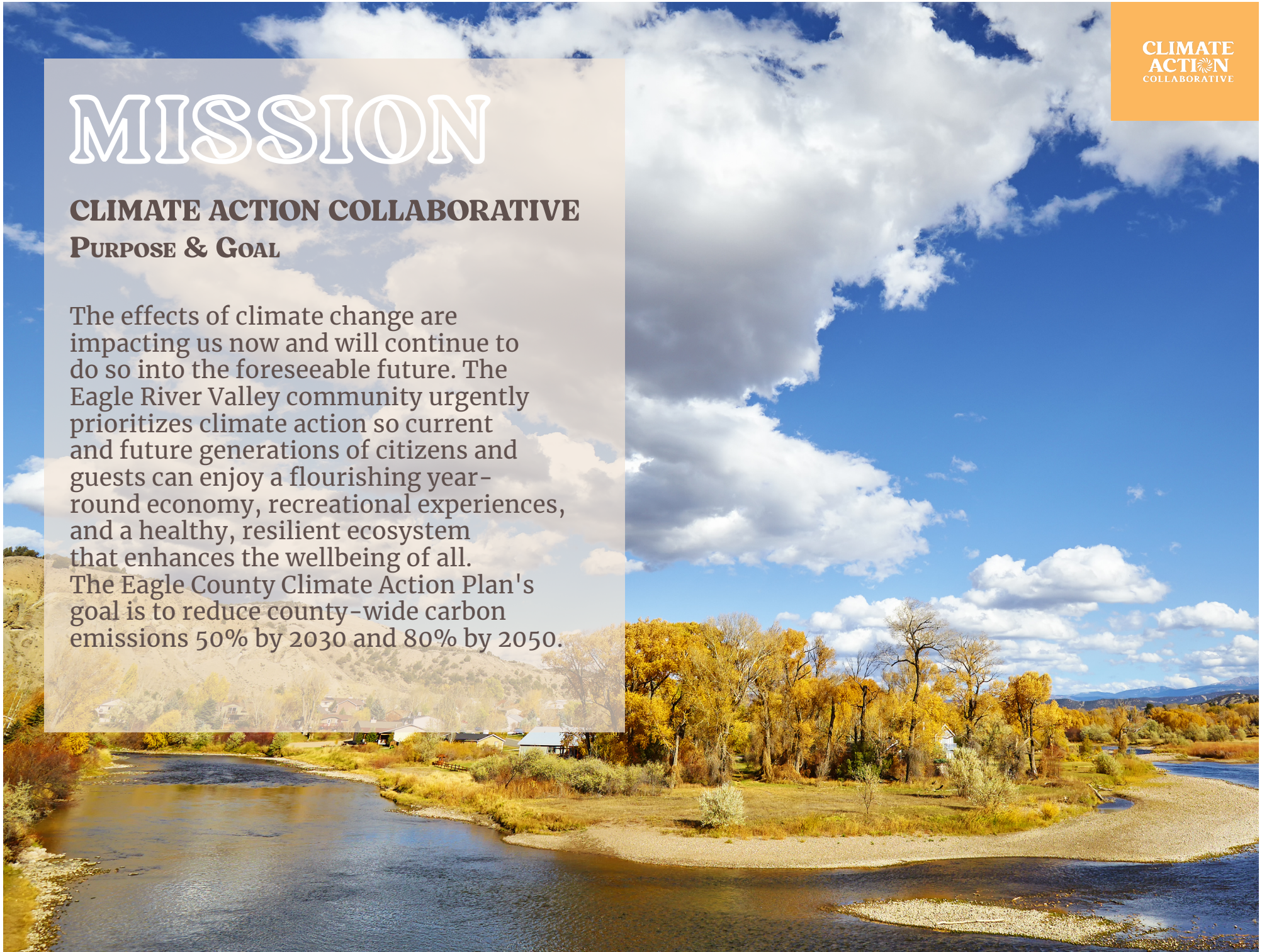










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WELCOME

#BeBetterTogether

CLIMATE ACTION, TOGETHER



Dear Eagle County Community Members,

We are pleased to share the Climate Action Collaborative's (CAC) Impact Report for the 2023 calendar year.

Over the past six years, local government leaders, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and community members have worked within our Collaborative to meet our collective climate action goals. Thanks to generous contributions of expertise, time, and money 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 more recent members for the renewed energy and urgency they bring to our work. Collaborations like ours thrive because of members who generously share their insights, ideas, and expertise.

The CAC accomplished a lot in 2023. We engaged 3,000 people over the course of nearly 200 meetings, including our six specialized working groups, multiple subgroups, and a regional climate solutions group. Other highlights included a successful second-annual Climate Action Week, the adoption of consistent energy-efficient building codes across our communities, and the development of recommendations to reduce emissions from water treatment and distribution. This momentum has carried into 2024 with a robust array of programs aimed at substantially reducing our community's greenhouse gas emissions.



CLIMATE ACTION, TOGETHER

As we finalize this report, the impacts of the climate crisis are increasingly evident here in Colorado and around the world. Our commitment to mobilizing the Eagle County community to meet our climate action goals has never been stronger.

Thank you for your unwavering support of the Climate Action Collaborative. We look forward to continuing to be the trusted leader of climate action efforts in Eagle County in 2024 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Gina McCrackin
Gina McCrackin, Manager

Kim Langmaid
Kim Langmaid, Board Chair

CLIMATE ACTION COLLABORATIVE BOARD

- Lindsay Hardy, Town of Avon
- Sarah Smith Hymes, Town of Avon
- Elyse Hottel, Town of Basalt
- Sara Nadolny, Town of Basalt
- Ellen Bodenheimer, Town of Eagle
- Geoff Grimmer, Town of Eagle (Vice Chair)
- Tori Franks, Eagle County
- Matt Scherr, Eagle County
- Earle Bidez, Town of Minturn
- Brian Rodine, Town of Minturn
- Ben Kleimer, Town of Red Cliff
- Dana Veljacic, Town of Red Cliff
- Kristen Bertuglia, Town of Vail
- Kim Langmaid, Town of Vail (Chair)

CLIMATE ACTION COLLABORATIVE STAFF

- Gina McCrackin, Manager
- Will Barror, Coordinator



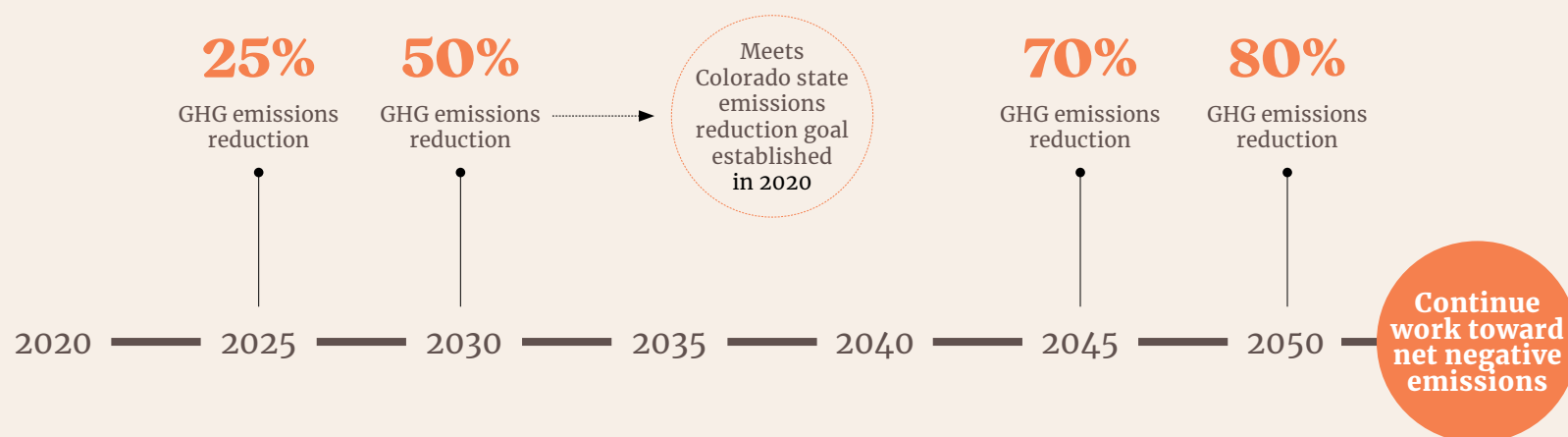
2020 CLIMATE ACTION PLAN UPDATE

The Climate Action Collaborative chose to update the Eagle County Climate Action Plan in 2020. 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 Climate Action Plan 2020 Update sets a goal to reduce county-wide carbon emissions from our six sectors 50% by 2030 and 80% by 2050, from our 2014 baseline emissions.

**READ THE
CLIMATE ACTION
PLAN UPDATE**



TARGET MILESTONES GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION PLAN*



* COMPARED TO A 2014 BASELINE



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 are critical to understanding our climate action progress. Buildings and transportation consistently remain our two highest emissions sources – we must act quickly to electrify these sectors and make efficiency improvements.

Click the link below to review the most recent Eagle County Energy Inventory.

**READ THE
MOST RECENT ENERGY
INVENTORY REPORT**



KEY RESULTS

2023 COUNTY-WIDE METRICS

The Climate Action Plan in Action



BUILDINGS

2023 RESULTS

722

rebates awarded by
Energy Smart Colorado
and Holy Cross Energy a
280% increase from 2022

217

Energy Smart Colorado
home energy assessments
completed a **23.7%** increase
from 2022

650

all-electric commercial
buildings in Eagle County

7,569

all-electric homes in
Eagle County

103

buildings benchmarked in 2023,
a **19.77%** increase since 2022

2024 PRIORITIES

- ▶ Develop a regional net zero building codes roadmap with Eagle, Pitkin, and Garfield Counties to align on sustainable building code updates through 2030
- ▶ Develop and launch a Green Lease Program across Eagle County to assist landlords in making sustainable changes to their rental units
- ▶ Provide support for remaining communities to adopt the 2021 IECC and supporting amendments that came from the Eagle County Code Cohort





TRANSPORTATION

2023 RESULTS

986

light duty EVs registered in Eagle County, a 42.49% increase since 2022

190

Level 2 chargers in Eagle County, a 33.8% increase since 2022

36

Level 3 chargers in Eagle County, a 50% increase since 2022

10,330

trips taken via ShiftBike a 39.73% increase since 2022

33,600

miles traveled via ShiftBike via Shift Bike, a 54.59% increase since 2022

12.16

metric tons of GHG emissions via Shift Bike trips, a 40.09% increase since 2022

2024 PRIORITIES

- ▶ Continue to implement the Eagle County EV Infrastructure Plan’s strategies and actions to support community EV adoption goals
- ▶ Launch a regional EV Charging Cohort to support EV charger installation in multifamily complexes
- ▶ Develop and launch an ongoing multimodal transportation campaign and work with partners to activate and implement





ENERGY SUPPLY

2023 RESULTS

50% of energy is renewable on Holy Cross electric grid

1,560

participants in the [PuRE Program](#), a **19.1%** increase from 2022

4.2%

participation rate out of 36,925 accounts

1,461

participants in [Peak Time Payback](#), a **39.52%** increase from 2022

5.5%

participation rate out of 36,925 accounts

2024 PRIORITIES

- ▶ Advocate for local renewable energy and storage projects across Eagle County
- ▶ Continue to support Holy Cross Energy in achieving renewable electricity goals
- ▶ Promote electrification and energy efficiency programs offered by our utilities and Walking Mountains Energy Programs

GET INVOLVED

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





MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

2023 RESULTS

10,510

tons of organic waste
diverted from the landfill

8,275.53

tons of construction &
demolition waste diverted
from the landfill

23.3%

waste diversion rate

31.5%

material solid waste
recycling rate

152,630

tons of solid waste generated

2024 PRIORITIES

- ▶ Create a construction and demolition management plan for Eagle County communities
- ▶ Assist Eagle County communities in preparing for state-wide plastic bag and styrofoam bans
- ▶ Continue offering quarterly recycling tours to community members, and begin offering Spanish interpretation





WATER

2023 RESULTS

57,006

square feet of turf replaced
under ERWSD's turf
replacement program, a
853.6% increase from 2022

4

residential and commercial
irrigation audit rebates
provided by ERWSD

9

irrigation efficiency rebates
provided by ERWSD

22

landscape assessments
as a part of the Beyond
Lawn Program

2024 PRIORITIES

- ▶ Develop water-energy nexus reports including greenhouse gas emissions associated with water treated and distributed for each of our Eagle County water providers
- ▶ Support the promotion of rebates and incentives through Eagle River Water and Sanitation District and Beyond Lawn programs and continue to support both entities in their education and outreach efforts
- ▶ Advocate for landscape water conservation policies to municipalities and HOAs in their planning and zoning updates





NATURAL CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

2023 RESULTS

38

number of conservation easements in Eagle County

25,678

total acres of land under a conservation easement in Eagle County

\$10,105

donated to Walking Mountains Sustainability via the **The Good Traveler** program, a **63616.5%** increase from 2022

2024 PRIORITIES

- ▶ Work closely with partner organizations to educate on and advocate for regenerative agricultural practices
- ▶ Promote the Good Traveler Program at the Eagle County Regional Airport



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 give Eagle County residents agency to address the impacts of climate change. We're thrilled that we were able to host numerous community events in 2023, including the second-annual Climate Action Week, and mainstay events such as the EV & E-Bike Ride 'n Drive and Climate Speaker Series.

23

events during Climate
Action Week

5

EV and multimodal
transportation events

9

building and energy events

6

land, waste, or water events

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.

	 BEAVER CREEK METROPOLITAN DISTRICT	 TOWN OF BASALT	 SINGLETREE BERRY CREEK METRO DISTRICT	 TOWN OF EAGLE Est. 1905	 EAGLE COUNTY
 THE COMMUNITY OF EAGLE VAIL	 EAGLE RIVER WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT	 EDWARDS COLORADO	 HOLY CROSS ENERGY EST. 1939	 Minturn	 R & H MECHANICAL
 TRAER CREEK	 TOWN OF VAIL	 VAIL HEALTH	 VAIL RESORTS EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME	 Walking Mountains EDUCATION SCIENCE SUSTAINABILITY	

THANK YOU

ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

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

Active Energies
Adam Palmer Sustainability Fund
Backyard Irrigation
Betty Ford Alpine Garden
Black Hills Energy
Clean Energy Economy for
the Region (CLEER)
Colorado State University
Extension
Colorado Mountain College
Community Office for
Resource Efficiency (CORE)
Eagle County Conservation District
Eagle County School District
Eagle River Coalition
Eagle Valley Community

Foundation
Eagle Valley Land Trust
East West Family of Companies
EC Solid Waste and Recycling
ECO Trails
ECO Transit
Encore Electric
Ethos Landscaping
EV Connect
Evergreen Zero Waste
Lotus Engineering & Sustainability
Mountain Recreation
Mountain Youth
New Roots CO
North 29 Energy
Partners Environmental Consulting

RA Nelson
Schneider Electric
Southwest Energy Efficiency
Project (SWEEP)
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
Xcel Energy
Zehren and Associates





**CLIMATE
ACTION**
COLLABORATIVE

CONNECT WITH US

#BeBetterTogether

climateactioncollaborative.org

ginam@walkingmountains.org



**Walking
Mountains**