

# Boulder County Sustainability Plan

<https://bouldercolorado.gov/climate/climate-sustainability-division>

The City of Boulder's Climate + Sustainability Division works to pioneer pathways and foster collaborative actions that achieve sustainable energy and resource use in our organization and community.

The C+S Division does this by:

- Creating climate, energy and resource use policy in support of our community's value of environmental stewardship/
- Piloting innovative climate solutions that are often scaled and replicated across the country.
- Implementing programs, services and rebates to help homeowners and businesses achieve sustainable energy and resource use.
- Partnering with other city departments, jurisdictions, organizations and community members to continually refine our strategy and test new ideas.
- Helping other city divisions to incorporate climate preparedness in their work, policies and programs.

The Climate and Sustainability Division supports policies, programs and projects in the following focus areas:

**Energy:** Reduce the amount of energy we use in Boulder through energy efficiency efforts, and identify local, renewable sources to improve community resilience and energy sustainability.

**Climate:** Respond to the climate change impacts already in motion and create a healthier, more resilient and prosperous community.

**Zero Waste:** Advance zero waste in Boulder by expanding opportunities to reduce waste and to reuse, recycle and compost most of what we throw away.

## Boulder Energy Outline

**Boulder Building Performance:** An ordinance to reduce energy use and improve the quality of Boulder's commercial and industrial building stock by requiring rating and reporting (R&R) and energy efficiency measures.

**Boulder Energy Challenge:** A grant program to foster innovative solutions from the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**CU Energy Green Team:** A collaborative program with the University of Colorado Environmental Center to foster peer-to-peer education in student-heavy neighborhoods about energy efficiency and Boulder's energy goals.

**Energy Conservation Code:** Energy and sustainability code requirements for new construction, additions and building renovations.

**Energy loans from Elevations Credit Union:** Low interest loans to make energy upgrades for your home or business.

**EnergySmart:** A program that provides free and discounted energy efficiency advising services and rebates to residents and businesses.

**Partners for a Clean Environment (PACE):** A business sustainability advising service that provides free technical support to Boulder businesses and helps them achieve their sustainability goals.

**SmartRegs:** A series of ordinances that supports tenant comfort and reduced energy waste by requiring all rental housing to meet a basic energy efficiency standard by Dec. 31, 2018.

**Solar Resources:** Information on solar in Boulder.

## **Boulder Climate Outline**

**Climate Commitment:** Boulder's ambitious climate goals, adopted Dec. 6, 2016, including a commitment an 80 percent reduction in community greenhouse gas emissions below 2005 levels by 2050, and related strategies.

**Greenhouse Gas Inventory:** A tracking mechanism and report on Boulder's community greenhouse gas emissions.

## **Boulder Zero Waste**

**Disposable Bag Fee:** An ordinance that supports the reduction of disposable bag waste in Boulder by requiring a 10 cent fee for all plastic and paper checkout bags at all grocery stores.

**Universal Zero Waste Ordinance:** An ordinance that expands recycling and composting opportunities to all Boulder residents, employees and visitors by requiring all property owners and businesses to provide recycling and composting services to their tenants and customers.

**Recycle Row Zero Waste Facilities:** A collection of reuse and recycle facilities off of East Arapahoe that supports residents, property managers and businesses in sending fewer waste materials to the landfill.

- [Center for hard to recycle materials \(CHaRM\)](#)
- [Wood Waste Drop-off Center](#)
- [Recycling Drop-off Center](#)
- [ReSource Yard](#)
- [Hazardous Materials Management Facility](#)
- [Yard Waste Drop-off Center](#)