

Fact Sheet: Climate Change & Mount Kisco

The Village of Mount Kisco is seeking your input on its climate action planning process, which includes a Climate Vulnerability Assessment. This Fact Sheet describes the effects of climate change in Mount Kisco and offers ways you can share ideas to make the Village more resilient, which include completing a survey for residents. Access the survey by scanning the QR code or filling out a paper copy of the survey (available at the library and Village Hall).



What is climate change?

Climate change refers to long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns, mainly caused by human activities including burning of fossil fuels.¹

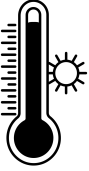
What is a Climate Vulnerability Assessment?

A local study² that identifies:

- A community’s assets—for example, its people, infrastructure, ecosystems, economy, and services.
- Potential impacts to community assets caused by climate changes and hazards, like heat waves and flooding.
- Community assets’ vulnerability to climate change impacts, based on their exposure, sensitivity, and ability to adapt to the changing climate.

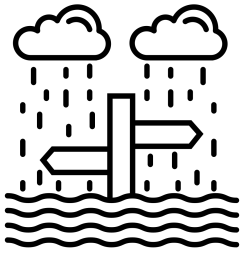

How does climate change affect Mount Kisco?

Mount Kisco will continue to experience rising temperatures, more extreme heat events, severe storms (e.g. wind storms), heavy rainfall, and flooding through 2050 and beyond.

Climate Change	Examples of Possible Impacts in Mount Kisco
 <p>Rising Temperatures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hotter temperatures in downtown/developed areas • Health risks (heat stress, mental health impacts, worsening of chronic illness), particularly for sensitive groups (e.g. senior citizens, outdoor workers, people who don’t have A/C) • Loss of electricity due to overloading of the electrical grid

¹ US EPA, Basics of Climate Change. <https://www.epa.gov/climatechange-science/basics-climate-change>

² See New York State Climate Smart Communities PE7 Action: Climate Vulnerability Assessment. <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/>

<p>and More Extreme Heat Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher energy bills due to increased need for A/C • Threats to the health and survival of tree canopy, plants, wildlife, water bodies, and natural areas • Cancellation of community events and outdoor recreation programming due to dangerous heat • Increased pests (e.g. ticks, mosquitoes) and invasive species in the Village • Poor air quality, particularly in combination with wildfire smoke
 <p>Heavy Rainfall and Flooding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood damage to public buildings, infrastructure, homes, and businesses • Reduced water quality due to polluted runoff and sediment • Damage to water and sewer infrastructure • Trail wash-outs and damage to parks/green spaces • Road wash-outs, flooding, blockages, closure, and increased emergency response time • Supply chain disruptions
 <p>Severe Storms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storm damage (due to e.g. high winds, snow) to public buildings, infrastructure, homes, and businesses • Downed trees • Road blockages, closure, and increased emergency response time • Supply chain disruptions • Reduced water quality due to salting of roads and sidewalks

How can you participate in the Village’s climate action planning efforts?

- Complete the resident survey by scanning the QR code or filling out a paper copy of the survey (available at the library and Village Hall)
- Find our table at community events
- Promote climate awareness activities to your family, friends, and neighbors
- Join the Climate Smart Communities Task Force by contacting Lizette Hernandez, villagemgr@mountkisco.ny.gov

