

# Environment, Department of the (DOE)

Responsibility Center	Department(s)	2019 Budget (\$)			Benefited Positions
		Operating Expense	Non-County Revenue	Net County Cost	
Environment	8090 Environmental Control	667,415	208,620	(458,795)	4



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<https://ulstercountyny.gov/environment>

## Mission & Vision

*The DOE leads Ulster County Government and supports Ulster County municipal efforts to protect natural resources and address climate change in order to steward our critical natural assets which are valuable to our residents, visitors, and future generations.*

## How We Serve Ulster County

The DOE coordinates environmental policy and resource planning within County government. The Department utilizes a unique pooled-resources model to draw on other departments to bring the right expertise to bear on different issues. Key areas of involvement include natural resource planning, natural resource inventory data management and creation, stormwater regulation compliance, support of County energy efficiency and green building infrastructure initiatives, and involvement in watershed planning issues.

## 2019 Highlights

- Completed the Ulster County Climate Action Plan detailing the County’s greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategy and implementation plan.
- Secured funding through the national settlement with Volkswagen, which will be used to offset the cost of fast-charging equipment in preparation for the addition of battery-electric buses to the UCAT fleet.
- Partnered with the New York Power Authority to develop a large-scale solar PV array and battery storage facility at a former tire dump in Saugerties.
- Awarded \$106,590 in competitive funding to perform stream crossing assessment and create culvert management plans in three Towns.
- Successfully developed and executed an education and outreach campaign supporting the launch of the Ulster County Bring Your Own Bag local law.

### Performance Metrics

New York State's recently passed Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) puts the state on a path to being entirely carbon-neutral across all sectors of the economy and establishing a goal to achieve a zero-carbon emissions electricity sector by 2040. The CLCPA also directs New York State agencies and authorities to collaborate with stakeholders to develop a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 85 percent from 1990 levels by 2050 and aim to invest 40 percent of clean energy and energy efficiency program resources to benefit disadvantaged communities. We anticipate a significant increase in State initiatives, programs, and support at the municipal level in order to help meet these aggressive goals.

Program/Service	Metric	2019
Conduct net carbon neutral county government operations	CO2e offsets thru Renewable Energy Credits and carbon credits	10,000
Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	kWh of Electricity Supplied	76,612
	County Employees, Local Citizens, and Drivers Charging Sessions	5,254

### Focus Areas for 2020

In 2020, the DOE will focus on three primary objectives: 1) Coordinate implementation of actions across county departments in alignment with the Ulster County Climate Action Plan; 2) Prepare for the Impacts of Climate Change; and 3) Protect our critical natural assets.

Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3
Coordinate implementation of actions across County departments in alignment with the Ulster County Climate Action Plan.	Prepare for the Impacts of Climate Change.	Protect our critical natural assets.