

CHAPTER 8– ENERGY CHAPTER

INTRODUCTION

The use of energy - and its link with land use and resource protection - influences many facets of life in Rye today. Energy can affect municipal costs and operations, influence job growth and the local economy, and impact the natural resources and quality of life that are so important to Rye residents. This Chapter in the Master Plan is an overview. The full report developed with assistance from the Rockingham Planning Commission, may be viewed on the Energy Committee’s webpage at http://www.town.rye.nh.us/Pages/RyeNH_BComm/Energy/index.

The overall vision for Rye is a community that supports and preserves its semi-rural character while simultaneously embracing 21st century technology, environmentally progressive strategies, and local business opportunities. Rye’s energy policies will play a significant role in achieving this vision. Rye residents, land owners and business owners can benefit greatly by the Town becoming a more energy secure and sustainable community. Environmentally progressive policies with respect to energy generation, building standards, land use patterns, and transportation are critical to Rye’s long term sustainability. Thus comprehensive policy decisions should be evaluated through the lens of energy and focused on efficiency, conservation and security.

Chapter 1 of the Rye Master Plan states, “*Our desires to see Rye altered are few.*” In order to preserve the quality of life in Rye, it is important to understand and plan for our future energy use. Not only do rising energy costs affect our Town’s budgets and its economy, the use of non-renewable energy sources can adversely influence air and water quality and the health of Rye’s residents. As energy costs rise, Rye can strengthen our local economy and preserve our environment by focusing on making better use of energy conservation, energy efficiency, our region’s renewable resources, locally grown food, and sustainable land and water use.

VISION

This Energy Chapter of the Rye Master Plan was conceived to provide the guidance and tools required to increase energy efficiency and conservation, reduce the use of non-renewable fuels, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce energy costs in Rye. The technology, equipment, and techniques to drastically reduce energy use are now readily available for our buildings, street lighting, and transportation. By reviewing all municipal decisions for energy efficiency and sustainability, Rye will not only reduce its operating expenses and lower its greenhouse gas emissions, but it will set an example for residents and business owners.

This Chapter serves as an important first step to help the Town begin examining its energy usage, and develop and implement strategies to assist it in becoming a more secure and sustainable community. The overall vision of the energy chapter is to reduce the town’s carbon footprint and to increase the town’s energy security. This is accomplished through establishing a town policy of energy-conscious decision making in every phase of municipal operations and capital improvements and by encouraging businesses and residents to do the same.

Energy Efficiency and Conservation

Energy efficiency and conservation focuses on one main objective - reducing overall energy consumption across all sectors, thus reducing energy costs and environmental pollutants. Communities can achieve reductions in energy consumption by addressing the following:

- Efficiency of both existing and new buildings
- Transportation systems, choices and alternatives
- Street and outdoor lighting
- Municipal operations, such as water and sewer pumping
- Access to clean fuel choices
- Recycling, composting and reuse programs
- Consumerism of local products and services
- Healthy and locally grown food
- Community awareness and participation

This Chapter supports the following vision statements relating to community energy security and planning.

- Provide outreach and assistance to homeowners and businesses on energy efficiency and reduction of carbon emissions
- Provide local examples as models for energy efficiency and improvement
- Promote useable public transportation for youth, seniors and local commuters.
- Promote use of bikes and walking for local errands and commuting
- Promote establishment and support of local meeting places and businesses to save on auto travel
- Promote building codes that include energy efficiency and smart growth principles
- Promote locally grown fruits and vegetables, locally raised meats, and locally caught seafood.
- Encourage organic gardening and lawn care using locally obtained soil amendments.

OVERVIEW/RATIONALE

Like most towns in New Hampshire, Rye is heavily dependent on non-renewable energy sources, such as petroleum, coal, natural gas, and uranium. These fuels must all be imported, meaning that most of this money leaves the state and/or the country. Rye can improve its energy profile by using more native and renewable energy sources, like wood and other biomass, solar, wind, hydropower, and geothermal.

The increasing trend of carbon dioxide emissions to our atmosphere in recent decades has caused concern over its effect on public health, environmental ecosystems and climate worldwide. Concentrations of carbon dioxide, a byproduct of the burning of fossil fuels, have increased rapidly in the atmosphere as consumption of fossil-based fuels has also increased. Alterations to Rye's climate will result in changes or decline in certain sectors of the economy, including winter tourism, agriculture, maple syrup production, coastal real estate values (due to sea level rise and increased storm intensity), and health costs associated with respiratory health and heat related illnesses.

New Hampshire's "25 x '25" Renewable Energy Initiative

Governor John Lynch announced the *25 x '25 Renewable Energy Initiative* in August of 2006. The Initiative's goal is for New Hampshire to obtain 25 percent of its energy from clean, renewable sources by the year 2025. New Hampshire's 25 x '25 Plan is being developed by the Office of Energy and Planning and the Department of Environmental Services. New Hampshire's renewable electricity is generated from a number of sources, mainly hydropower, wood-fired power plants, and landfill gas-fired generating stations

NH Climate Action Plan

The 2008 New Hampshire Climate Action Plan aims at achieving the greatest feasible reductions in greenhouse gas emissions while also providing the greatest possible long-term economic benefits to the citizens of New Hampshire. The most significant reductions in both emissions and costs will come from substantially increasing energy efficiency in all sectors of the economy by continuing to increase sources of renewable energy, and designing our communities to reduce reliance on automobiles for transportation. The NH Climate Action Plan calls for a reduction in emissions of 20 percent below 1990 levels by 2025, and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

Climate Change

Although this chapter is not specifically about climate change, its impact could affect quality of life in Rye. As Rye is a town with a long coastline, it is important to consider the potential future impacts of climate change including sea level rise, flooding, coastal erosion, increased intensity and frequency of storms, and the effects of changes in temperature and precipitation.

Climate Change is addressed in Chapter 6, the Natural Resources Chapter.

RYE ENERGY COMMITTEE

There continues to be strong support for energy efficiency planning and implementation among Rye residents. In support of an effort lead by the Carbon Coalition in 2007-2008, 164 municipalities – including the Town of Rye - adopted the New Hampshire Climate Change Resolution that calls on the federal government to prioritize climate change policy and enables the formation of a local energy committee (LEC) to address energy efficiency and conservation, emission reductions, and other energy related issues. Town vote in March 2007 authorized the establishment of an energy committee, and the Selectmen established the Rye Energy Committee in July 2007 as "*a voluntary energy committee to recommend local steps to save energy and reduce emissions.*" After subsequent annual reinstatements, the committee was renewed for three years in 2013.

The Rye Energy Committee works in three main areas and has accomplished the following:

1. Municipal Energy

- Worked with town officials to have audits done of 7 major town buildings.
- Assisted town in procuring \$377,561 of EECBG grants for efficiency projects.
- Compiled 2011 Rye Energy Report of annual municipal energy use and costs.
- Initiated no vehicle idling initiative in town.
- Partnered with the Rye schools to run a Carbon Challenge resulting in an annual savings of over 600,000 lbs of CO₂ in 64 households.

- Partnered with the Long Range Planning Committee the Rockingham Planning Commission to create this Energy Chapter.
- 2. Home Energy**
- Held annual art/energy projects as a means to promoting energy awareness.
 - Organized talks on energy related topics by UNH professors John Carroll, Cameron Wake (two events) and environmental activist Bill McKibben.
 - Launched the annual Stay Warm-Save Money program to inform residents of the latest techniques and financial incentives to save energy at home.
 - Donated a Thermal Leak Detector to the Rye Public Library to be used along with the library's watt meters to evaluate home energy use and waste.
 - Sponsored film series and book discussions.
- 3. Local Food**
- Initiated the Rye Farmer's Market in 2008.
 - Held home gardening workshop.
 - Organized tree grafting workshop with Rene Gingras of UNH to preserve heritage apple trees from the Goss Farm.
 - Worked with Conservation Commission on the Goss Community Farm initiatives and to establish a Community Supported Agriculture program.

ENERGY PROFILE OF MUNICIPAL FACILITIES

Why is it Important to Keep Track of Energy Use?

Although the energy used in municipal operations is fairly small compared to that of the residential and commercial sector, Rye can lead by example and reduce the energy used in its buildings and operations, outdoor lighting, and vehicle fleet. Energy improvements will save taxpayer dollars, will create a model for businesses and residents to adopt, and will help to create the infrastructure needed for certain technologies to be viable.

Over a period of years, community energy profiles can offer a long term view of municipal energy use and costs. Rye began tracking energy use of its major buildings over the period 2007-2009. We now have our seven largest municipal buildings benchmarked in the EPA Portfolio Manager online tool.

What Actions has the Town Taken to Date to Reduce Energy Use?

As of 2012, Rye has taken the following steps to increase energy efficiency, resulting in 12-23% energy savings (through Dec. 2011) per building compared to the baseline year in Portfolio Manager.

- Performed energy audits on seven largest buildings in 2007-2009.
- Used federal EECBG grants to install a ground-source heat pump and a solar-powered attic fan in the town hall, to increase ceiling insulation in the library, and to replace the Rye Elementary School boiler with a more efficient one.
- Installed a waste oil boiler at Public Works to make use of 500 gallons of waste oil per year which was formerly donated to a greenhouse.

- Upgraded lighting in five municipal buildings through the PSNH Smart Start program, a pay-with-your-savings incentive.
- Improved lighting, insulation, and air sealing in the schools.
- Replaced an old refrigerator in the Town Hall.
- Instituted behavioral changes in the recreation buildings, eg. turning off lights when leaving.
- Insulated a sewer pump house to save propane for heating.

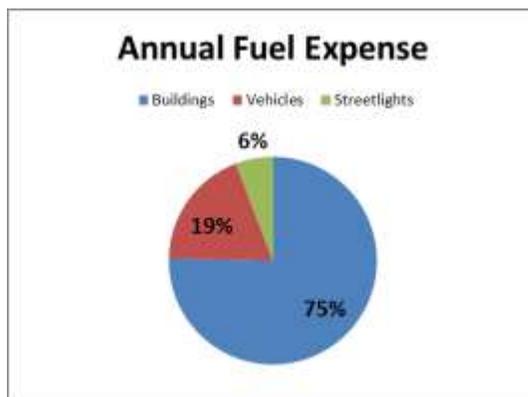
Summary of Municipal Energy Use

While it is difficult to quantify residential and commercial energy use in town, we have an accurate record of the town’s municipal energy usage. The Town of Rye uses fuel oil and propane to heat its buildings, electricity for outdoor lighting and indoor electric equipment, and gasoline and diesel for its vehicles. The Rye municipal sector’s energy cost, emissions, and usage for buildings, vehicles and streetlights is presented below. The municipal sector of Rye spent roughly \$424,273 on energy in 2011, and emitted 15,029 lbs. of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Seventy-five percent of Rye’s fuel expenses were for buildings, 19 percent for vehicles and 6 percent for streetlights. More information on Rye energy use is available in the 2011 Rye Energy Report on the Energy Committee page of the town website.

Table 1. Rye Municipal Energy Use Summary¹ (2011)

	Buildings		Vehicles		Streetlights		Grand Total
	#	% of total	#	% of total	#	% of total	
Annual Fuel Expense	\$319,774	75%	\$79,849	19%	\$24,650	6%	\$424,273
Annual CO2 Emissions (lbs)	2138720	79%	518881	19%	54252	2%	2711853
Annual Energy Use (MMBtu)	11556.9	77%	3272.5	22%	199.5	1%	15028.9

Figure 1. Municipal Energy Costs by Sector (2011)¹



¹Includes Rye Water precinct, Rye Beach precinct, Jenness Beach precinct, Water District, School District & Sewer District.

Buildings

In 2011, Each of Rye’s town buildings used energy as shown in Table 2. The buildings with the highest energy usages (Elementary and Middle Schools, Public Safety, Public Library, Town Hall and Public Works) and the Recreation Building have had an energy audit done during the last 5 years and are benchmarked in Portfolio Manager.

Table 2. 2011 Rye Energy Usage and Intensity - Buildings & Operations

<i>Building/District /Precinct</i>	<i>Square Feet</i>	<i>Electricity (kWh)</i>	<i>Fuel Oil (Gal.)</i>	<i>Pro-pane (Gal.)</i>	<i>CO2 Emissions (lbs)</i>	<i>Total Annual Cost</i>	<i>Energy Intensity (kBTU /sq ft)</i>
Jr. High School	52,155	221,760	22,999	364	698,418	\$92,402	107
Elementary School	50,467	280,720	18,716	342	651,356	\$91,877	111
Public Safety	19,818	148,480	6,323		264,466	\$37,196	130
Public Library	11,097	71,480	3,365		134,498	\$20,521	103
Town Hall	5642	33,590	1,945		71,335	\$10,906	112
Public Works	6596	36,570	810		48,409	\$8,737	79
Recreation	2452	5,820		947	16,814	\$3,853	70
Recycling		9,240			7,650	\$1,811	
Swap Shop		1,680			1,391	\$614	
Snack Shack		325			269	\$216	
Water District Office & Pumps		153,532		1,644		\$32,810	
Sewer Pump Houses		55,652		716		\$10,859	
Rye Beach Precinct House		854	1,400			\$5,214	
Totals		1,019,703	55,558	4,013	1,894,626	\$317,016	

Vehicles/Transportation

Town vehicles use diesel fuel and gasoline as shown in Table 3, broken down by department.

Table 3. Rye Energy Use – Vehicles

<i>Department</i>	<i>Gasoline (gallons)</i>	<i>Diesel (gallons)</i>	<i>Co2 Emissions (lbs)</i>	<i>Total Annual Cost</i>
Police	8,817		172,488	\$27,940
Public Works	559	8,810	208,141	\$30,933
Fire	847	911	36,971	\$5,701
Ambulance		1,220	27,300	\$4,037

Cemetery	416		8,141	\$1,319
Beach Precinct		116	2,592	\$383
Transfer Station		75	1,668	\$247
Water Dept.	2,956		57,822	\$8,681
Miscellaneous	192		3,760	\$609
Totals	13,787	11,131	518,882	\$79,849

Street and Outdoor Lighting

As a semi-rural town, it is important to be cognizant of how the effects of outdoor lighting influence the nighttime character of Rye and affect its energy costs. Good lighting design for our residences, businesses, municipal buildings, streets and parking lots not only saves energy, it protects wildlife and preserves our view of the night sky.

Table 4. Rye 2011 Outdoor Lighting Costs

<i>Building/District/Precinct</i>	<i>No. of Streetlights</i>	<i>Electricity (kWh)</i>	<i>CO2 Emissions (lbs)</i>	<i>Total Annual Cost</i>
Rye Water Precinct	9 + 12 other area lights	14,557	13,324	\$5,949
Jeness Beach Precinct	69	35,113	32,574	\$15,000*
Rye Beach Precinct	68	8302	7702	\$3495
Water District	1	509	472	\$211
School District	1	509	472	\$206
Totals	160	58,990	54,544	\$24,861

*estimate

Energy can be saved and light pollution can be avoided by choosing efficient lighting fixtures with full cutoff design. Full cutoff fixtures shine light in the only direction it is needed – downward – not sideways or upward. The International Dark Sky Association website, www.darksky.org is an excellent resource for finding efficient, full cutoff fixtures. LED lamps use up to 90% less energy and last 20 times longer than incandescent. Metal halide (MH) and high pressure sodium (HPS) lamps use about 50% less energy than incandescents.

Although only 6% of Rye’s 2011 municipal energy budget was spent on outdoor lighting and streetlights, much of the \$24,861 spent can be saved by using more efficient lighting technology. Many of Rye’s lamps are the mercury type, which are lower efficiency and contain hazardous material. PSNH offers significant incentives to switch outdoor lighting to LED, MH, or HPS lamps.

There are two sample lighting ordinances in the NH Office of Energy and Planning (NHOEP) Outdoor Lighting Technical Bulletin, one simple for a smaller town, and one more complex for an area with large amounts of development. Rye may want to consider these documents when updating its outdoor lighting ordinances.

Indoor Lighting

Switching to compact fluorescent (CFL), LED, or high efficiency fluorescent lamps and ballasts achieves significant energy and cost savings. The NHSaves catalog and PSNH offer financial incentives for making the switch. Commercial, municipal, and school operations can derive additional benefit from lighting controls such as timers, occupancy sensors, and motion detectors.

Energy Star® Electronics and Appliances

Rye can establish an Energy Star procurement policy for its municipal facilities. Energy Star (www.energystar.gov) is a joint effort between the U.S. Dept. of Energy and the EPA to help consumers “save money and protect the environment through energy efficient products and practices.” An item with the Energy Star rating uses at least 20 percent less energy than one without the rating. The website www.energystar.gov lists the energy use by model number of thousands of electrically and fuel-driven products. Computers, copiers, electronic equipment, household appliances, HVAC equipment, and commercial equipment are available with the Energy Star rating. Even homes can be constructed to earn an Energy Star rating for the entire structure.

Energy bills can be substantially reduced through strict use of Energy Star products. Items can be replaced with Energy Star-rated products upon failure. Sometimes it pays to replace a piece of equipment, such as an old refrigerator, before the end of its life.

Renewable Energy and Efficient HVAC Equipment

Several renewable energy options are practical for Rye residences and businesses. Many of Rye’s buildings are well-positioned with good southern exposure to benefit from solar photovoltaic (electric), solar thermal (hot water), and solar heating systems. Designing buildings to maximize passive solar heating and day lighting can reduce the structures’ energy costs by up to 50% at little extra cost. Areas of the coastline may have a high enough average annual wind speed to benefit from electricity provided by a wind turbine. Renewable energy incentives are available at the local, state, and federal levels to encourage the adoption of these systems.

Wood is a local energy source, and many homes already take advantage of wood and wood pellet systems for heating. Ground-source and air-source heat pump systems can be up to 400% efficient and can greatly reduce heating and cooling costs.

Building Codes

Rye’s building codes can greatly influence energy efficiency in its buildings. Building to code is the *minimal* level of energy efficiency required by the law. Rye’s building codes can require greater energy efficiency by being more stringent than the state code. The Rye code can encourage homeowners and builders to install greater levels of insulation in roofs, walls, and basements and to use high efficiency exterior doors and windows to reduce heating and cooling losses through conduction. It can set minimum levels for air leakage, assessed by a blower door test, to reduce heating and cooling losses through convection, typically the method of greatest heat loss. It can require maximizing passive solar heating and day lighting for the site. Moreover, it can encourage homeowners and builders to conduct energy efficiency computer modeling for all new construction and significant remodeling projects to evaluate whether additional energy cost savings measures are feasible *before the structure is built*. The code can encourage the use of Energy Star products wherever possible and suggest the building be

constructed to Energy Star, LEED, or other green certification standard. Finally, the building inspector’s office can provide information to builders and owners on how to achieve these goals.

LONG-TERM PLANNING FOR ENERGY SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainable Community

Sustainability is the ability to provide for present needs without damaging the ability of future generations to provide for themselves. The primary philosophy of sustainable growth and development is that new development and redevelopment can be done in such a way that they provide environmental, economic, and quality of life benefits to all members of the community. Without proper attention to the effects of unmanaged growth, communities are at risk of exhausting their environment of what makes them unique and desirable places to live, work and visit.

The built environment has a profound impact on our natural environment, economy, health and productivity. Sustainable development is a pattern of resource use that aims to meet the needs of the community today and protect its needs of the future, while preserving the environment. Sustainable development ties together concern for the carrying capacity of natural systems with the social challenges facing individuals and communities. Communities can achieve sustainable development by integrating land use and resource based strategies with economic development approaches that benefit the local environment and quality of life.

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN ENERGY AND COMMUNITY PLANNING

The infrastructure for energy use and delivery can influence land use decisions about where growth occurs and where we live, work and recreate. NH State law encourages energy efficient patterns of development through zoning that does not unreasonably limit development of alternative and renewable sources of energy. Reductions in energy consumption can also be achieved through implementation of conservation measures, smart growth, and development of alternative transportation systems. These concepts are described in the table below.

Table 5. Integrating Energy Planning with Community Planning

<p>Energy Conservation Measures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Energy efficiency in buildings, fixtures and infrastructure. ▪ Behavioral changes including trip consolidation, ride sharing, reduction in lighting and appliance use, efficiency in equipment and other products, recycling and composting (post-consumer waste)
<p>Smart Growth Principles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incorporate a mix of uses to provide a variety of housing, employment, shopping, services, and social opportunities for all members of the community. ▪ Preserve working landscape by sustaining farm and forest land and other rural resource lands to maintain contiguous tracts of open land and to minimize land use conflicts. ▪ Provide choices and safety in transportation to create livable,

	<p>walkable communities that increase accessibility for people of all ages, whether on foot, bicycle, or in motor vehicles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect environmental quality by minimizing impacts from human activities and planning for and maintaining natural areas that contribute to the health and quality of life of communities. ▪ Involve the community in planning and implementation to ensure that development retains and enhances the sense of place, traditions, goals, and values of the community. ▪ Manage growth respecting the local community tradition, but work with neighboring towns to achieve common goals and address common problems more effectively.
<p>Alternative Transportation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public transit infrastructure including access, convenience, and competitive pricing ▪ Voluntary actions such as carpools, rideshare programs, and park and ride facilities ▪ Accommodations for bicycles and pedestrians.

Sustainable Principles and Practices

Table 6. Examples of Sustainable Principles and Practices.

<i>Principles</i>	<i>Sectors</i>	<i>Practices</i>
<p>Efficient use and production of alternative energy</p> <p>Efficient use of water and other water resources</p> <p>Protect quality of the air, water, land and other natural resources</p>	WATER	<p><i>Indoor</i></p> <p>Water Conservation</p> <p>Water Efficient Appliances and Fixtures</p> <p>Water Budget</p> <p><i>Outdoor</i></p> <p>Pervious Materials</p> <p>Xeriscape</p> <p>Greywater Irrigation</p> <p>Harvested Rainwater</p>
<p>Reduce waste, pollution and environmental degradation</p> <p>Protect human health and safety</p>	ENERGY	<p><i>Construction</i></p> <p>Passive Solar Design</p> <p>Solar Hot Water</p> <p>Geothermal Heating and Cooling Systems</p> <p>Photovoltaic Systems</p> <p>Programmable Thermostats</p> <p><i>Outdoor</i></p> <p>Energy Efficient Lighting and Landscaping</p>
<p>Minimize impacts on local and worldwide ecosystems</p>	BUILDING MATERIALS	<p>Reduce, Reuse, Recycle</p> <p>Purchase local and regional materials</p>
<p>Local Food Production</p>	SOLID WASTE	<p>Recycling and Compost Systems</p> <p>Construction Waste Recycling</p>
	FOOD	<p>Community and Backyard Gardens</p> <p>Farmers Markets</p> <p>Locally sourced products</p>

Sustainable practices are aimed at guiding how new development is constructed to attain energy efficiency and conservation, and to promote use of sustainable materials and energy.

- Performance-based standards and building codes will ensure that all new buildings are constructed to a minimum efficiency level, for example using LEED standards or EPA Energy Star standards.
- Construction standards can ensure energy efficiency, use of products that provide long term durability, and use of sustainable and recycled materials (including salvaged, refurbished or reused materials).
- Site selection can focus preferentially on previously developed land to conserve historical properties, open space, and prime agricultural land.
- Site design techniques that take advantage of sun exposure, differences in microclimate, and landscaping reduce a development’s energy demand and overall energy consumption.
- Energy efficient planning principles and provisions to allow for renewable energy generation can be implemented through subdivision and site plan review regulations, zoning ordinances and building codes.

Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy

Energy is central to sustainable development efforts. It affects all aspects of development -- social, economic, and environmental -- including livelihoods, access to water, agricultural productivity, health, population levels, and education. Energy efficient design and planning techniques can be used in constructing housing and non-residential developments, prescribing density limits, integrating land uses, and designing transportation systems and infrastructure.

Building Efficiency

Green building practices offer an opportunity to create environmentally-sound and resource-efficient buildings by using an integrated approach to design and efficiency. Green buildings promote resource conservation, including energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water conservation features; consider environmental impacts and waste minimization; create a healthy and comfortable environment; reduce operation and maintenance costs; and address issues such as historical preservation, access to public transportation and other community infrastructure systems. The entire life cycle of a building and its components is considered, as well as the economic and environmental impact and performance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In summary we offer the following recommendations for incorporation of energy efficiency and energy conservation into planning, community education and outreach, and municipal management practices.

Recommendations for Community-based Action

1. Encourage actions that support energy efficiency and conservation, energy security and cost savings.
2. Reduce municipal and/or community energy use by 10% within the first year, and set targets for subsequent years by focusing on buildings and operations, vehicle fuel use, and outdoor lighting.
3. Align municipal goals with state goals per the NH Climate Action Plan (80 percent

reduction below 1990 levels by 2050).

4. Plan for efficient growth and development patterns and transportation systems using principles of Smart Growth and Sustainability.
5. Encourage public and private participation in technical and financial assistance programs to reduce energy costs and consumption.
6. Encourage business owners and residents to develop energy efficiency improvement plans.
7. Provide information to the community on energy efficiency resources and conservation methods.
8. Complete an audit of the zoning ordinance, land development regulations, and Master Plan to identify barriers and existing incentives that support implementation of energy efficiency measures.
9. Study a public transportation system that would connect Rye residents to the greater seacoast community.
10. Develop a plan of action such that new residential and commercial construction and renovation exceed the town's 2011 energy efficiency standards.
11. Propose requiring energy modeling of each new or remodeled structure.
12. Establish a municipal and school Energy Star[®] procurement policy.
13. Continue tracking of municipal energy use.
14. Continuously study and improve town recycling options and participation.
15. Support home vegetable and fruit gardens, the Rye Farmers' Market, and the Goss Farm community gardens.