

# Becket Energy Committee Plan

## THE BEC PLAN

The Town of Becket took its first steps towards implementing a more dedicated plan of energy reduction and greater use of renewable energy by becoming a Commonwealth [Green Community](#) on May 10, 2010. As a result of this effort, the Town was awarded \$141,326 to undertake the projects listed below. In addition, in 2013, the Energy Committee was created to research and initiate energy conservation projects for the town and its residents. As part of the Green Communities grant, the Town looked at a total of six municipal facilities for potential energy upgrades: Becket Town Hall; Fire Station #1; Fire Station #2 and Ambulance Garage; the Becket Highway Department Garage; the Mullen House and the Becket Arts Center.

Using federal Green Communities grant funding, stimulus funds, town funds and Community Preservation Act funds, the following projects were implemented:

- Town Hall – roof replacement, attic insulation, new entrance doors, energy efficient HVAC system, occupancy sensors.
- Highway Garage – sealed the building envelope, repair and sealing of overhead doors, new insulation, and re-sided the building, installed heat pump and programmable thermostat.
- Mullen House – installed new insulation, a programmable thermostat and high efficiency water heater, and repaired the foundation.
- Fire Station #1 – spray foam insulation and heat pump added.
- Fire Station #2 and Ambulance Garage - energy retrofit with a new Viessmann Propane Boiler, sprayed-on open and closed insulation, and reconfigured the space for energy conservation. Since completion in July 2011, the retrofit has achieved approximately 121 million Btus of energy savings.
- Green Community Initiative – Achieved the next milestone effective July 2016 for 20% reduction in Municipal Energy usage. This was accomplished with a combination of oil, gas, electricity, and propane usage.
- Investigated and initiated electricity aggregation options (2021) for all residents and discount programs for lower income residents.
- Upgrade all street lighting to LEDs (2023).
- Investigated potential use of solar and wind.
- Applied and was awarded a META grant (2023) to hire a consultant to assess the potential for installing wind and solar on Town Hall property.
- Organized community outreach regarding home energy assessments and community solar. (2023)

The BEC will continue this effort as required under our charge and will work to provide the Town, its residents and businesses with the resources needed to make informed decisions about reducing their energy consumption and [carbon footprint](#).

We have established several goals as follows:

*Current Goals:*

- Provide a broad list of [information resources](#) and tools via the website herein.
- Work with adjacent townships to consider membership into applicable programs.
- Schedule workshops and seminars for residents (residential and commercial) focused on energy efficiency, renewable energy resources, permitting processes, and other relevant topics.
- Examine state and regionally-based programs and proposals to see if there is a potential to offer such programs to residents and businesses of Becket to reduce their energy consumption.
- Assist Town commercial businesses to identify and implement energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.
- Apply for a Green Community grant to install a 15 kilowatt wind turbine on Town Hall property.

## **HISTORY OF TOWN ENERGY INFORMATION SESSIONS**

August 26, 2023	Information Session
September 11, 2021	Information Session
August 24, 2019	Information Session
Fall 2018	Information Session
September 9, 2017	Information Session
October 15, 2016	Information Session
June 20, 2015	Information Session
June 21, 2014	Information Session