TOP TEN WAYS
CHAPEL HILL IS WORKING
TOWARD CLIMATE PROTECTION

The Town of Chapel Hill is a model community for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. It is our mandate to actively pursue new sustainable initiatives.

1. **Carbon Reduction**
The Town has reduced operational emissions 6.7 percent per capita below 2005 levels (the base year).

2. **Green Building Development**
Developers are encouraged to design projects that are “20 percent more energy efficient”, maximizing the potential for energy conservation and use of renewable energy.

3. **Walkable Redevelopment**
The Town has been experimenting with various zoning strategies to encourage walkable redevelopment of existing, suburban commercial areas. Greater walkability can reduce vehicle trips and promote healthier lifestyles.

4. **Green Municipal Buildings**
New or expanded Town government facilities are built to the AIA 2030 fossil fuel reduction targets and the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green building Rating System.

5. **Alternative Transportation**
Since 2002, the buses have been fare-free in Chapel Hill, offering more than 6.5 million rides a year. The fleet itself includes over 40 hybrid-electric buses and the Town has just received funding to purchase two electric buses.

6. **Green Fleets**
The Town’s use of fuel efficient and alternatively fueled vehicles has resulted in a 15 percent reduction in emissions from fleet vehicles since 2005 (non-Transit).

7. **Community Emissions Reduction from Buildings and Vehicles**
Through a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, the Town offered a community-wide home energy savings program, resulting in annual community carbon reduction estimated at 665 metric tons across 365 completed projects.

8. **Tree Protection/Open Space**
Residents of Chapel Hill have supported and helped the Council identify, protect and preserve green spaces and critical natural areas, now totaling more than 700 acres.

9. **Solar Energy**
The Town has installed solar panels on its facilities and was awarded the gold level designation as a participant in SolSmart—a federal program that promotes solar adoption within local communities.

10. **Environmental Stewardship Advisory Board**
The Board provides guidance to the Planning Board and Town Council regarding environmental practices that protect, promote and nurture the community.

For information, visit townofchapelhill.org/greencity or contact the Town of Chapel Hill Community Resilience Officer at (919) 969-5075 or jrichardson@townofchapelhill.org