

MARQUETTE COUNTY CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DATA

In Marquette County, community members discussed environmental sustainability, social equity, and civic participation. This summary highlights key ideas from the four Marquette County climate dialogue dinners. Residents shared their vision for a resilient county that addresses climate challenges and preserves natural resources, reflecting a commitment to collaboration for a sustainable future.

Community Members Vision for a Sustainable Future Includes:

- Emphasis on preserving and expanding green spaces (parks, forests, natural areas) for public health and wildlife habitats
- Advocacy for local renewable energy projects (community solar farms, microgrids) to reduce reliance on fossil fuels
- Enhancement of local food systems through community gardening and farmers' markets to combat food deserts and promote nutrition
- Need for accessible housing that accommodates all residents, with a preference for renovating existing homes while improving housing quality and energy efficiency
- Balanced development that respects natural landscapes while meeting community growth needs

Community Needs for Addressing Climate Change:

- Importance of community education on climate issues and strengthening local food systems
- Prioritizing inclusivity in decision-making processes, engaging all demographics, including rural and Indigenous populations
- Efforts to preserve water quality and sustainable tourism practices to protect environmental integrity
- Creation of safe, accessible community spaces to foster social interaction and civic engagement



Borealis Beach Dialogue Dinner



Iron Core Dialogue Dinner

What Can We Do Short-Term (Next 5 Years)?

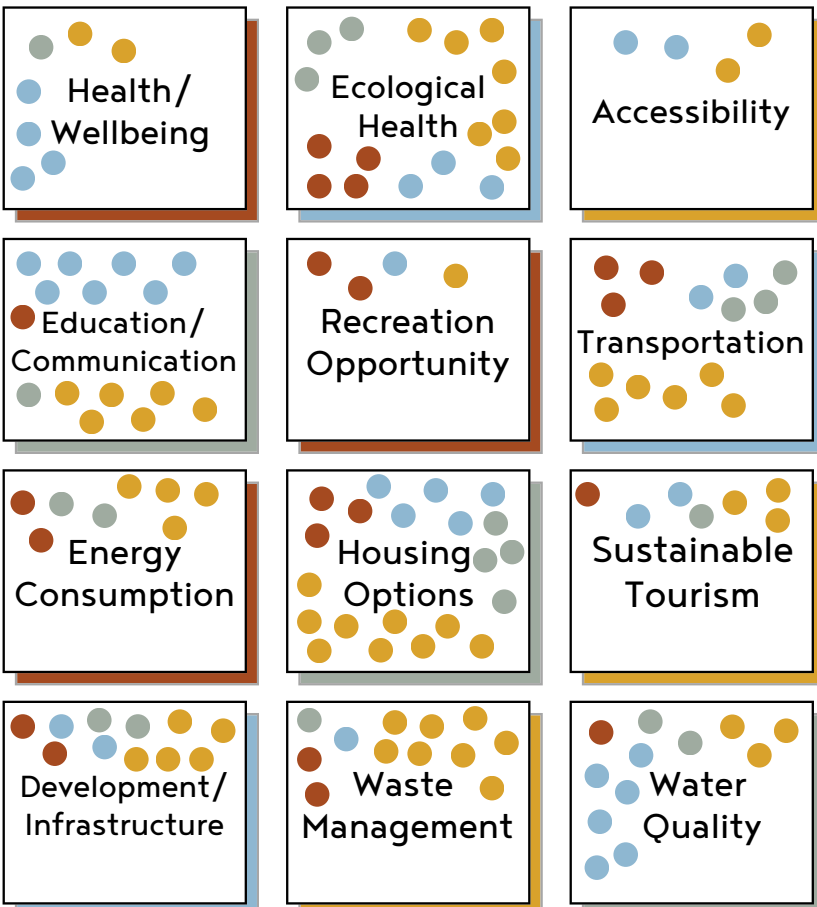
- Establish community centers for workshops on sustainability and implement public education campaigns
- Revitalize community spaces and update zoning regulations to promote urban gardens
- Improve public transit options and enhance transportation connectivity

What Can We Do Long-Term (10-25 Years)?

- Develop zoning policies to protect agricultural lands and natural areas
- Invest in large-scale renewable energy initiatives and community solar projects
- Create a comprehensive transportation plan integrating biking and electric vehicle infrastructure
- Implement updated building codes for climate resilience and nature-based stormwater solutions

Insights from Marquette County residents during climate dialogue dinners are essential for an inclusive county climate action plan. By integrating diverse perspectives on sustainability and equity, the county can address immediate challenges and build long-term resilience. This collaborative vision empowers all community members and lays the groundwork for actionable strategies focused on environmental stewardship and well-being.

Which topics would you like Marquette County to prioritize within the Climate Action Plan?
(Pick Three)



LEGEND

- Borealis Beach
- Blueberry Farms
- Moose Hills
- Iron Core

Topic Prioritization Activity:

Community members at each event participated in an activity choosing 3 topics they would like prioritized within the county's climate action plan. Community members used sticky dots to mark their topics on a poster. The topics community members had expressed the most interest in were: **housing options, ecological health, and education/communication.** There also was notable topics like transportation, waste management, water quality, and development/infrastructure that community members want prioritized.