

Finger Lakes Regional Sustainability Plan

The Finger Lakes Sustainability Plan's goals and targets are categorized by the following focus areas:

- Transportation
- Land Use
- Energy
- Water Management
- Waste Management
- Economic Development
- Climate Change
- Governance
- Agriculture and Forestry

More detailed descriptions of each goal, target and indicator can be found in the regional sustainability plan and the indicator document—locations of those descriptions within both documents are listed within each focus area below.

Transportation (pages 47 – 72 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Provide an equitable transportation system that ensures safety, maximizes efficiency, addresses disaster resiliency, provides mode choice and reduces dependence on fossil fuels. (Page 71 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Increase total percentage of people commuting via walking, biking, public transportation, and carpooling. (Page 71 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 2A)
 - 2020: +2% (17% total); 2035: +5% (20% total); 2050: +10% (25% total).
- Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) per capita. (Page 71 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 2B)
 - 2020: - 1%; 2035: -3%; 2050: -5%.
- Reduce transportation energy consumption per capita. (Page 71 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 2D)
 - 2020: - 10%; 2035: -25%; 2050: -40%.
- Reduce percentage of income spent on transportation. (Page 71 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 6A)
 - 2020: - 3%; 2035: -7%; 2050: -10%.
- Increase freight tonnage moved - Percent by truck. (Page 71 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 2J)
 - 2020: maintain baseline; 2035: maintain baseline; 2050: 78%.
- Increase freight tonnage moved - Percent by rail. (Page 71 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 2J)
 - 2020: maintain baseline; 2035: maintain baseline; 2050: 14%.

Land Use (pages 73 – 101 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Increase the sustainability and livability of the Finger Lakes region by revitalizing the region's traditional centers, concentrating development in areas with existing infrastructure and services, and protecting undeveloped lands from urban encroachment. (Page 99 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Reduce Per Capita land consumption. (Page 99 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 3A)
 - 2020: maintain baseline; 2035: -3%; 2050: -5%.
- Increase Percentage of Population in Community Centers. (Page 99 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 3C)
 - 2020: maintain baseline; 2035: + 2% (38%); 2050: + 4% (40%).
- Reduce rate of poverty in population centers. (Page 99 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 3M)
 - 2020: maintain baseline; 2035: -3%; 2050: -5%.

Energy (pages 24 – 46 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Increase the generation and distribution of regional renewable energies while using energy efficient and alternative energy resources, along with conservation methods, to decrease the reliance on fossil fuels and nonrenewable outside energy sources and to become a self-sustainable region. (Page 45 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Reduce annual regional energy consumption per capita. (Page 45 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 1A)
 - 2020: -10%; 2035: -25%; 2050: -35%.
- Increase Total Annual Renewable Energy Generation. (Page 45 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 1B)
 - 2020: +11% (20% of total demand); 2035: +26% (35% of total demand); 2050: +41% (50% of total demand).
- Increase percentage of regional population living areas with local energy codes exceeding state requirements, and/or regulations for benchmarking and retrofitting private buildings. (Page 45 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 8C)
 - 2020: + 1%; 2035: + 3%; 2050: + 5%.

Water Management (pages 121 – 142 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Improve and protect the water environment with respect to quality, quantity, and availability; promote and understand the value of our water reservoirs, watercourses, and built infrastructure; maximize the social, economic, and ecological potential of our water resources toward equitable sharing of their benefits for both the short and long terms. (Page 141 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Reduce Water Demand per Capita and Sector. (Page 141 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 5A)
 - 2020: maintain baseline; 2035: -10%; 2050: -15%.
- Reduce Total number of impaired waters. (Page 141 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 5B)
 - 2020: -10%; 2035: -15%; 2050: -25%.
- Reduce number of impaired waters with established total maximum daily load requirements. (Page 141 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 5N)
 - 2020: maintain baseline; 2035: -40% (3); 2050: -80% (1).
- Concentrations of pollutants in the Finger Lakes. (Page 141 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator N/A)
 - Total phosphates: 2020: 50% of State-mandated maximums at each lake; 2035: 40% of State-mandated maximums at each lake; 2050: 25% of State-mandated maximums at each lake.
- Reduce % of beach water quality samples exceeding state thresholds. (Page 141 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator N/A)
 - 2020: - 2% (15%); 2035: -4% (13%); 2050: -7% (10%).

Waste Management (pages 103 – 120 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Decrease the generation of waste, increase the recovery and reuse of materials currently in the discard stream, manage materials using a highest and-best-use framework, and create economic opportunities and improved environmental stewardship as a result. (Page 119 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Reduce Per capita waste disposal rate (tons per capita/year). (Page 119 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 4A)
 - 2020: -15%; 2035: -25%; 2050: -35%.
- Proportion of Solid Materials Diverted (Recycled or Composted). (Page 119 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 4B)
 - 2020: 35% reduction of total solid waste generated; 2035: 50% reduction of total solid waste generated; 2050: 55% reduction of total solid waste generated.

Economic Development (pages 143 – 160 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Transform the economic landscape through embedding the region’s uniqueness (the Story of Place), the Five Capitals*, and resiliency into all policy and investment decisions. (Page 159 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Housing + Transportation Affordability Index—% of income spent on transportation. (Page 159 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 6A)
 - 2020: -1% (51%) 2035: - 2% (50%) 2050: - 4% (48%).
- Jobs created by sector. (Page 159 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 6B)
 - 2020: + 10%; 2035: + 12.5%; 2050: + 15%.
 - Food manufacturing—2020: maximum 5% decrease; 2035: + 5%; 2050: + 10%.

Climate Change Adaptation (pages 161 – 176 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Improve performance and resiliency of community assets (buildings and infrastructure systems, natural systems, and agriculture and business systems) under normal and extreme conditions. (Page 175 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- The degree to which climate change and adaptation is discussed within required hazard mitigation plans. (Page 175 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 7A)
 - 2020: 9 out of 9 county plans.

Governance (pages 177 – 188 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Strive to achieve a more sustainable region and more vibrant communities through the promotion and establishment of stronger inter-municipal relationships and planning. (Page 187 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Number of communities with Comprehensive Plans less than 5 years old. (Page 187 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 7C)
 - 2020: + 4% (20%); 2035: + 18% (35%); 2050: + 48% (65%).
- Number of Climate Smart Communities. (Page 187 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 8A)
 - 2020: + 23% (25%); 2035: + 48% (50%); 2050: + 73% (75%).

Agriculture and Forestry (pages 194 – 224 of Sustainability Plan)

Goals

- Increase the viability, accessibility, and ecological contribution of farms, while decreasing waste and dependence on external inputs. (Page 221 and 223 of Sustainability Plan)

Targets

- Maintain acres of agricultural land in non-agricultural use. (Page 221 and 223 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 3H)
 - 155,968 acres.
- Direct farm sales per capita (as a percent of at-home food expenditures). (Page 221 and 223 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 10M)
 - 2020: + 1.5% (2%); 2035: + 4.5% (5%); 2050: + 9.5% (10%).
- Use of external inputs in farm production. (Page 221 and 223 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 10N)
 - 2020: - 0.6% (10.1%); 2035: - 1.8% (8.9%); 2050: - 2.9% (7.8%).
- Diversity of production (Shannon's Diversity Index). (Page 221 and 223 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 10O)
 - 2020: 7.00; 2035: 7.00; 2050: 7.00.
- Increase amount of biomass in live trees. (Page 221 and 223 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 10P)
 - 2020: + 5%; 2035: + 10%; 2050: + 15%.
- Reduce wildfire occurrences. (Page 221 and 223 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 10Q)
 - 2020: -5%; 2035: -10%; 2050: -15%.
- Reduce invasive Species Index (tracking European Woodwasp, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid and Emerald Ash Borer). (Page 221 and 223 of Sustainability Plan, Indicator 10R)
 - 2020: maintain baseline; 2035: 6.5; 2050: 4.