



Climate Resilient Grey:

Grey County's Climate Change Adaptation Plan



Priority Climate Impacts for Our Community

What local climate impacts will pose the greatest risk to Grey County residents?
Through a collaborative risk assessment process, Grey County staff and community partners identified the following priorities that we must address to protect our community. Are we on the right track?

Public Infrastructure

- More extreme weather events (i.e., snowstorms, freezing rain, wind) causing damage, more closures and disruptions as well as increased maintenance
- Continued freeze-thaw days causing faster deterioration of roads
- More intense rain causes lake levels to rise and flooding causing more damage and maintenance
- More frequent flooding events on frozen ground causing frazil ice and ice jams on waterways, blocking channels



People, Health & Safety

- More extreme heat and heatwaves causing health risks (e.g., heat stress, cardiovascular disorders), especially impacting the elderly and infants
- Extreme weather damaging homes, reducing property value and increasing insurance premiums
- Warmer winters mean less ice cover, leaving shorelines exposed, damaging shoreline properties
- Rainfall variability (e.g., drought, then sudden, heavy rain) causing reduced quality and quantity of groundwater, limiting water availability and increasing pressure on already strained groundwater resources
- More extreme weather and storms causing declining mental and physical health from hazardous travel and living conditions, damage to homes, displacement, power outages, especially for vulnerable people



Local Economy & Culture

- More extreme weather impacting our ability to move around and do everyday activities, especially land-based livelihoods like fishing, agriculture, forestry, tourism, and Indigenous communities
- Extreme heat disrupting outdoor work (e.g., farming, construction)
- Shifting of natural cycles and species, causing food insecurity and cultural impacts for Indigenous and non-indigenous communities who hunt and fish
- **Agriculture:**
 - Long growing season creating opportunities for different crop varieties
 - Extreme heat posing health risks for livestock (e.g., dehydration, vector-borne diseases)
 - Drought followed by heavy rain causes more damage to agricultural lands, reducing crop yields
 - Warmer winters lead to more pests and invasive species surviving winter, causing crop failure
 - Damage to local crops, resulting in economic loss and mental stress for farmers



Natural Environment

- Warmer average temperatures causing:
 - More stress on forests, changing tree species, and causing loss of tree canopy and biodiversity
 - Warmer water temperatures, causing more blue-green algae, declining fish populations and biodiversity
- Warmer winters leading to more pests and invasive species surviving winter, causing biodiversity loss
- Rainfall variability and warmer temperatures disturbing small water cycles, degrading water quality, habitats, biodiversity, and ecosystem services (e.g., carbon sequestration)



Preparing today to protect tomorrow

For more information, visit grey.ca/climate-action

