

Greener Living on the Upper West Side

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Setting Environmental Priorities

What Should I Do?

What about recycling? Compact fluorescents? A hybrid car? No car? Should I get solar panels on my coop? No more plastic bags! Organic food? Green power? Less meat? Bio-diesel for my boiler? Products from “green companies”? I know, I’ll get a green roof!

Let’s face it, a lot of people are confused about what to do and where to start!

There is one measure, though, that really addresses the big picture, and that is...

... Greenhouse Gasses!

Nearly everything we buy or do creates GHGs:

Food, Products, Buildings, Transportation... and the energy infrastructure to run everything.

How Do New Yorkers Compare?

Cities sure don't seem very green, so do we score poorly in comparison to the rest?

NO! Per capita, New Yorkers emit about one third the amount of GHGs than the average American!

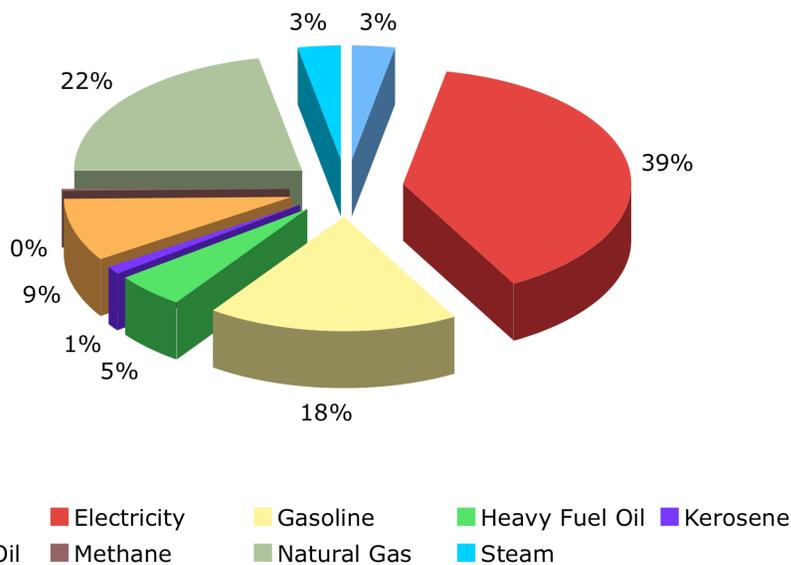
So... here's the opportunity: Working together,

The Upper West Side could become the most carbon efficient community in the United States!

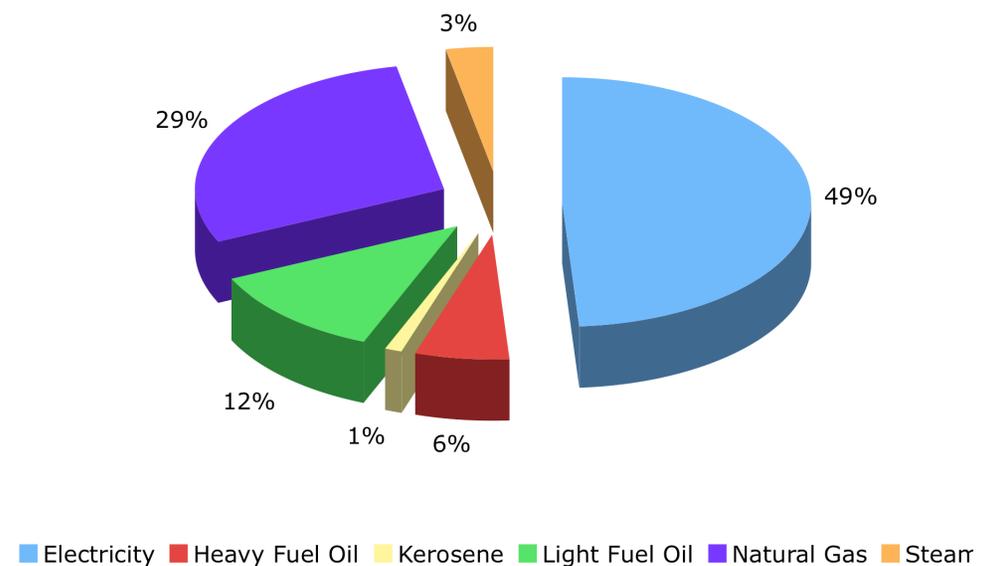
How Much GHGs Do We Have?

Looking at the “Inventory of New York City Greenhouse Gas Emissions” (April 2007, created as part of PlaNYC):

Citywide CO2e Emissions by Source (2005)



CO2e Emissions from NYC Buildings (2005)



Since NYC buildings account for 79% of GHGs, this deserves our attention.

How Far Should We Go?

PlaNYC is targeting a 30% reduction in GHGs by 2030.

Does that sound tough? Well, considering that Juneau, Alaska, reacting to a sudden quadrupling of electricity cost, just accomplished in 3 weeks what we're setting our sights on in 23 years, I don't think so!

Setting short-term targets probably won't serve us, but laying out a simple methodology does...

Use Alison's CROP™ framework!

C - Calculate energy use/carbon emissions

R - Reduce energy/carbon emissions

O - Offset energy/carbon emissions

P - Produce power locally - wind, solar, hydro

Let's focus on the first two tonight.

See www.alisongannett.com

C- Calculate

Excluding transportation, here are the key measures that drive up our GHGs:

Electricity

Natural Gas

Fuel Oil

Water

Waste

We need a methodology for tracking these!

R - Reduce

Buildings are the sore spot, and New York State has made this easy for us:

Have an energy audit done on your building using NYSERDA incentives!

Using NYSERDA incentive programs often presents a clear case for SAVING MONEY and REDUCING GHG EMISSIONS. A total win-win!

NYSERDA = New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

R- Reduce

Think of it this way: anything you can do to reduce your consumption of these items (or the production of waste), helps!

Electricity

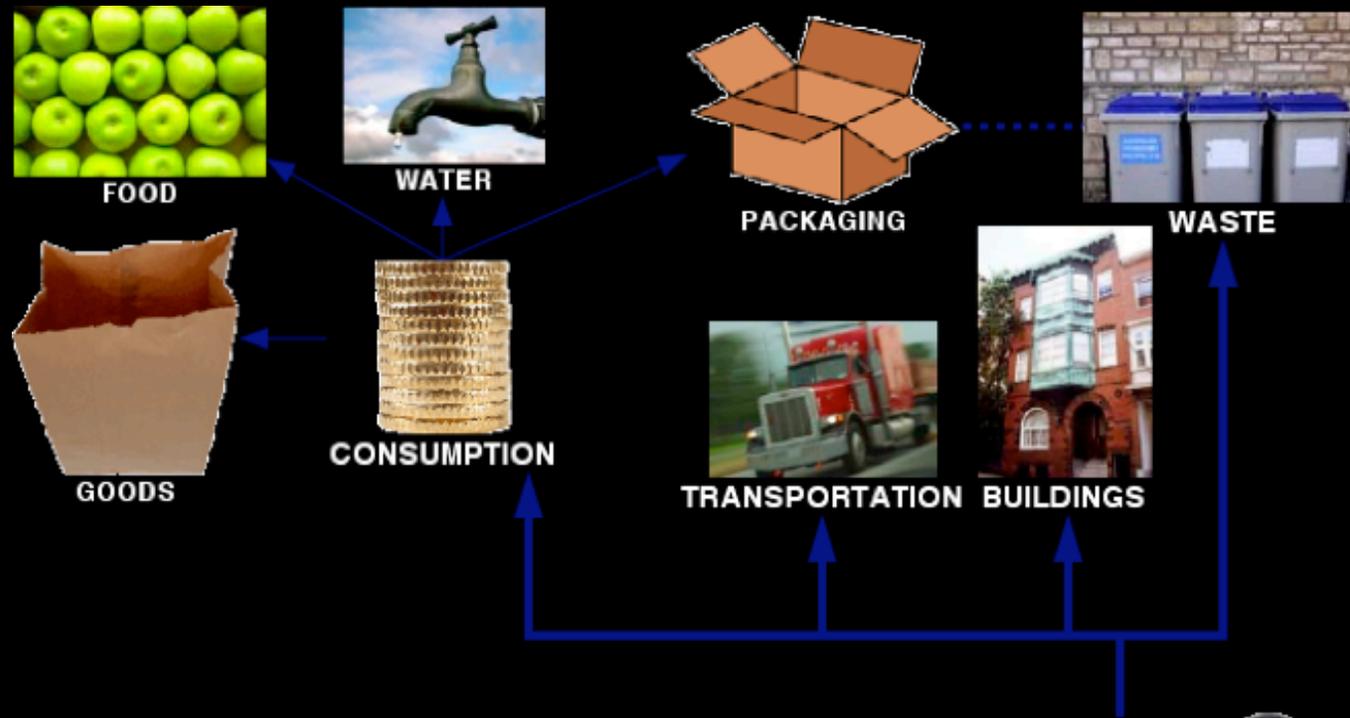
Natural Gas

Fuel Oil

Water

Waste

R - Reduce your Carbon Footprint



R REDUCE
FOOTPRINT



Greening the Upper West Side

Execution will require persistent communications and education for our residents, but the payoff is nothing short of FANTASTIC!

QUESTIONS AND NEXT STEPS?