

# Planting Seeds of Change: How Joseph's Volunteering Efforts are Inspiring a Greener Future



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*Joseph Londa*, a New Paltz Climate Smart Community Volunteer, is a true inspiration for those looking to make a difference in the fight against climate change. Through his volunteer work with the Climate Smart Communities program, he has been able to use his expertise in energy to drive impactful change at the local level.

As an engineer with four decades of experience in the Technology industry, Joseph has been able to bring his knowledge to the table and help his community transition to a cleaner, more sustainable future. He has led a Task force to introduce batteries into the local electric grid, in transitioning the electric grid from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources.



Joseph's dedication to the cause is apparent in his latest project, where he is advocating the creation of a net-zero fossil-free school district in New Paltz. He is working with High School Students to create a plan that involves electrifying the transportation system with electric buses. Following that, he wants to examine heating and cooling buildings with heat pumps, and producing some of their own electricity with a Microgrid comprising solar panels and batteries.



What is most impressive about Joseph's work is his ability to combine his passion with pragmatism. He focuses on technical projects that require data and analysis, ensuring that the projects have a reasonable chance of success. He recognizes the challenges that come with being a volunteer, and encourages others to stay committed to their passions while also being patient and understanding with stakeholders who may not fully appreciate the value of volunteerism.

Through his work with the Climate Smart Communities program, Joseph has not only made a difference in his local community, but has also helped connect a broader network of individuals and communities across New York State. His dedication and passion for the cause is an inspiration to us all, and a testament to the power of volunteerism in making a real impact in the fight against climate change.



The Cornell Climate Stewards Program trains volunteers on the science and solutions to climate change, so that they can support their communities with local climate action projects. For more information, visit the Cornell Climate Stewards website at <https://climatestewards.cornell.edu/>