

What You Can Do About Climate Change

Personal Actions:

- *Learn* about the issues: Visit <http://climate.nasa.gov/evidence/>
- *Talk to your neighbors about climate change.* Focus on uncommitted or uninformed citizens. Ask your church to discuss the moral imperative for action on climate change.
- *Investments:* Avoid risky investments in fossil fuels – talk to your financial advisor. Avoid credit cards and accounts with banks (Chase, Wells Fargo, B of A) that finance fossil fuels. See: fossilfreefunds.org.
- *Transportation:* Use carbon-free transportation – an EV or plugin hybrid car. Walk or bike as much as possible. Reduce air travel and driving. Purchase Carbon Offsets to compensate for necessary flights and gasoline use.
- *Home Energy Conservation:* Add solar hot water and photovoltaic power to your home. Use Energy Star efficient appliances. Use a setback thermostat, LED lighting, cold water for laundry, and a solar clothes dryer. Purchase renewable electricity from www.arcadiapower.com.
- *Consumption:* Consume less and reduce your waste: 1) Avoid buying throwaway products and packaging; 2) Reuse what you can; 3) Compost green waste; 4) Recycle; 5) Remaining waste material to garbage. For necessary purchases, select products made from recycled material.
- *Food:* Eat a healthy, climate friendly, whole foods plant based diet by including more fruits, vegetables, beans and nuts while eliminating meat and dairy products. Plant a vegetable garden.
- *Water Conservation:* Install efficient toilets, shower heads, and faucets. Use a front-loading clothes washer. Replace water guzzling turf and landscapes with drought-tolerant plants.
- *Vote!* Elections have consequences, and your vote counts, especially in local elections.
- *Set a goal:* 20% reduction in your family greenhouse gas contribution in the next year.

Political Action: The Essential Issue

Ask City, County, and State government to do their share to mitigate climate change by declaring a climate emergency and adopting a Climate Change Action Plan:

- *Set a goal:* 100% renewable power by 2050.
- *Reduce structural energy use:* Adopt green building codes for new commercial and residential construction requiring solar water heaters, increased insulation, energy efficient lighting, air conditioners and furnaces, rooftop photovoltaic power systems, water conservation, and drought-tolerant landscaping. Provide incentives for existing homes and businesses to upgrade. Apply the new codes to existing city buildings.
- *Transportation:* Develop a community-wide, renewable energy powered mass transit system; construct bicycle lanes; require all new government vehicles to be electric or plug-in hybrid; facilitate ride sharing programs.
- *Energy:* Require increased solar electric generation; support distributed rooftop solar through net metering; require LED efficient lighting and EnergyStar appliances;
- *Consumption:* Improve waste recycling and water conservation.

Elections: The Most Important Issue

- *Make Climate Change an issue:* Attend town meetings and ask for a Climate Change Action Plan.
- *Vote for candidates* supporting immediate actions for Climate Change Action Plans and the Green New Deal.
- *Contact City Councilors, Supervisors, Senators, and Representatives:* Insist on a Climate Change Action Plan.
- *Ask Congress:* Implement the Green New Deal, restore the Paris Agreement, the Clean Power Plan, and the CAFE mileage requirements, remove fossil fuel subsidies, halt coal mining on public land.
- *Support economic reforms* to eliminate carbon subsidies without harming low-income citizens such as Fee and Dividend (<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/>)
- *Ask your government* to resist war and to reduce the enormous military carbon footprint.

Climate Change Reference List

Local Groups:

- Yavapai Group - Sierra Club: yavapaisierra@gmail.com; <http://www.sierraclub.org/grand-canyon-chapter/yavapai>
- Yavapai Climate Change Coalition: yavapaiccc@gmail.com
- Northern Arizona Climate Change Coalition: kari.nazcca@gmail.com

Books:

- “This Changes Everything”; “On Fire”; Naomi Klein
- “Drawdown”, Paul Hawken, Editor; Website: <https://drawdown.org>

News articles:

- Wikipedia on “Global Warming”
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_warming
- Losing Earth: The Decade We Almost Stopped Climate Change; Nathaniel Rich
<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/31/podcasts/the-daily/climate-change-losing-earth.html>
- New York Times Climate Newsletter
<https://www.nytimes.com/newsletters/climate-change>
- Time to Panic, David Wallace-Wells
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/16/opinion/sunday/fear-panic-climate-change-warming.html>
- Why the Green New Deal Cuts Consumer Energy Costs and Unemployment
<https://cleantechnica.com/2019/03/09/why-the-green-new-deal-cuts-consumer-energy-costs-unemployment/>
- Why a Half Degree is a Big Deal
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/10/07/climate/ipcc-report-half-degree.html>

TED Talks:

- 100 Solutions to Reverse Global Warming
https://www.ted.com/talks/chad_frischmann_100_solutions_to_climate_change
- Why Climate Change is a Threat to Human Rights
https://www.ted.com/talks/mary_robinson_why_climate_change_is_a_threat_to_human_rights
- The Disarming Case to Act Right Now on Climate Change; Greta Thunberg
https://www.ted.com/talks/greta_thunberg_the_disarming_case_to_act_right_now_on_climate
- How Empowering Women and Girls Can Help Stop Global Warming
https://www.ted.com/talks/katharine_wilkinson_how_empowering_women_and_girls_can_help_stop_global_warming

Carbon Offsets:

- Calculate Carbon Footprint: <https://www.footprintcalculator.org>
- Purchase wind power: www.arcadiapower.com
- Should You Buy Carbon Offsets? <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/24/climate/nyt-climate-newsletter-carbon-offsets.html>
- Offset Providers:
 - <https://sustainabletravel.org>;
 - <https://www.greenmountainenergy.com>; <https://nativeenergy.com>;
 - <https://www.cooleffect.org>; <https://www.terrapass.com/carbon-footprint-calculator>.

Food:

- Recipes and strategies to transition from meat to veggies: <https://www.meatlessmonday.com>
- Meat eaters’ guide to climate and health. <https://www.ewg.org/meateatersguide/>
- Evidence-based nutrition and health info: <https://nutritionfacts.org>