The Can You Hear Us? campaign focuses on amplifying the climate efforts of young people across the country and building intergenerational conversations and working relationships surrounding climate justice. We believe that there are so many small ways to make big changes. This guide will help provide you with action items that can be practiced to become better climate activists in your homes, at your job, and in your everyday practices.

If you have any comments, concerns, or material that you would like to include in the Action Guide, please feel free to connect with us!

Contact us at hello@canyouhearus.org
Intergenerational conversations are an important aspect of both understanding climate change and helping inform others about how their practices may affect our planet. They allow the sharing of ideas and information across groups with differing generational perspectives, educational backgrounds, and personal experiences. And as youth-led climate movements are rising, they stand on the shoulders of many generations who have led the way.
WHY They Matter:

▶ Younger generations have a powerful voice in demanding justice but may need help with the monetary, legislative and institutional power to elicit change in systems that have existed for many years. Therefore, conversations with older generations can inform the success of youth-driven climate movements on a local and global level.

▶ Alternatively, older generations may often feel comfortable in their ways, thus resistant to large systemic change. It’s crucial for younger generations within the family setting to encourage their parents and grandparents to act in greater urgency on climate issues that will evidently affect themselves and future generations.

▶ Younger generations have a track-record of having high moral ground on a wide-array of social-justice issues, so many feel there’s a responsibility to remind others of the intersectional aspect of climate change and how it disproportionately affects communities.

▶ Older generations tend to have more experience in understanding and managing complex institutional systems. Young people need their guidance and leadership to inform their movements on how to most effectively enact positive social change.

▶ Older generations run the large news outlets and determine widespread media coverage, of which the young require to amplify their movements or causes. In contrast, the younger generations have found ways to create movements via other media platforms like social media, which could be a valuable tool for adults to utilize in their own organizing efforts.

▶ Intergenerational conversations elicit cross cultural and cross educational solidarity, and therefore strengthen communities.
TIPS for Having Them:

▷ **Know everything there is to know on your topic:** Many people are going to automatically assume that you as a young person don't know what you are talking about -- which means you have to become an expert. Be overprepared (Jamie Margolin, *Youth to Power*). At the same time, acknowledge when you have more to understand and make that a collaborative learning experience.

▷ **Defy stereotypes and expectations of your immaturity and irresponsibility:** People may expect you to be impatient, immature, reckless and rude. Be the most patient, mature and polite person in the room. (Jamie Margolin, *Youth to Power*)

▷ **Address the elephant in the room:** If someone is really testing your limits or being overtly rude or dismissive of you as a young person, don't be afraid to bring it up. Say, 'If I were twenty years older and asking the same question, would you talk to me in the same way you're talking now?' The adult might get defensive, but just keep holding them accountable for their behavior and pointing out the truth. Speak your truth to power! Always, always, always. (Jamie Margolin, *Youth to Power*)

▷ **Provide your audience with an emotional or personal connection** to the issues of climate action and climate justice. Explain why you're passionate - others should understand how and why this crisis affects you, your community, and future generations.

▷ **Be patient and be respectful.** You don't want your passion to be mistaken for misdirected anger or misunderstanding. Not everyone may share the same perspective of you, but that could in part be because they were raised in a different setting or time, or have a different educational or cultural background. You want to inspire others to get behind you!

KNOW what you’re up against:

▷ **Patronizing & invalidation**

▷ **Lack of trust in your ability**

▷ **Systemic silencing of your voice**

▷ **Lack of funding & resources**
Young people can change the world:

“Throughout history and today, many social movements have been led and mobilized by young people. They’ve continued to lead the way in social change, and we see this demonstrated by groups who have brought upon the highest voter turnout in the 2020 election, or by the students of Stoneman Douglas who turned a tragedy into a national demand for change.”

(“Remember these faces, Remember Us”)

Young people encompass a wide range of skills.

Whether it’s multi-tasking, being outspoken for your cause, or knowing how to throw together a PSA, young people have an unstoppable perspective of what they can do and know how to apply their skills to accomplish their goals. In advocating for a cause, they’re further developing these skills, which will allow them to be great leaders and civically active adults.

Young people are collaborative.

Youth organizers are supportive of each others’ needs and recognize where others’ can help with their efforts. They utilize superpowers to their advantage, choosing to step up where they see fit and collaborating with others when they lack knowledge or expertise.
In the words of activist Jamie Margolin, Power Youth Activists hold...

**Fresh energy and perspectives:**
“Youth bring new ideas to the table, as well as a fresh energy and drive that many of our elders have lost. No one knows better than we do what it is like to grow up in the current time.”

**Expertise on the issues that personally affect us:**
“Many adults in power do not comprehend or even hear much about important film issues from young people’s perspectives. They do not feel climate change like we do; they don’t feel student loans or an economy that makes it increasingly difficult for us to find good-paying jobs like we do. When we speak about what we are going through, that rings true to people, and it looks bad for someone in power to discredit their lived experiences of a young person”

“Beyond knowing what power you do and don’t have as a young person in this world, it is also important to know what you will be up to no matter what. Keep in mind that the more marginalized identities you carry, the more you will be up against. Know how the world perceives you (whether their perception is true or not) so you can best arm yourself to overcome their preconceived notions.”

- Jamie Margolin *(Youth to Power)*
We acknowledge that as climate issues have evolved and developed, not everyone is well-versed in the language used to discuss climate change and related topics. Please click on the buttons below to read the definitions of terms you may not be familiar with; they are organized alphabetically. Understanding these key terms will help you understand the issue of climate change more thoroughly.
- **Anthropogenic**: An Environmental change caused or influenced by humans directly or indirectly. Examples include deforestation and biodiversity loss. ([USGS])

- **Backyard burning**: An illegal method of getting rid of household waste, possibly in an attempt to save on bin charges, that releases levels of pollutants into the air, so harming air quality and risking the health of those burning the waste and of their neighbours. (EPA)

- **Biodegradable waste**: Organic waste, typically coming from plant or animal sources (for example food scraps and paper), which other living organisms can break down. (EPA)

- **Biodiversity**: A short form of the phrase ‘biological diversity’, which means the variety of life on this planet and how it interacts within habitats and ecosystems. Biodiversity covers all plants, animals and micro-organisms on land and in water. See also ecosystem, habitat and organism. (EPA)

- **Carbon Footprint**: A carbon footprint is the total amount of greenhouse gas emissions that come from the production, use and end-of-life of a product or service. Individual carbon footprint usually derives from transportation, food and housing. Why is it important? Because it includes many gases - methane, nitrous oxide, fluorinated, and carbon dioxide, which is most commonly produced by humans - that trap heat in the atmosphere and cause global warming.

  You can use Carbon Footprint Calculators to determine your emissions how you can lower your footprint:

  - [The Nature Conservancy’s Calculator](https://www.nature.org/en-us/career-center/career-opportunities/staff-opportunities/carbon-calculator/)
  - [United States Environmental Protection Agency’s Calculator](https://www.epa.gov/energy/carbon-calculator)
  - [United Nations Carbon Offset Platform’s Calculator](https://www.unfccc.int/)

- **Clean Air Act (CAA)**: Federal law designed to control air pollution on a national level. It requires the EPA to develop and enforce regulations to protect the public from airborne contaminants known to be hazardous to human health. (ADEQ)

- **Clean Water Act (CWA)**: Primary federal law governing water pollution. Its objective is to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation’s waters by preventing point and nonpoint pollution sources, providing assistance to publicly owned treatment works for the improvement of wastewater treatment, and maintaining the integrity of wetlands. (ADEQ)

- **Climate vs. Weather**: Weather refers to factors like temperature, wind, and humidity in the short term. Climate refers to the weather patterns that occur over a long period of time, typically at least 30 years. ([NOAA](https://www.weather.gov/education/asktheexperts/whatisclimate.html))

- **Climate Gentrification**: In some cases, such as in Miami, these preparation efforts have spurred what has been coined "climate gentrification". The term describes the process of wealthier, often whiter populations moving to areas less exposed to the effects of climate change that were previously occupied by lower-income residents and communities of color, thus exacerbating displacement and disparities. ([ELI](https://www.eli-usa.org/))
Compostable Materials: Food scraps, yard waste, and dirty paper products that can be composted to become soil. (CAS)

Coral bleaching: Coral bleaching happens when corals lose their vibrant colors and turn white, and the leading cause of coral bleaching is climate change. A warming planet means a warming ocean, and a change in water temperature can cause coral to drive out algae. Coral reefs matter because thousands of marine animals depend on coral reefs for survival, their deterioration impacts peoples’ livelihoods, food security, and safety, and they’re natural barriers that absorb the force of waves and storm surges, keeping coastal communities safe. (WWF)

Deforestation: Deforestation is the permanent removal of trees to make room for something besides forest. This can include clearing the land for agriculture or grazing, or using the timber for fuel, construction or manufacturing. Deforestation destroys trees that help mitigate greenhouse gas emissions produced by human activity by absorbing carbon dioxide. (Live Science)

Environmental Justice: Environmental justice is the intersection between both social justice and environmentalism, where the inequality of who is being impacted is also considered. (Green Dreamer)

Examples to understand Environmental Justice:

- Vulnerable communities pay the highest price for environmental damage caused by polluters. Many communities don't have the luxury of a physical barrier between them and environmental hazards. Unfortunately, low-income and communities of color are already disproportionately impacted by the impacts of climate change and this will only continue without political action and protection.

- A 2010 study found that people of color in the U.S. were exposed to 37% more nitrogen dioxide (a transportation-related pollutant) than white Americans. This exposure has real consequences with children of color reporting higher rates of asthma.

- Communities where oil and gas extraction take place, waterways and soil are being polluted with toxic fracking fluid that can negatively impact the environment and human health.

- Some neighborhoods across the country don’t have access to fresh produce and healthy foods—a problem known as food deserts.
Fossil Fuels: Fossil fuels, including coal, oil and natural gas, are currently the world’s primary energy source. Formed from organic material over the course of millions of years, fossil fuels have fueled U.S. and global economic development over the past century. Yet fossil fuels are finite resources and they can also irreparably harm the environment. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the burning of fossil fuels was responsible for 76 percent of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in 2016. These gases contribute to the greenhouse effect and could lead to potentially catastrophic changes in the Earth’s climate. (ESSI)

Fracking: Fracking is the process of drilling down into the earth before a high-pressure water mixture is directed at the rock to release the gas inside. Fracking allows drilling firms to access difficult-to-reach resources of oil and gas. However, it uses huge amounts of water, which must be transported to the site at significant environmental cost. As well as earth tremor concerns, environmentalists say potentially carcinogenic chemicals may escape during drilling and contaminate groundwater around the fracking site. (BBC)

Gray Water: Wastewater generated from kitchen sinks, washing machines, wash-hand basins, showers and baths, which can be recycled for landscape irrigation and constructed wetlands. (ADEQ)

Greenhouse Gases: Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere, including carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, fluorinated gases. (EPA)

Greenwashing: A form of corporate misrepresentation where a company will present a green public image and publicize green initiatives that are false or misleading.

Indigenous Sovereignty: Recognizing Indigenous nations in the exercise of sovereignty to prevent further erosion of tribal and Indigenous sovereignty and recognition of off-reservation treaty reserved hunting, fishing, gathering, and ceremonial rights—including Indigenous measures to protect and preserve Indigenous language, culture, spiritual practice, sacred sites, and traditional relationships with Mother Earth. (CJA)

Intersectional Environmentalism: This is an inclusive version of environmentalism that advocates for both the protection of people and the planet. It identifies the ways in which injustices happening to marginalized communities and the earth are interconnected. It brings injustices done to the most vulnerable communities, and the earth, to the forefront and does not minimize or silence social inequality. Intersectional environmentalism advocates for justice for people + the planet. (Leah Thomas)
- **Landfill**: A location on land where wastes are placed for permanent disposal. *(ADEQ)*

- **Regenerative Agriculture**: Farming and grazing practices that, among other benefits, reverse climate change by rebuilding soil organic matter and restoring degraded soil biodiversity – resulting in both carbon drawdown and improving the water cycle. *(RI)*

- **Renewable Energy**: An energy source that comes from natural sources or processes that are replenished regularly such as solar, wind, and geothermal energy. While renewable energy is often thought of as a new technology, harnessing nature's power has long been used for heating, transportation, lighting, and more. *(NRDC)*
Watershed: A land area that channels rainfall and snow-melt to creeks, streams, and rivers, and eventually to outflow points such as reservoirs, bays, and the ocean (NOAA). Watersheds are teeming with wildlife, plants, and outdoor human activities such as kayaking and fishing. Storm drains (which are not sewer drains), lead many materials into watersheds, so we must limit the trash and toxic materials that end up in those drains, in order to limit our negative impact on ecosystems and protest the quality of water itself. (ACUA)
Click a category to explore some of the many ways you can **TAKE ACTION** based on your differing situations and interests.
HOURS AVAILABLE

How many hours can you dedicate to climate action?

- 1 to 4 hrs
- 4 to 8 hrs
- Continuous Action
1 to 4 Hours

- **Join/attend your neighborhood council** to see what climate initiatives currently exist and how you can incorporate more ideas around regenerative thinking and climate justice.

- **Participate** in a *Climate Justice Accountability Program* on behalf of your business or organization.

- **Defend our national monuments:** Deliver [this petition](#) from Earthjustice to the Department of Interior and the Department of Commerce.

- **Defend the Arctic Refuge from Reckless Oil Drilling & Exploration** by delivering [this public message](#) to U.S. Congress.

- **Organize a clean up in your community!** Invite friends & find a local park or beach. *(National CleanUp Day)*

- Run a business or organization? **Host a Workshop & Strategy Session** with Movement Generation to learn how to engage staff and members as they integrate an ecological lens into their work.

- **Dive deeper into climate topics.** Pick three episodes from [*the Green Dreamer*](#) podcast to learn more about these important issues.

- Need a weekend away from the city? **Visit National Parks!** This helps provide funding to protect these beautiful spots in nature. It's also an educational way to learn about the environment.

- **Strengthen protections for farmworker children** by [sending an email](#) to your congressman showing your support for the CARE Act (Children's Act for Responsible Employment).

- **Join a community garden and invite your neighbors.** This is an educational and fun way to learn about our relationship with food and the planet. *Here* are some tips and tricks if you're looking to start one.
4 to 8 Hours

▷ Join one of Movement Generation’s Justice & Ecology Retreats to explore the depths and connections of the current ecological, economic, and social crises.

▷ Organize an Earth Skills seasonal training program, designed to gain practical skills that help communities weather the impacts of the ecological crises, lighten our collective footprint on the planet, and practice managing our resources without government or corporate oversight so that we can ensure equity.

▷ Sign up for a farmer training program and learn more about regenerative agriculture. You can do this in urban areas as well! Start with Rodale Institute’s programs and Farmer Rishi’s gardening groups.

▷ Organize a local meeting to discuss climate action. Use 350.org’s training resources to help you get started!

▷ Read more about Indigenous stewardship and wisdom to guide your own practice. Check out Braiding Sweetgrass and then listen to this podcast.

▷ Learn about food infrastructure and modern day oil and gas extraction in the United States. These are interconnected! Food and shale production map here.
Continuous Action

▷ **Send emails to your senators** to demand climate action.
▷ **Learn how to write** a successful letter to the editor on a climate issue you’re passionate about.
▷ **Be a climate voter** – vote for candidates who accept the science of climate change and are committed to addressing it.
▷ **Sign petitions** that protect indigenous lands in your area. (Here’s one to start!)
▷ **Host a screening party** with friends or family and watch documentaries focused on specific climate change and environmental issues. Start with *An Inconvenient Truth*, *Before the Flood*, *Kiss the Ground* & *Eating Animals*.
▷ **Read up on the Endangered Species Act** and search petitions to protect it!
▷ **Improve air quality testing systems in your community**! Follow this step-by-step guide which is ideal for small city budgets!
▷ **Elect local representatives** who speak to climate concerns and using renewable energies.
CHANNELING YOUR SKILLSET

Which best describes your skill set/superpower?

- Administrative & Organizing
- Educational
- Advocacy & Leadership
- Creative & Art
- Scientific & Research
Administrative & Organizing

▷ Organize friends to attend a climate action strike → Locate them here!

▷ Start an Earth Guardian Crew and lead youth toward a fight for climate justice!

▷ Inspire your community and invite a Climate Reality Leader to give you & your friends the latest multimedia presentation about the impacts of climate change. Then join Climate Reality’s 100% Committed campaign and pledge to help your community, business, or school shift to 100% renewable electricity.

▷ Tell Wall Street and Congress: Put People Before Polluters. Demand that banks, asset managers and companies stop funding, insuring and investing in climate destruction.

▷ Work to stop government subsidies for the beef industry. The US government alone spends $38 billion each year to subsidize the meat and dairy industries, but only 0.04 percent of that ($17 million) each year to subsidize fruits and vegetables. Needless to say, when the price of something is lower, people tend to buy more of it. (Rainforest Alliance)

▷ Join your local Sunrise Movement chapter to work with other like-minded individuals fighting to demand climate action, end the corruptive influence of fossil fuel executives on our politics, and elect leaders who stand up for the health and wellbeing of all people.

▷ Start a student climate organization at your school or university!

▷ Start a campaign to eliminate the use of single use plastics on campus.

▷ Organize local screenings for your community with films that speak to climate issues (even if it’s Moana)!

▷ Participate in a lobby day (such as Climate Generation’s annual Youth Lobby Day), or schedule a meeting with your representative on your own.
Advocacy & Leadership

▷ Learn about how to call Congress for the issues you’re passionate about.

▷ Research how to protest safely before hitting the streets.

▷ Demand Recycling Stations in your school, place of work or religious organization. You can apply for recycling grants to help fund your initiative at school!

▷ Become a trained “The Oceanic Standard” advocate and drive responsible consumption in your community! Reach out to: theoceanicstandard@oceanic.global to join the next training.

▷ Start a Zero Hour Sister Chapter. If you don’t have a climate justice group in your area, become the leader of one. Apply to create a chapter here.

▷ Back a scientist running for office. Few members of Congress identify as scientists, which many science-minded advocates say is part of the problem when it comes to climate legislation. (Curbed)

▷ Check out XR Youth’s US Guidebook on how to organize actions in COVID times. This is a great resource for new organizers! You can also learn how to organize a support network in your city: this guide from XR Youth US, Zero Hour, IIYC & Future Coalition explains how to effectively mobilize an interconnected web of group chats, youth, and resources.

▷ Lead a school climate strike with Fridays for Future.

▷ Help NRDC save NYC composting!

▷ Set up meetings with city leaders to discuss ways they can set climate science-based targets. Use this guide to help inform your conversation and serve as a resource.
Creative & Art

▷ Are you responsible for a creative institution? Do you work in the entertainment industry? **Join the Creatives Industries Pact for Sustainable Action!**

▷ **Sign up to be an Artist for the Earth**, a global network campaign that connects and engages the public in climate movement using art.

▷ **Interested in incorporating climate storytelling in your work?** Check out the [Climate Story Lab Toolbox from Exposure Labs and Doc Society](#).

▷ **Collaborate with Working Films!** If you are someone whose passion projects revolve around social justice, expand your knowledge with the opportunities Working Films offers here.

▷ **Create a climate story** with your students, church friends, or other community members to share personal stories of climate change and help others understand how it is relevant to their lives. A climate story is a personal account of climate change from your experience and observations, ranging from despair to hope, from loss to resolve. It is descriptive and makes an emotional connection to climate change.

▷ **Become a Climate Stories Ambassador.**

▷ **Join Creators for Justice** and support climate-justice groups that need pro-bono creative assistance.

▷ Do you enjoy working with film? **Use Doc Society’s Impact Field Guide & Toolkit** as a source on how to make an even bigger impact as a film creator.
Educational

▷ Stronger and more frequent superstorms, raging wildfires, and other disasters are already forcing millions of people from their homes. Learn about climate-driven migration and sign up for updates on how you can help fight for a more just and safe place to call home.

▷ Incorporate curriculum/discussion guides in the classroom that bring in topics related to climate change and our relationship with the planet. Refer to this Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report which helps summarize important climate issues for educators.

▷ Inform co-workers and company employees on how they can be more sustainable at their work. Whether it's recycling in the office, avoiding single use plastics, or sharing materials digitally rather than printing them - you can present these ideas during your lunch hour!

▷ Learn from the National Phenology Network about why phenology (the study of recurring biological events) is so important for understanding climate change and how you can get involved with making your own observations.

▷ Put books about climate change in your nearest little free library. Start exploring a list of kid books in our Educators Toolkit.

▷ Organize local screenings for your community with films that speak to climate issues (we recommend I am Greta, Before The Flood, Kiss The Ground, and Gather!)

▷ Encourage Climate Literacy in your classroom. Utilize our Educators Toolkit to help educate your students on climate change and how they can make a difference.

Continued On Next Page!
Educational

▷ **Empower your school to speak up for climate action!** Use these [free materials](#) from Schools for Climate Action to pass a powerful, non-partisan climate resolution in your school district.

▷ Get educated on movements that are happening globally, such as [the peasant movement in the Philippines](#). Learn about its relation to climate justice and how you can help support victims and survivors of state-sanctioned violence in the fight for land and human rights.

▷ Inspire your community and [invite a Climate Reality Leader](#) to give you & your friends the latest multimedia presentation about the impacts of climate change. Then join Climate Reality’s [100% Committed campaign](#) and pledge to help your community, business, or school shift to 100% renewable electricity.

▷ **Join Environment America for an underwater hike** of six marine protected areas to explore some unique, diverse ecosystems - each of which are success stories demonstrating the power and hope of restoring and protecting our most precious underwater wildernesses. Then [sign this petition](#) to help ensure the conservation and protection of 30 percent of our oceans by 2030.

▷ **Take a course** on environmental science or environmental policy. There are many courses that also overlap with topics in the humanities, such as environmental racism or development.
Scientific & Research

▷ **Use this remote sensing tool** from The Environmental Defense Fund and Google to map local air pollution. Neighborhoods can use the data to reduce emissions and target communities most at risk for health issues.

▷ **Dive into the Clean Power Plan** and understand how states can meet their emissions reduction goals.

▷ **Help reduce actions that diminish the roles of independent scientists!** Contact the [Union of Concerned Scientists](https://www.ucsusa.org/) to protect scientists involved in environmental policy-making from political influence.

▷ **Set science-based targets** for reducing greenhouse emissions within your company or organization. 1,000+ other companies are taking action!

▷ **Request help from a woman in STEMM** through [500 Women Scientists](https://www.500womenscientists.org): a resource for journalists, educators, policy makers, scientists, and anyone needing scientific expertise.

▷ **Amplify polling on climate change, public policy and the energy transition!** This supports research done by [Climate Nexus](https://www.climatenexus.org) in collaboration with the [Yale Program on Climate Change Communication](https://climate.yale.edu/).

▷ If you’re a healthcare worker or physician, use the American College of Physicians’ [Climate Change Toolkit](https://www.lancetclimate.com/) to **help reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in your practice**. Physicians can play a substantial role in addressing climate change by advocating for climate change adaptation and mitigation policies, and by educating themselves about climate change and how it affects public and individual health, and the potential health threats it may pose to their community.

▷ **Learn from the National Phenology Network** about why phenology (the study of recurring biological events) is so important for understanding climate change and how you can get involved with making your own observations.
Which environmental cause are you most passionate about?

- Climate Justice & Intersectional Environmentalism
- Protection of Land & Other Natural Resources
- Finance & Divestments
- Renewable Energies
- Food, Agriculture & Regeneration
- Technology & STEMM
- Storytelling & Communications
Climate Justice & Intersectional Environmentalism

▷ **Educate yourself** on intersectional environmentalism and how climate justice is racial justice.

▷ **Recognize** that *indigenous sovereignty* is crucial for the environment movement. We must follow native leadership when crafting climate policies and approaches. Read [this caption](#) for accounts to follow online and watch [Gather](#) to learn more about food sovereignty.

▷ **Tell CA state leaders: we need BOLD public health and environmental protections** & we need to [help protect LA Communities](#) from dangerous neighborhood oil drilling!

▷ Stronger and more frequent superstorms, raging wildfires, and other disasters are already forcing millions of people from their homes. [Learn about climate-driven migration and sign up for updates](#) on how you can help fight for a more just and safe place to call home.

▷ **Sign up to be an ambassador** with Zero Hour if you’d like to educate your community on the Green New Deal.

▷ **Invite your business or organization to participate** in a [Climate Justice Accountability Program](#).

▷ **Raise your voice** to [protect North Carolinians from “forever chemicals”](#) in our drinking water.

▷ **Support organizations** working on environmental justice. Find a few suggestions from Green Dreamer [here](#).

▷ **Listen to an episode** on creating community gardens in food deserts and read more about environmental justice.
Finances & Divestments

➢ **Explore the whole Banking on Climate Chaos report** to get a full picture of how the runaway funding for fossil fuel extraction and infrastructure fuels climate chaos and threatens the lives and livelihoods of millions.

➢ **Call your bank and demand divestment from fossil fuels** with the help of the help of *Stop the Money Pipeline.*

➢ **Disinvest from carbon-heavy industries and investments** by using *this guide*. Making sure your financial portfolio matches your beliefs is a sound investment in our collective future. Many mutual funds and retirement accounts offer clean energy and carbon-free options, and various groups have helped demonstrate the risk of carbon-heavy investments in light of a worldwide shift toward cleaner energy.

➢ **Support the Adaptation Fund** which uses grants to finance localized projects and programmes that help vulnerable communities in developing countries adapt and build resilience to climate change.

➢ **Build public pressure to create “green” banks** and encourage banks to subsidize adaptation projects for sustainable housing development.
Food, Agriculture, & Regeneration

▷ Learn more about Regenerative Organic Certified food and what it means for the environment.

▷ Support farmer’s markets & local food. Use the USDA directory + Local Food Source map to locate local farmers markets. Did you know that food in the U.S. travels an average of 1,500 miles to get to your plate? All this shipping uses fossil fuels and other natural resources, and generates GHG emissions. (CUESA)

▷ Support organizations in calling political representatives to rein in the “Big Meat monopoly.” (Source)

▷ Join Clean Water For All Coalition to engage and mobilize Americans from coast to coast advocate for commonsense protections for, and equitable access to, clean water.

▷ Local food movements do not necessarily mean equitable food systems. Learn from A Growing Culture on what actually needs to be done to change the food system.

▷ Understand how climate change affects fish/aquatic systems, ocean acidification and global food security, and why freshwater ecosystems are considered among the most threatened on the planet.

▷ Listen to episode #275 and #276 of the Green Dreamer podcast to learn more about decentralizing power in agriculture and regenerative agriculture legislation (Find more episodes here).

▷ Promote suburban agriculture in your community! This resource provides insight on creating suburban farms.

▷ Learn about regenerative agriculture and why it’s the next big thing. Listen to Mari Stuart, founder of Project Grounded for the lowdown.

▷ Help reduce food waste while also feeding those in need by working with organizations like The FarmLink Project who connect farmers with food banks. Transportation costs are covered in order to deliver fresh food to communities in need.

▷ Read about “Five Indigenous Farming Practices Enhancing Food Security” and connect with organizations mentioned in the piece. Follow the guidance of BIPOC farmer/gardeners here, too.
Protection of Land & Other Natural Resources

▷ **Shut Down the Climate-Busting Line 3 Tar Sands and Dakota Access Pipelines.**

▷ **Use this remote sensing tool** from The Environmental Defense Fund and Google to map local air pollution. Neighborhoods can use the data to reduce emissions and target communities most at risk for health issues.

▷ **Join The Wildlife Society in engaging with your Representatives** to communicate the importance of funding different wildlife conservation programs that impact their work. Each year, the U.S. [federal appropriations process](#) determines funding allocations for federal agencies that manage wildlife resources and administer grant programs for wildlife conservation. Funding provided through the congressional appropriations process enables wildlife professionals to provide on-the-ground support for wildlife populations and their habitat.

▷ **Help protect LA communities** from dangerous neighborhood oil drilling!

▷ **Raise your voice to protect North Carolinians from “forever chemicals”** in our drinking water.

▷ **Recognize that America’s public lands play a vital role** in protecting nature's biodiversity, wildlife migration corridors, Indigenous culture, and slowing the impacts of a changing climate. The more land we conserve the more resilient they will be and the United States has committed to protect at least 30% of our public lands and waters by 2030. Explore America’s [National Conservation Lands](#), and [volunteer with a community group](#) working to conserve these lands and more of them to help meet the 30% by 2030 goal.
Protection of Land & Other Natural Resources

- **Tell NOAA to Save North Atlantic Right Whales from Extinction.**
- **Call on the Biden Administration to Save America’s Largest Wild Forest.**
- **Use Native Land to learn** about what land you are currently on and understand, "Decolonization is not a metaphor." We must follow native leadership when crafting climate policies and approaches for Indigenous peoples are the original stewards of the land.
- **Sign a geohazard petition** from Citizens for a Healthy Community to protect all Coloradans from oil and gas spills.
- **Learn more about Native-led movements for land protection** (such as for *Mauna Kea* and the *Dakota Access Pipeline*) and support the organizations involved.
Renewable Energies

- **Read about the need for climate-focused agriculture policy** and take action [here](#).
- **Voice your support** for local clean energy projects in your community.
- **Teach kids about renewable energy** from a young age! You can even make [solar-powered s’mores](#).
- **Organize a fossil fuel divestment movement** at your college or university, or join a chapter that is already mobilizing!
- **Approach your utility company and local politicians** to implement or follow up on a schedule for renewable power adoption. See how your state is doing [here](#).
- **Talk with your landlord about how renewable energy** can save them money in the long run and improve the property.
Storytelling & Communications

- **Download the Climate Story Lab Toolbox** to engage in climate communication strategies and climate storytelling.

- **Watch NRDC's panel** “Beyond Apocalypse: Alternative Climate Futures in Film and TV” that brought together filmmakers & climate leaders to discuss how entertainment stories can help us see, feel, and build the climate future we want.

- **Follow climate scientists and experts** to stay in the know on important climate news, policies and actions.

- **Join Creators for Justice** and support climate-justice groups that need pro-bono creative assistance.

- **Understand “why every city needs a climate storyteller”** and envision how your skills can be used to create media that incorporates climate storytelling.

- **Document** the physical and emotional effects of climate change over time. This can be used as an educational tool and could result as a photo series, multimedia project, or even a short film such as *Lowland Kids*.

- **Read and share personal climate stories** from Our Climate Voices to help raise awareness about how climate change is personally impacting communities.

- Have a story to tell about how you’re making a difference in climate issues in your community? **Submit your story to Passport to Change** to share how your work is aligning with the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to read the stories and insights of other youth climate activists from around the world.
Technology & STEMM

▷ Increase equity and access in STEMM education, especially for communities that are disproportionately affected by climate change. *Here’s an example* of a STEMM after school program.

▷ For teachers: *bring space, our universe, and our planet into your classroom.*

▷ Learn more about IoT devices and innovative initiatives to combat climate change (*Interact, IoT for all*).

▷ *Read this Vox article* to learn about the International Energy Agency’s technological innovations to achieve net-zero carbon emissions and recommendations for how to move forward.

▷ *Study the areas of STEMM and technology* that speak most to your interests and experiences to better support research and development in those sectors.

▷ *Request help from a woman in STEMM* through *500 Women Scientists*: a resource for journalists, educators, policy makers, scientists, and anyone needing scientific expertise.

▷ *Advocate for the regulation of social media misinformation* on climate change. You can increase your media literacy and take action *here*.

▷ *Apply to grants* that support research to understand and combat climate change. Check out the US Environmental Protection Agency’s *grants* and ClimateWork’s *grants database*.

▷ *Learn more about climate indicators* from this *interactive ArcGIS StoryMap* created by the World Meteorological Organization.
THANK YOU to the following organizations for their contributions to the Action Guide:

- 350.org
- 500 Women Scientists
- Action Network
- ACUA (Atlantic County Utilities Authority)
- ADEQ (Arizona Dept of Environmental Quality)
- Afterschool Alliance
- Agricultural Marketing Service
- American Community Garden Association
- BBC
- Because Water
- Bevi

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Sources & Thank Yous

- Center for Urban Education about Sustainable Agriculture
- Citizens for a Healthy Community
- Clean Grid Alliance
- CleanRiver
- Climate Generation
- Climate Justice Alliance
- Climate Nexus
- Climate Stories Project
- Conservation Lands Foundation
- Creative Industries Pact
- Creators for Justice
- Curbed
- Doc Society
- Ducksters
- Earth Guardians
- Earth Day
- Eartheasy
- Earth Justice
- Eco-cycle
- Eco Watch
- EdSurge
- EESI (Environmental & Energy Study Institute)
- ENERGY STAR
- US Department of Energy
- Environmental Defense Fund

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- EPA (US Environmental Protection Agency)
- Farmer Rishi
- FeltMagnet
- For the Wild
- Fridays for Future
- Future Coalition
- Gizmodo
- Global Children's Campaign
- Global Climate Strike
- Google Project Sunroof
- Green America
- Green Dreamer
- Green School Alliance
- Hotpads Blog
- Interact
- Intersectional Environmentalist
- International Indigenous Youth Council (IIYC)
- Intuit Turbo
- IoT For All
- IvyWise
- Jamie Margolin, Youth to Power
- Kiss the Ground
- League of Conservation Voters
- Live Science
- Milkweed
- Movement Generation
- NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

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Sources & Thank Yous

- National CleanUp Day
- National Park Service
- National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
- Native Land
- NOAA (National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration)
- NRDC
- One Green Planet
- Our Climate Voices
- Package Free Shop
- Project Grounded
- Rainforest Alliance
- Regeneration International
- Resilience
- Rodale Institute
- Schools for Climate Action
- Science Based Targets
- Scientific American
- Stop the Money Pipeline
- Sunrise Movement
- The Farmlink Project
- The Local Food Source
- The New York Times
- The Washington Post
- Trash is For Tossers
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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SOURCES & THANK YOUS

- Union of Concerned Scientists
- USA.gov
- USGC (US Geological Survey)
- Vox
- Wellness Mama
- Working Films
- World Wildlife Fund
- XR Youth US
- Yale Insights
- Zero Hour

Join the movement!
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