

Climate Emergency Campaign

The goal of the Climate Emergency Campaign is to compel governments to adopt an emergency response to climate change and the broader ecological crisis.

Climate change is a fact.

<https://climate.nasa.gov/>

<https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/climate-change/>

<https://www.theclimatemobilization.org/>

We've been hearing about climate change for quite a while. Some measures have been taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in this country and around the world.

However, the reduction of emissions is not occurring as a concerted effort, nor quickly enough. Damage is occurring...global temperature is rising, ice sheets are melting, extreme weather events are occurring regularly, droughts are more prevalent, the ocean is rising and acidifying, plant cycles are shifting, species ranges are moving...life as we knew it is changing.

The window of opportunity to salvage our existing way of life is closing, while certain major companies are doing business as usual and politicians are wringing their hands or placating big business. There is no time left for multi-decade transition scenarios. At this late hour, targets based around 2050, or calls for only zero emissions (without drawdown and cooling), are clearly not sufficient.

WHAT MUST BE DONE

We must acknowledge that we are in a **state of emergency** and the federal government must lead a concerted effort to reduce emissions, achieve cooling, and maintain life. An effort such as that which the United States put into effect during World War II is needed. A mobilization on this scale is the only rational response to the level of economic, security and social risks posed by climate change.

HOW WE GET THERE

❖ Have our town/county governments to pass emergency declarations.

➤ The towns and counties then:

- Pass declarations of Climate Emergency with commitment to reach zero emissions and begin carbon drawdown at emergency speed (10 years or less)(sample statements are available at the Climate Mobilization website).
- Local elected leaders become advocates for emergency Climate Mobilization to the public, to other cities, and to state and national gov'ts.
- Develop and implement mobilization policy locally, after declaration is passed.

❖ Have our House and Senate representatives push for a national Climate Emergency Declaration.

The Climate Mobilization has suggested a Victory Plan to achieve what is needed. (<https://www.theclimatemobilization.org/victory-plan>). It tangibly demonstrates how the U.S. could eliminate net greenhouse gas emissions by 2025, contribute to a global effort to restore a safe climate and reverse ecological overshoot through a massive WWII-scale mobilization. While specific activities may vary, without this level of response, we will see a descent through cascading climate change induced crises with military conflict, accelerating costs, massive refugee flows, nations collapsing and global food crises as the world spirals down into economic and social collapse.

A climate mobilization, by contrast, could result in enormous reductions in the loss of life, huge economic benefits including innovation, technology and massive job creation and all while leaving us with a much better quality of life. And it will do so with exciting new technologies like electric cars and batteries that engage and enthuse people. It will leave our energy costs lower and supplies more secure, our cities cleaner, more people employed, our health improved and our world more united by common purpose.

The proposed Climate Mobilization Victory Plan would:

- Restore a Safe and Stable Climate
- Reverse Ecological Overshoot
- Halt the Sixth Mass Extinction (current highly elevated levels of 10-100 extinctions per million species per year)
- De-acidify the Oceans
- Realize the Four Freedoms of the 21st Century
 - I. Right to a healthy and stable global environment
 - II. Right to healthy food, clean air and clean drinking water
 - III. Right to life-affirming work at a living wage
 - IV. Right to full democratic participation in government and at the workplace

TOWN OF ABERDEEN RESOLUTION: DECLARATION OF A CLIMATE EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, in April 2016 leaders from 175 countries recognized the threat of climate change and the urgent need to combat it by signing the Paris Agreement;

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2018, the United Nations released a special report which projected that limiting warming to 1.5°C this century will require an unprecedented transformation of the global economy over the next 12 years;

WHEREAS, the United States of America has disproportionately contributed to this climate change and thus bears more responsibility to address this crisis;

WHEREAS, the Earth is already too hot as evidenced by increased and intensifying wildfires, floods, rising seas, droughts and extreme weather;

WHEREAS, restoring a safe and stable climate requires an emergency mobilization to rapidly and safely draw down excess carbon from the atmosphere, and to implement measures to protect all people and species from the consequences of climate change;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Town of Aberdeen declares that a climate emergency threatens our town, county, state, nation, and world;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town urges leaders at every level of government to commit to a climate emergency mobilization effort to reverse global warming and end greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town urges governmental leaders to commit to educating our residents about the climate emergency and the mobilization effort at the local, state, national, and global levels;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Council directs that an all-staff meeting be held to educate town staff on the latest climate science and the mobilization of resources needed in response within two weeks of the date of this resolution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Council directs all Town Departments, proprietaries, and commissions to report back within 60 days of the date of the all-staff meeting referenced above on maximum emergency reductions in green house gas emissions from their operations feasible by the end of 2030;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Council directs Town Departments to report back within 90 days on the feasibility for the rapid phase out of fossil fuel production, power generation, and use within Aberdeen limits, including immediate changes to building codes, local ordinances, and permitting processes to prevent the construction of new local fossil fuel infrastructure;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town underscores the need for full community participation, inclusion, and support, and recognizes that the residents of Aberdeen and members of community organizations, faith-based, youth, labor, business, academic institutions, and other such community allies will be integral to and provide leadership of the mobilization effort;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town commits to engaging our residents in public deliberations on the climate emergency, which will directly inform the creation of the Aberdeen Climate Mobilization Action Plan in order to accomplish this town-wide climate mobilization effort and to ensure a just transition with the full democratic participation of the residents of Aberdeen;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town commits to keeping the concerns of frontline and marginalized central to all Climate Emergency Mobilization program planning processes and to inviting and encouraging such communities to actively participate in the development and implementation of this Climate Mobilization Action Plan and all climate mobilization efforts;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Town calls on the State of New Jersey, the United States Congress, the President of the United States, and all governments and people worldwide to declare a climate emergency, initiate a Climate Mobilization to reverse global warming and the ecological crisis, and provide maximum protection for all people and species of the world; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Aberdeen Town Clerk shall forward this resolution to Monmouth County Freeholder Director Thomas A. Arnone, Freeholder Deputy Director Susan M. Kiley, Freeholder Lillian G. Burry, Freeholder Patrick Impreveduto, and Freeholder Nick DiRocco; Monmouth County Administrator Teri O'Connor; NJ Senator Declan O'Scanlon, NJ Assemblywoman Serena DiMaso and Assemblyman Gerard Scharfenberger; Congressman Frank Pallone; Senator Cory Booker, Senator Bob Menendez, and Governor Phil Murphy.

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