

Challenging Our Leaders to Act On Climate

Tell Albany it's time to Act on Climate! New Yorkers need our leaders to:

- Adopt a law that cuts climate pollution, sets firm standards for clean energy and increases the energy efficiency of our homes and businesses;
- Ramp up the use of clean solar and wind energy while moving us away from dirty fossil fuels of the past;
- Set safeguards that protect public health, the environment, and our economy; and,
- Ensure that New York leads the nation by setting standards that cover all sectors of our economy.

Text
CLIMATE
NY
to 52886
to sign our
petition!

Call to Act on Climate

In late June, the Pope issued an encyclical that challenged world leaders to accept that humans are causing climate change and that we all have a moral obligation to act. President Obama has called for action, yet congressional leaders have sought to block it. Governor Cuomo has made aggressive commitments to tackle the challenge, yet New York State has been slow to develop a comprehensive plan of action.

Environmental Advocates has been leading the push for all levels of government to address climate change, along with supporting action at the federal and international level. Committing to sustainable communities, clean power, energy efficiency, resiliency planning, the wise use of local resources, and aggressively supporting New York's role within the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) are some of the solutions we support.

Climate Change is Hurting People

Climate change impacts us all. From Long Island to Buffalo, New Yorkers have experienced the economic, environmental, health, housing, transportation and agricultural impacts of our changing climate. Extreme weather events, prolonged heat waves and rising sea levels are taking their toll. While there is a lot of momentum internationally to address climate change, we must call on New York leaders to act. Now is the time for our state to become a national leader, ensuring sound climate policy that protects our environment and our communities.

To address the impacts of climate change, Governor Cuomo has announced a state goal of reducing climate disrupting pollution by at least 40% of 1990 levels by 2030 and an overall pollution goal of an 80% cut by 2050. The Governor's plan also establishes an aggressive target of producing 50% of the state's energy needs by the year 2030. Meeting these goals will be challenging, but is critically important.

Governor Cuomo should establish New York as the climate leader by enshrining the state's climate pollution reduction and clean energy goals into law and developing an economy-wide roadmap to guide climate actions



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related to energy, infrastructure, manufacturing, transportation, community development, agriculture, and industrial, commercial and residential energy efficiency. A strong plan will raise the bar on both climate action and social equity, and guide us to a future where New Yorkers' needs are met by a system that is more efficient, relies on more renewable sources and dedicates resources to communities already disproportionately impacted by our changing climate and poor air quality.

New Yorkers cannot afford to wait any longer. Environmental Advocates and our partners are calling on Governor Cuomo and the Legislature to place our pollution and clean energy mandates into law and give New Yorkers a plan that leads us to safe and sustainable climate future.

Five Steps

1. **Text ClimateNY to 52886** to sign the petition for a Climate Action Plan.
2. **Raise awareness** about climate change in your community by **talking** to friends and family, **writing** a letter to the editor, and **calling** your locally elected officials and **asking** them to act on climate. Don't know what to say or who represents you? Send us a note at info@eany.org, we're here to help!
3. **Save Energy.** It sounds simple, but action starts in our own lives. Turn off lights and electronics when you're not using them, power strips can help reduce electricity when switched off.
4. **Energy inefficient buildings** are among the biggest sources of climate pollution so get an energy audit for your household. **Make the decision today** to switch to a programmable thermostat that can better control heating and cooling, and also switch to energy efficient LED lights, among other energy saving measures.
5. **In your community**, walk or ride a bike for short trips or use public transportation instead of your car. **Reuse or recycle** containers, paper, plastic, glass, and cans. Use reusable bags when you shop and choose locally produced food and products over those shipped from far away.