

ELECTRIFY YOUR LIFE

What Individuals Can Do to Help Avert the Climate Crisis

Green Sanctuary Event 1-12-2020

1. Become an advocate for Action on the climate crisis and take action NOW!
2. The possibility of runaway global warming will be settled by the events of 2020.
3. Most important: Stop or Minimize use of all fossil fuels - especially natural gas.
4. Assure your town's electricity is 100% fossil free - and electrify everything you can.
5. GOLD STANDARD GREENING ACTIONS:

- i. Seal and super insulate your home and windows.
- ii. Add PV solar panels (with a Tesla battery); and keep the RECs
- iii. And/or buy Renewable Energy Credits to offset your emissions
- iv. Cook on an electric stove
- v. Heat your home; water and clothes dryer with electric heat pumps and/or solar thermal panels.
- vi. Drive an electric vehicle; or plug in Hybrid; or standard Hybrid.
- vii. Change your lifestyle as outlined below.

6. IF YOU ARE USING NATURAL GAS

Know these truths about natural gas (90+% Methane; 40% Fracked):

- i. Methane (CH₄), free in the air, is 80 time worse than CO₂ as a GHG
- ii. Fugitive emissions at well site, pipeline, storage and distribution are > 3%.
This makes gas as bad for GW as coal and a poor choice as a transitional fuel.
- iii. Fracking for gas depletes and contaminates local water; causes illness among nearby residents and damages homes from related earthquakes.
- iv. Burning gas in poorly ventilated homes causes asthma, lung and heart disease, and poses risks of lethal explosions.
- v. The release of methane and CO₂ from permafrost in the Arctic - as it warms, and from the cattle, dairy, food waste and agricultural industries – are among our greatest dangers.
- vi. Curtailing use of natural gas and release of methane is the quickest way to slow global warming, and discourage expanding pipeline infrastructure.

7. TO MINIMIZE YOUR USE OF NATURAL GAS:

Use an induction-based hotplate as an alternative to your gas burners. Induction is as fast as gas, twice as efficient (no heat loss around the pot), more precise to control and safer. Add assisting heat pumps to heat selected rooms.

8. Know and avoid the lifestyle products and foods that drive deforestation in the rainforests of the Amazon and Indonesia; the Boreal forest of the Arctic, and forests in general; by the cattle, palm oil; and soft-paper product industries. (See Below)

LIFESTYLE CHANGES: (See footnotes*)

- 9 Reduce or eliminate Air travel. Vacation locally. Drive less; bicycle and walk more. Buy renewable energy credits to off-set travel emissions.*
10. Use public land transportation for long distance travel
11. Divest your investment portfolio of fossil fuel securities {over five years}.*
12. Divest your portfolio of banks funding high risk petroleum drilling projects.*
13. Reduce your dietary intake of red meat, dairy products, Increase Vegetarian.*
14. Reduce use of palm oil containing foods and cosmetics
15. Reduce food waste, compost personally or find an outsource
16. Use recycled personal use paper goods.*
17. Recycle, Repair, Reuse, and Reduce consumption. Unplug electronics.
18. Avoid packaging that can't be recycled and will be incinerated esp plastics
19. Reduce single item online purchases needing special delivery.
20. Become involved with national, state and local politics of global warming
21. Support your local Town Meeting Warrant to study pathway to Net Zero emissions.
22. Join advocacy groups such as 350MA; Mass Climate Action Network; Conservation Law Foundation; Sunrise Movement and others supporting Green New Deal nationally. Participate! Donate!
23. Subscribe on-line to Inside Climate News

***Footnotes:**

#9 Air Travel is the most carbon intensive means of travel. Offsets that create renewable energy in MA are described here: (blog on Carbon Emission Offsets for Jet Travel)

(<https://blog.greenenergyconsumers.org/blog/carbon-impacts-of-flying-got-you-down?> The place to go for off-sets: www.jetsetoffset.com)

#11&12 The World's Atmosphere is over saturated with CO2. We're on a pathway to runaway global heating. Major oil companies and the banks supporting them plan to harvest reserves that should stay in ground. Boycott, protest or divest these banks: JP Morgan Chase, Wells Fargo, BOA, Citibank, TD, US Bank. For personal banking use Discovery; Capitol One; Hingham Inst for Savings; Southshore Bank; Rockland Trust

#13 The raising of cattle for meat is driving deforestation in the Amazon and palm oil and coffee in SE Asia; ruminants are a significant source of methane (GH gas) emissions, agricultural support of meat industry is "high emission high pollution".

#16 Charmin like products are destroying Boreal forest (a key Carbon sink). Use Green Forest; 365; 7th Generation; Earth 1st; Natural Value; or Trader Joe's