

Climate Change

Climate Change is the phenomenon of the heating of our earth's surface mostly caused by greenhouse gasses such as CO2 that trap the heat in the earth's atmosphere.

Facts You Should Know

1. Every gallon of gasoline or diesel fuel burned releases about 22 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO2) into the atmosphere.
2. A national recycling rate of 30% reduces greenhouse gas emissions as much as removing almost 25 million cars from the road.
3. Each glass bottle we recycle saves enough energy to light an 11 watt compact florescent light bulb for 20 hours.
4. Each ton of paper that is recycled saves 17 trees.
5. Recycling benefits water and air because it creates a net reduction in 10 major categories of air pollutants and in 8 major categories of water pollutants.
6. Recycling 1 aluminum can saves enough energy to power a TV for 3 hours.

Climate Change May Be One of the Greatest Threats Facing the Planet!

Extreme Heat • Extreme Drought
Extreme Weather Patterns • Loss of Agriculture • Loss of Livestock • Increase in Winter Rainfall • Poor Air Quality, (Creating Increase in Respiratory and Heart Disease) • Sea Levels are Rising

Learn More about Climate Change

www.iclei.org
www.pewclimate.org
www.mwco.org/environment
www.epa.gov/climatechange

Climate Change Team

The George Washington University Regional Executive Development Program - Cohort 6

Dennis Bailey, MWCOG
Justin Clarke, Arlington County
Kathleen Schramm, City of Alexandria
Laurie Wilson, Prince William County
Lupita Marcos-Rubio, Fairfax County
Needham Kelly, Jr., Fairfax County

Sponsor

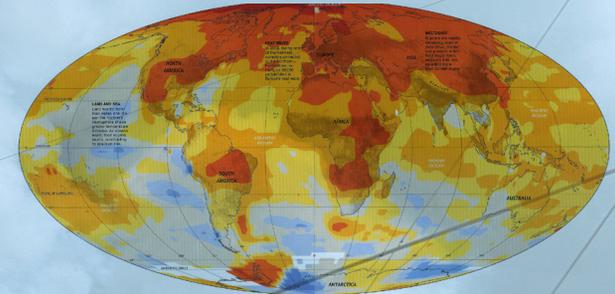
*Department of Environmental Programs,
MWCOG*



Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments



Climate Change



Think Globally - Lead Locally

November 7, 2007

The level of CO₂ is rising.

Causes

Exhaust Fumes



Power Plants



Effects

Hurricanes



Sea Levels Rising



Human Health



Think Globally - Lead Locally



The National Capital Region can become a **LEADER** in Mitigating Climate Change and Reducing CO₂.

Steps to Climate Change Leadership: Goals for COG Members by 2010:

1. All COG Members Join a National or International Climate Change Group
2. Implement Climate Change Educational Programs
3. Establish Regular Climate Change Summits for Residents and Businesses
4. Create a National Capital Region Climate Change Action Alliance

Benchmarks of Success In 2015:

1. All COG Members Establish CO₂ Emissions Baseline
2. 25% of Purchased Energy is from Renewable Sources
3. 100% Alternative Fuel/Hybrid for Fleet Replacement
4. 50% of Waste Stream is Recycled

What the Region is doing.

Transportation



More than 50% have Clean Fuel Replacement Programs
More than 60% have Telecommuting Programs

Land Use



More than 80% have Transit Oriented Development Initiatives
More than 60% have Green Infrastructure Plans

Renewable Energy



More than 33% are using Renewable Energy
The Range for the Consumption of Wind Power is 3% - 10%

Outreach & Education



More than 30% have Outreach Programs to Residents
Less than 20% have Outreach Programs to Businesses

Solid Waste



100% have Recycling Programs
More than 33% have Waste to Energy Facilities

Energy Efficiency



50% have Energy Star Programs
More than 50% use Compact Fluorescent Lighting

