

BELFAST FREE LIBRARY

ALL OF BELFAST CLIMATE DIALOGUES

Funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services

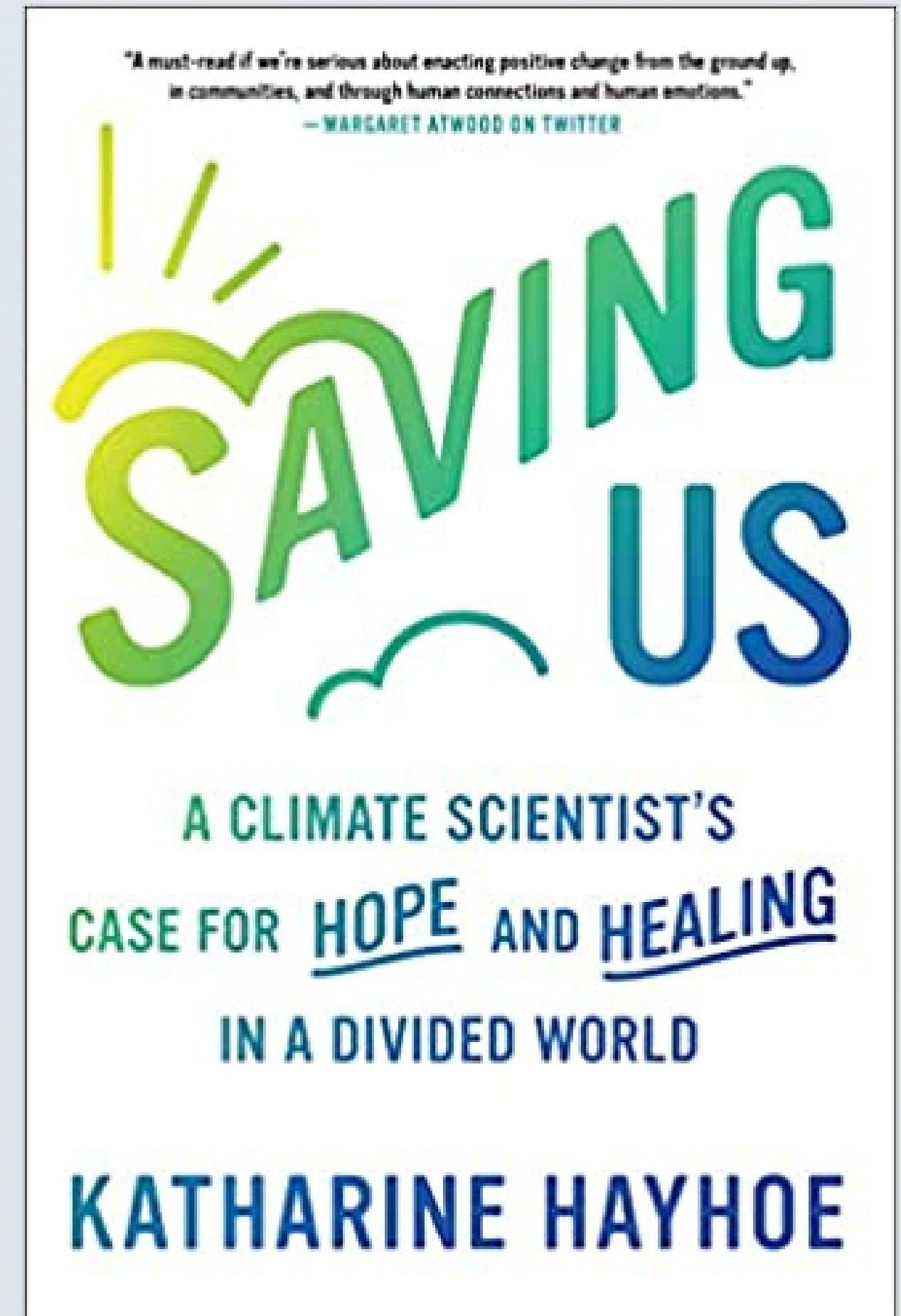


Sustainable Communities Day ~ June 1st, 2023

Project inspirations

"The most important thing you can do to fight climate change: talk about it."

- Katharine Hayhoe, Climate Scientist



Why talk about climate change?

"Individuals, communities, and societies come to understand, care and act on climate change through their communication with others."

- Yale Program on Climate Change Communication



ABCD PROJECT GOALS

ENGAGE

Engage broad cross-section of Belfast in talking about climate

EDUCATE

Curate high-quality education materials regarding climate change

DISCUSS

Develop programs to normalize conversation on climate

DOCUMENT

Archive Belfast residents' ideas and priorities regarding climate change

ENGAGE



Community Roundup of Belfast Springtime Events & Actions Addressing Climate Change

Happy Spring! As you'll see in this issue, there is a great deal of spring-like energy and excitement in Belfast for learning about, talking about, and doing something about climate change.

If you know of other events, please share them with us at abcd@belfastlibrary.org. And please share your experiences of getting involved with any of the events & activities below!



Help raise funds to install refillable water bottle stations in Belfast



'Stop Funding Fossil Fuels' Belfast rally on Tuesday, 3/21

The Creation Care Committee of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Belfast, has announced a public financial access request. These single-use plastic bottles are a major source of pollution.



Penobscot Bay Stewards program application (deadline March 31)

To make tourist raise a

The Penobscot Bay Stewards, a signature program of Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition, invites applications for the 2023 program. The program will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays between May 9 and June 15 and is free of charge.

You can fiscal agency Parks, a

Your do

Mail the Friends PO Box Belfast, (Include

It only requires a good pair of shoes and an eagerness to learn about a range of topics including Penobscot Bay history, marine habitats, the culture of the Wabanaki, water quality, and current regional issues with environmental impact.

Learn more and apply at belfastbaywatershed.org/pen-bay-stewards.

Application deadline is March 31.

Four U.S. banks - Bank of America, Citibank, Chase, Wells Fargo - lead the world in funding



"Rx for a Chaotic Climate: Healthy Soils" ~ Belfast Garden Club lecture on Tuesday 3/28

In recent years, Mainers have noticed chaotic weather patterns caused by climate change. State representative and soil scientist Laurie Osher will discuss practices that preserve and enhance soil organic matter to increase sequestration of carbon in soils. She will outline bills she's worked on to improve land management to decrease climate change impacts on our \$3.6 billion agricultural industry. She will speak about helping communities in Penobscot, Piscataquis and Aroostook counties obtain funding from the state so they can become more resilient to climate changes.

Tuesday, March 28 at 6:30 PM on Zoom

Learn more and register for the Zoom link at belfastlibrary.org/abcd-events

Co-sponsored by Belfast Garden Club and ABCD.

"Walk & Roll Belfast" Group

What's a Active Transit aka Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan?



A new group called "Walk & Roll Belfast" is being created to help citizens create more active transit in our community.

SIGN UP to learn more: Send your email address to walkandrollbelfast@gmail.com to be added to the list!

Learn more about active transit from the Belfast Pedestrian, Biking & Hiking Committee, and what's happening in Belfast with transportation: abcdbelfast.omeka.net/items/show/134

EDUCATE

BELFAST FREE LIBRARY

ABOUT

RESOURCES

KIDS & TEENS

EVENTS

ALL OF BELFAST: CLIMATE DIALOGUES

SERVICES

SUPPORT THE LIBRARY

Serving the community of Belfast since 1887



Climate Change Basics

Watch Dr. Katharine Hayhoe’s PBS Global Weirding series



Just how long have we known about climate change anyways?
Learn some surprising things about the history of climate change science.



All the extreme weather we've had lately isn't anything new, right?
Learn the key differences between climate change and weather, and learn more about why scientists are concerned.



I Live in the Eastern US - Does Climate Change Matter to Me?
Climate change will not impact all regions of the globe in the same ways. Learn how climate change is expected to impact the East coast of the U.S.



Maine’s Climate Future: The Role of Carbon Management in Farms and Forests with Dr. Ivan Fernandez



Tuesday, January 25th
6:30 PM on Zoom



Browntail Moth & Emerald Ash Borer in Waldo County

Tuesday, February 1st
6:30 PM on Zoom



Finding Hope in the Face of Climate Change

Tuesday, November 30th
6:30 PM on Zoom



A presentation by Susan B. Inches, author of *Advocating for the Environment: How to Gather Your Power and Take Action*



Hosted by All of Belfast: Climate Dialogues (ABCD), a project of the Belfast Free Library.

Celebrating Our Adventures on Earth: Fireside Chat



Wednesday, April 20th
7:00 PM at Waterfall Arts



Deep Woods: How Climate Change Impacts Forests & How Forests Slow Climate Change



Tuesday, March 22nd
6:30 PM on Zoom



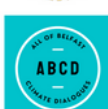
Community Composting: Panel Discussion

Tuesday, February 28th
6:30 PM on Zoom



Landscape of Change with Catherine Schmitt, Schoodic Institute

Tuesday, January 24th
6:30 PM on Zoom



Rain Gardens and Other Water Management Techniques for Your Property

Thursday, February 2nd
6:00 PM on Zoom



TALK ABOUT IT

abcd46 + 10 22d


Waldo County Climate Change Symposium: Preparing for Tomorrow

Please add your thoughts and comments!

What each org is doing to respond to climate change

abcd46 27d

Maine Won't Wait - keynote presentation by Dr. Cassandra Rose



PDF

220122_CRose_GOPIF_BelfastClimateSymposium

A few of the resources I

What did you hear that surprised or inspired you?

Chip Curry 1mo

I'm inspired by how many diverse organizations understand their mission to include combatting climate change.

3

Add comment

Chip Curry 1mo

Building Social Norms in Waldo County

I wonder how this group can

New ideas, thoughts & questions sparked!

Anonymous 1mo

Urban Forestry

Fred Bowers. Climate Crisis Committee. I've been thinking that if would be beneficial to devise an array of plants, from pollinators to shrubs, to large trees. These arrays could function as shade, carbon sequestration and also habitat. We could use some assistance to determine these arrays that are appropriate to the climate of now and the future. We could advise people to plant these arrays.

2

Add comment

Anonymous 1mo

The Psychology of Disaster and Climate Change - Psy 333 - Dr. Corlew, UMA

Dr. Corlew has focused her

Common themes toward a common vision

abcd46 1mo

Bringing people together around common values

PerJerry Brand: Window Dressers; bringing people together who would not normally work together

0

Add comment

Anonymous 1mo

Maine Environmental Priorities Coalition Common Agenda 2022

<https://protectmaine.org/epc/priorities/2022>


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Add comment

Next steps?

Anonymous 1mo

Building capacity -young leaders unite!



ISLAND LEADERSHIP EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Young Leaders Series

eventbrite.com 7 - MARCH 7, 2022

Young Leaders Series 2022

The Island Institute is hosting the 2022 Young Leaders Series featuring four virtual, interactive sessions exploring key aspects of leadership. Sessions are open to all high school and college students, as well as recent graduates. The 4-week series will offer participants the opportunity to actively take part in each discussion and also leave the sessions with a peer-reviewed action plan for creating change in their own communities. To register visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/you>

Safari File Edit View History Bookmarks Window Help

Zoom Meeting

kendra caruso kris hughes Misty Mallar Emma Moess...

kendra caruso Brenda Harrington, B... kris hughes Misty Mallar Emma Moesswilde

Recording

Noami Brautigam (she/her)

Daisy Beal

Michael Bahner

Sarah Kirn

Chat

the percent is growing or decreasing?

Daisy Beal to Everyone 7:29 PM

DB https://mco.umaine.edu/ageye/index_v5.php

Barbara check Maine Farmland Trust for stats but I be there are more and more organic farms at small scale

Barbara Bell to Everyone 7:31 PM

BB Thanks

Gerald Brand to Everyone 7:33 PM

GB we will see more intense rainfall; water control will be more important: ponds for source

Brenda Harrington, Belfast Free Library 7:33 PM to Everyone

Noami, do you heat your tunnels?

Daisy Beal to Everyone 7:33 PM

DB <https://www.adaptationfellows.net/>

Noami Brautigam (she/her) to Everyone 7:34 PM

NB No- we do not heat our high tunnels, but are very jealous of the Bahner's wood boiler

Who can see your messages? Recording On

To: Everyone

Type message here



COMMUNITY CLIMATE CONVERSATIONS

City of Belfast
Climate Crisis Committee



What should be in Belfast's Climate Action Plan?

ALL OF BELFAST: CLIMATE DIALOGUES

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Browse Items (102 total)

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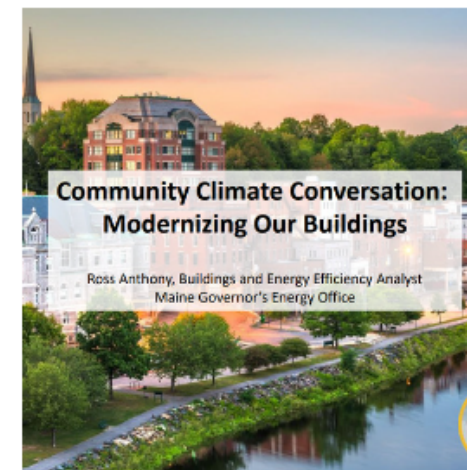
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Community Climate Conversations



Community Climate
Conversation: The Future of
Transportation in Belfast &
Waldo County

ABCD Team, Belfast Pedestrian,
Biking & Hiking Committee,
Belfast Climate Crisis Committee,
February 9, 2023



Community Climate
Conversation: Modernizing
Our Homes & Buildings

ABCD Team, Belfast Climate
Crisis Committee, December 8,
2022

**"Waldo County - Engaging the
Community on Climate Action"
Brown Bag Lunch Discussions**

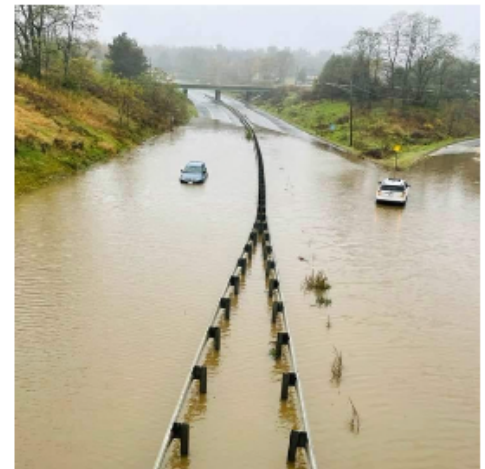
Part of the "Season of Creation: An Invitation to
Celebration & Community Conversations" series,
sponsored by St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church &
St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, in collaboration with
the Greater Bay Area Ministerium.

Tuesday, September 20
12:00 Noon
at Belfast Free Library



"Waldo County - Engaging
the Community on Climate
Action" Brown Bag Lunch
Discussion

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic
Church, St. Margaret's Episcopal
Church, Greater Bay Area
Ministerium, September 12, 2022



Community Climate
Conversation: Building
Resilience for Big Storms and
Flooding

Belfast Climate Crisis Committee,
ABCD Team, October 18, 2022

Public Discussion on Belfast Climate Action Plan ~ June 14, 2022

50+ participants



- Visioning exercise
- Decision-making power?
- Transportation & land use topics
- Solutions that are equitable for all

Daydream

Car-free lifestyle

Big walk area + bike

New neighbors

Everyone involved, engaged

Old growth forest

Vibrant ecosystems

Net zero homes for all

Cleaned up industrial spaces

Electric Transport + energy

BRAINSTORMING IDEAS FOR ACTION

1. Things individuals can do themselves?
2. Things people can work on together?
3. Things that need policy change and/or significant fundraising to accomplish.



Building Resilience for Big Storms & Flooding ~ October 18, 2022

- Who's responsible for stormwater runoff?
- Replace impervious surfaces like paved driveways w/ permeable ones
- Rain barrels
- Create public rain garden & use for education
- Be a good neighbor
- Belfast City Council approved stormwater drainage system study



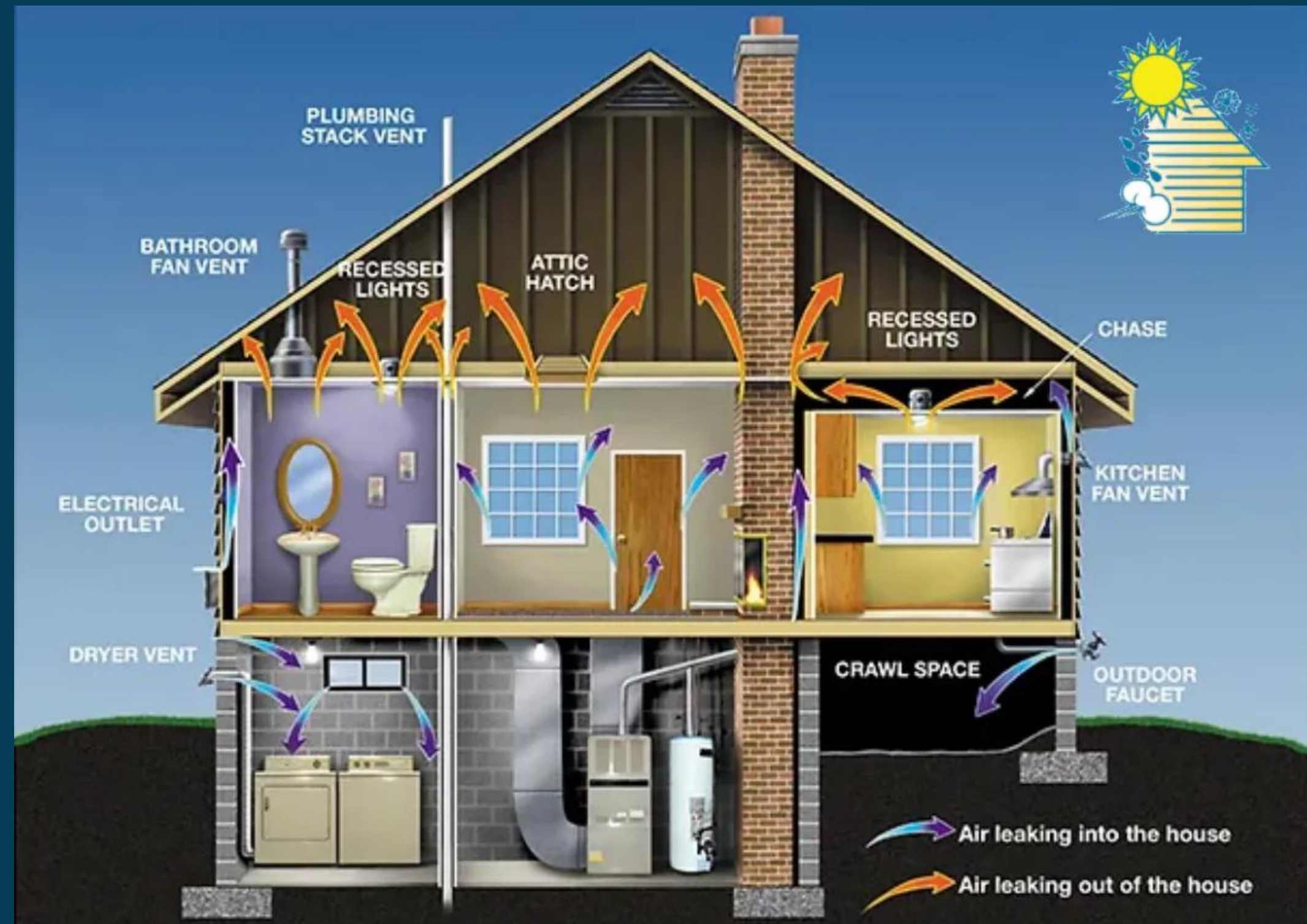
Modernizing Our Homes & Buildings ~ December 8, 2022



Ross Anthony
Buildings and Energy Efficiency Analyst
Maine Governor's Energy Office



Naomi Albert
Project Manager, Comprehensive Building
Solutions Program at A Climate To Thrive



Major takeaways:

- People know they should weatherize their homes, but don't know what to do
- Lack of awareness of incentives
- Not enough trained contractors

Modernizing Our Homes & Buildings ~ December 8, 2022

Good brainstorming discussion on things we
can do individually & together:

Things we'd like City of Belfast to do:

- Hire a Sustainability Director
- Integrate climate considerations into Comprehensive Plan
- Join Community Resilience Partnership
- Set specific goal for carbon pollution reduction
- Rework budget to reflect climate risks

THINGS WE CAN DO TOGETHER

- Window Dressers - VT, NH, MA + ME
 - \$40-45 / window
 - Volunteer effort, yr-round org
- Weatherization campaign - model from ACTT
 - Share info - door-to-door
 - Choose contractor
 - Dr Volume discount
 - Need: volunteers, contractor communication
- Home open-house tour on efficiency measures ala garden tour
 - Seattle's "Green homes" tour - big deal
- Active outreach to homes/folks in great need of weatherization
 - ⚡ - crowdsource this list of names?
- Outreach
 - High School
 - Farmers Market
 - (Climate Symposium attendees)
 - churches
- Building codes - ME adopted 2017 Energy Code - mandatory 4K people

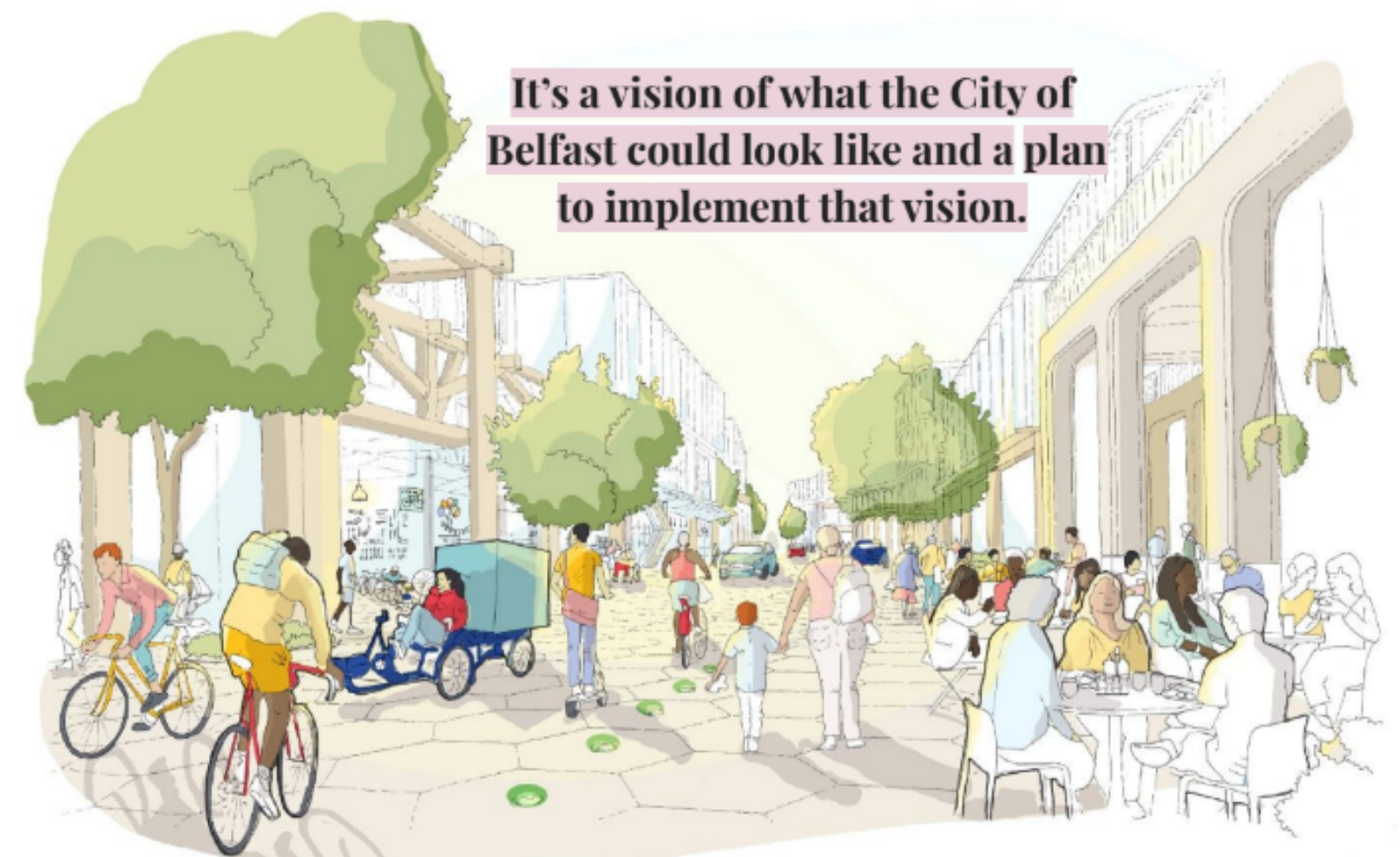
The Future of Transportation in Waldo County ~ February 9, 2023

Major takeaways:

- Energy & excitement!
- Vision & actions of Pedestrian, Biking & Hiking Committee, Waldo CAP & CCC
- Need for leadership
- Need a "culture shift"
- "Diversity of mobility options" serving different populations



What's a Active Transit aka Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan?



The Future of Transportation in Waldo County ~ February 9, 2023

- Transport by water; coastal ferries?
- Community layouts of 100 yrs ago
- Adjust road care for ped/bike
- Close some streets to cars in summer?
- Public transit for tourists
- Ridesharing community
- Beautify & make intersections safer
- Electric bikes & golf carts
- Idling ordinance
- Relationships w/ DOT
- Accessible public transportation
- GO MAINE free program



ARCHIVE

Community Climate Conversation: The Future of Transportation in Belfast & Waldo County



Community discussion highlights

After Cara's presentation, attendees largely focused on the concept she outlined, **"active transit"** (defined as "any mode of human powered transportation" - walking, biking, wheelchair or other ability device, skateboarding, etc.). We talked about rethinking our expectations and habits about how we get around, and how we might work toward a **"diversity of mobility options" to serve different populations.**

Here are some highlights from the engaged attendee discussion (which begins at approximately 46:00 in the [recording](#)). Photos of our community discussion flip chart notes are also included on this page.

- **Boating** - transport by water! Please give your input on the [Belfast Harbor Small Boat Survey](#) - planning for small boat access & tie-ups for commuters
- Looking back on the **community layouts of 100 years ago**, with clustered patchwork of "service nodes" within a certain distance, meeting people's needs for stores, milling, etc. (Think of all the place names like "___ Mill", or "___ Corner"). Could some version of this have a place in current day zoning - perhaps "mini cities" within 15 minutes walking distance of each other?
- **Municipalities can support year-round active transportation (not just car-centric):** Adjust road care regimen to include ped/bike transportation (e.g. not plowing snow into ped/bike lanes)
- Think about transportation for us... and transportation for tourists. Take note of the **"Slow tourism / slow travel"** trend.
- **Idea to close some city streets to car traffic in summer?** Maybe closing one of the parallel streets? Experiment with temporary setups / demonstrations to see what works. Help tourists get around with



ir, of the Belfast Climate Crisis Committee talks to two people who came to the Introduc
% Initiative in October 2021. Credit: Abigail Curtis / BDN

"The world can't wait for climate action": Letter to the editor from Unitarian-Universalist Church of Belfast
June 25, 2022



Where Are All the Bees?
Misty Mallar, July 2021

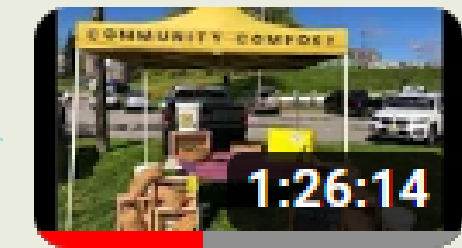
"We live with Earth's catastrophe - but remain undepressed."

[Untitled]
David Thanhauser, April 19, 2022



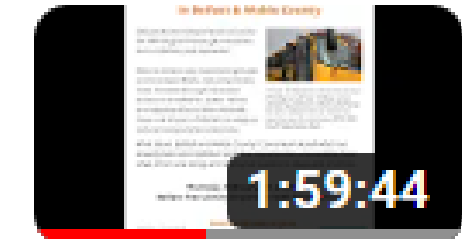
ABCD

Belfast Free Library - 1 / 20



Community Compost Panel Discussion

Belfast Free Library



Community Climate Conversation: Future of Transportation in Belfast ...

Belfast Free Library

TURNING CONVERSATIONS INTO ACTIONS TOGETHER

“In the face of climate change, collaboration is the antidote to despair.”

Use your voice!

- Talk with others
- Be an active citizen
- Demand action from government

Join other people in action!

- Churches installing public water fountains
- Community composting initiative
- Build a community rain garden
- GreenStreets!
- School programs & efforts by young people



ORGANIZATIONS IN ACTION NOW



Belfast Bay
Watershed
Coalition



Waldo County Soil and
Water Conservation District



INSULATING WINDOW INSERTS



and many more...

THANK YOU

Brenda Harrington
(207) 338-3884 ext. 30

abcd@belfastlibrary.org

<https://belfastlibrary.org/all-of-belfast-climate-dialogues>

<https://abcdbelfast.omeka.net>



*Photo: Grace Murdock, ABCD Photo Contest Winner:
1st Place, "Play" category: "Walking on the Beach"*

