BELFAST FREE LIBRARY

ALL OF BELFAST CLIMATE DIALOGUES

Funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services



ABCD Celebration ~ August 29th, 2023

AGENDA



- Genesis of the ABCD project
- Project goals
- What we did & what happened
- Our 5 takeaways
- What we hope happens next
- Discussion

SEEDS OF THE ABCD PROJECT



3:22 / 53:40

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN₀

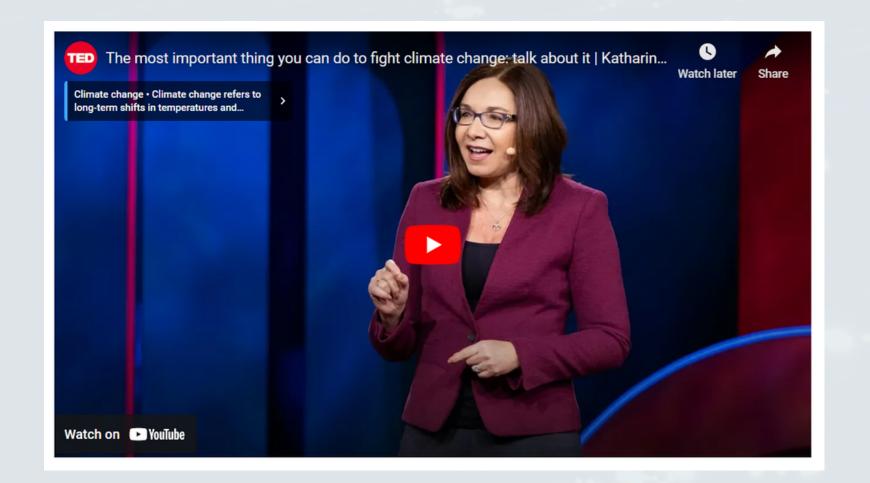
CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate Web Pages Erased and Obscured under Trump

Critics of the new administration see a troubling pattern where information is hidden from the public

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

- Katharine Hayhoe, Climate Scientist





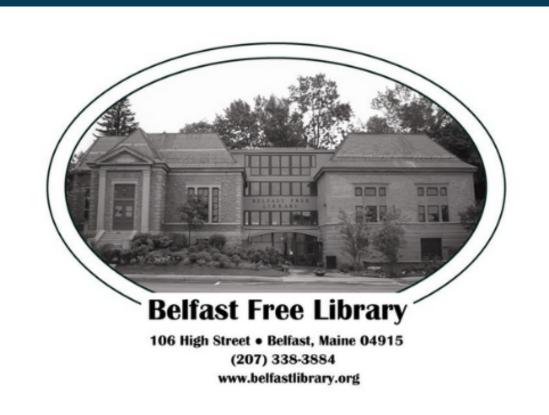
Why talk about climate change?

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

- Yale Program on Climate Change Communication



IMLS GRANT







Accelerating Promising Practices for Small and Rural Libraries:

A Community Memory Project

2020 - 2023

ABCD PROJECT GOALS

ENGAGE

Engage broad cross-section of Belfast in talking about climate

EDUCATE

Curate highquality
education
materials
regarding
climate change

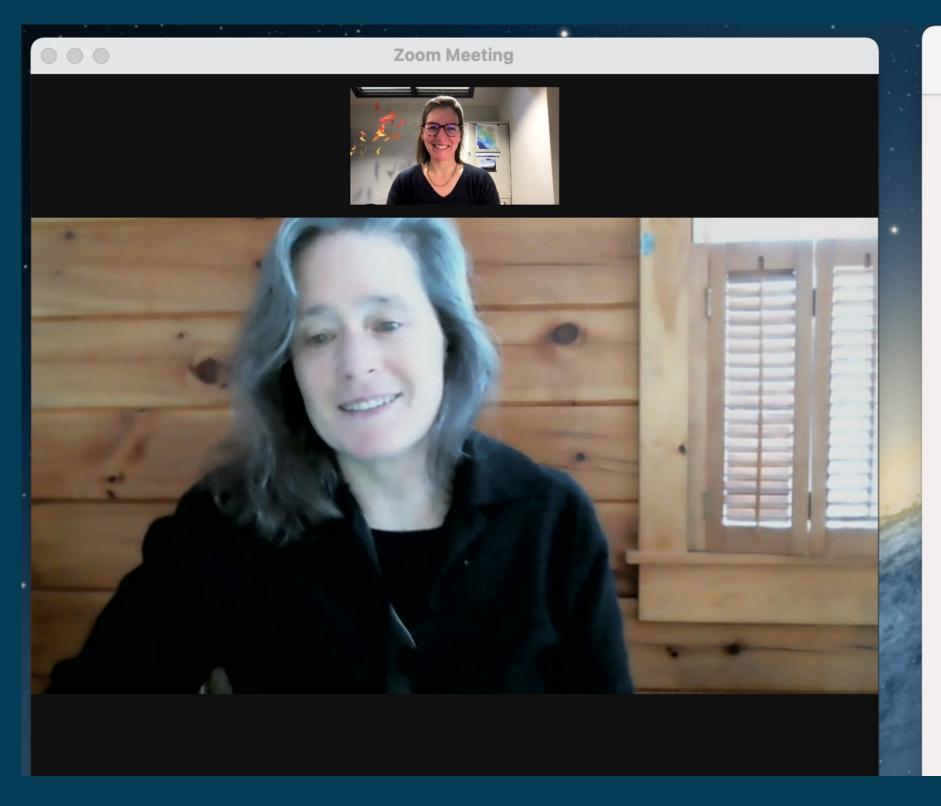
DISCUSS

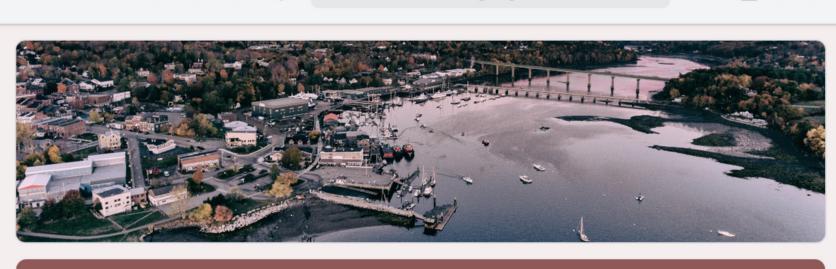
Develop programs to normalize conversation on climate

DOCUMENT

Archive Belfast residents' ideas and priorities regarding climate change

GETTING STARTED





docs.google.com
 docs.google.com

All Belfast Climate Dialogues (ABCD) Interview

Thank you for participating in this community dialogue and memory project.

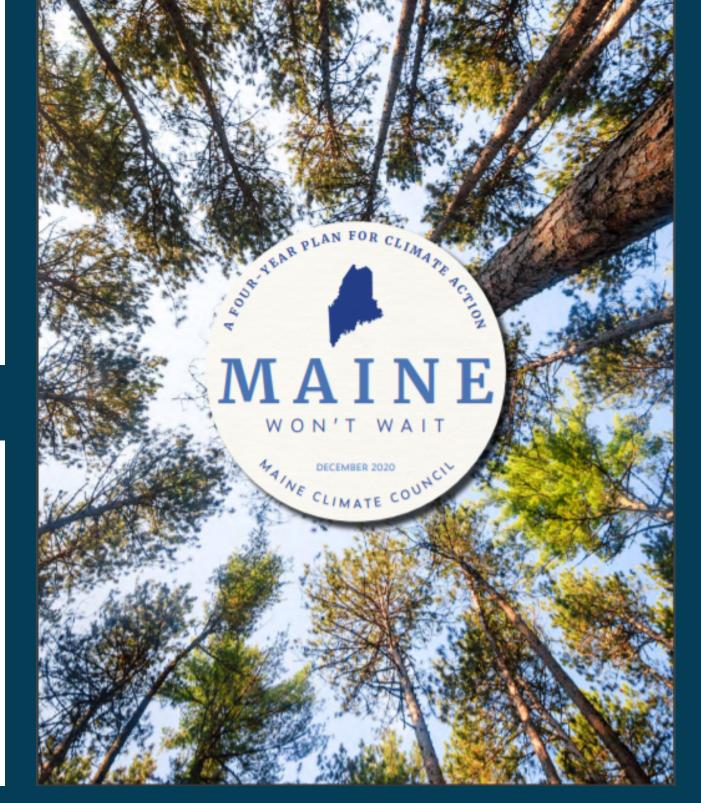
- 1. You will use this form to ask your partner questions and record their answers. They will do the same for you.
- 2. At the end of your conversation, you should review what you have recorded for your partner so they can ask you to make any necessary changes, and they should do the same for you.
- 3. This entire conversation and the completion of both forms should take between 25 and 40 minutes. Try to be brief and to the point. Ask for clarification as needed.

Reminder, your job is to:

PROJECT EVOLUTION





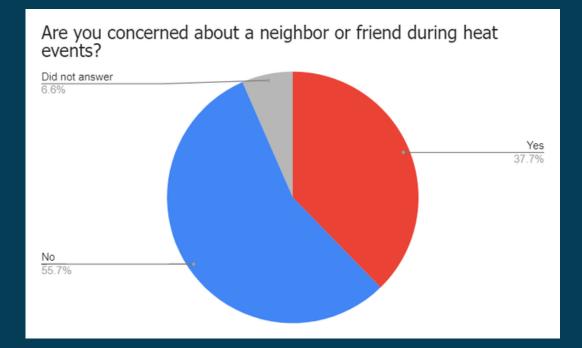


Belfast's progress in addressing climate change



Since 2014, the city and the committee have overseen three solar projects, upgraded all municipal lighting to LED, conducted energy audits and made improvements to to city buildings and facilities.

In 2018, when the 5,000-panel solar farm on Crocker Road went online, the combined solar farms generate enough electricity to **offset 90% of municipal electricity costs**.



Extreme heat survey 8/21



Fireside Chats - Waterfall Arts 4/20/22



Farmer's Market conversations 8/27/21



Unveiling new tide gauges & high water mark signs 10/8/21

ABCD monthly newsletter

All of Belfast: Climate Dialogues ~ February 2023 Newsletter // Page 1



The Future of Transportation in Belfast & Waldo County: Summary from 2/9/23

ABCD and the Belfast Climate Crisis Committee (CCC) hosted the fourth Community Climate Conversation on February 9, 2023. "The Future of Transportation in Belfast & Waldo County" event took place in the Abbott Room at the Belfast Free Library. 37 people attended in person and on Zoom.

We heard updates from two CCC members, and from the Belfast Pedestrian, Biking & Hiking Committee on their vision & priorities for Belfast.



Some takeaways & ideas from participants:

- . It was thought-provoking and energizing to discuss a "culture shift" in the future of transportation re-envisioning our habits and the ways we can provide a "diversity of mobility options" for everyone!
- · The City of Belfast is in the process of applying for Maine's Community Resilience Partnership

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we can

- A fe Are you interested in active transit by "Slo
- nee
- Mu Boat Survey to share your input! Rid
- Please take the Belfast Harbor Small

Walk & Roll **Belfast**

Learn more & take action:

A new group "Walk & Roll Belfast" will help citizens create more active transit in our community.

SIGN UP to be added to the list! walkandrollbelfast@gmail.com



Join the Statewide Climate Ambassadors Program!

Online sessions starting March 9 through April 6 with weekly meetings from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. each Thursday.

Upcoming Events

Community Composting: Panel Discussion Tuesday, February 28th, 2023 at at 6:30 pm on Zoom

Rx for a Chaotic Climate: Healthy Soils Tuesday, March 28th, 2023 at at 6:30 pm on Zoom

Go to www.belfastlibrary.org/abcd-events

or call Brenda Harrington at 207-239-3994 eyt 30 to le

All of Belfast: Climate Dialogues ~ March 2023 Newsletter // Page 1



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



public fu access r attached These st single-u



Penobscot Bay Stewards program application (deadline March 31)

To mak tourist raise ag

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Mail che Friends PO Box Belfast. (Include

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

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.



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

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, Piscataguis 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



"The Art of Re-climation" exhibit & digital exhibit April/May 2022



Eden Is Burning Lewis Cisle



Dark Angels Leslie Moore, January 2022



Repair Lesia Sochor



There's No Such Place As Away Katie Giddings, 2019-2021



Guardians of the Earth Mildred Bachrach



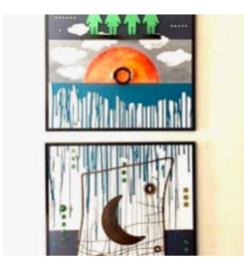
Climate Reborn Mark Burnham, November 2021



Algae Bloom Marjorie Arnett, November 2021



For the Birds Mango Johnstone



Hold the Moon by Wendy Clayton



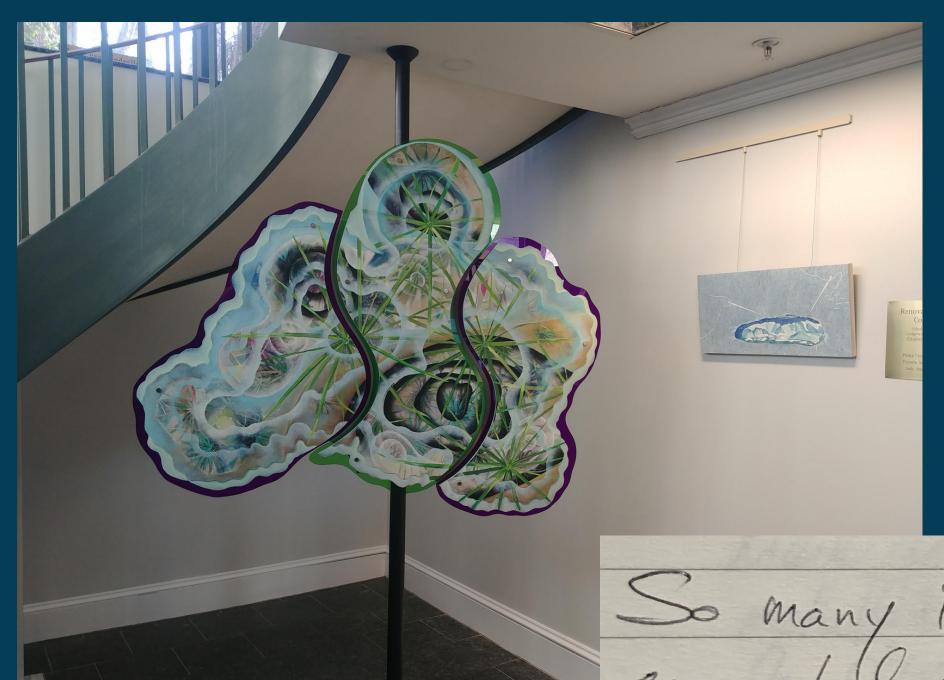
Mother Nature Holds Her Breath by Mj Viano Crowe



Call to Action by Kelly Desrosiers



Climate Change - It's Here For All of Us by Mark Burnham



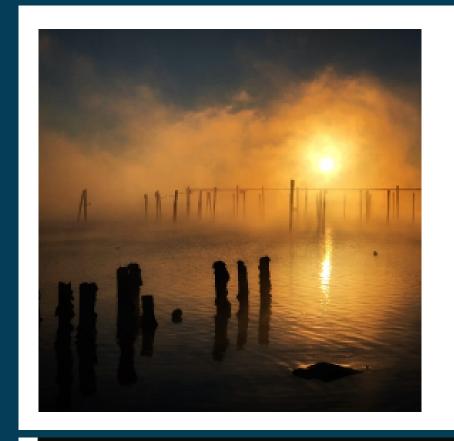


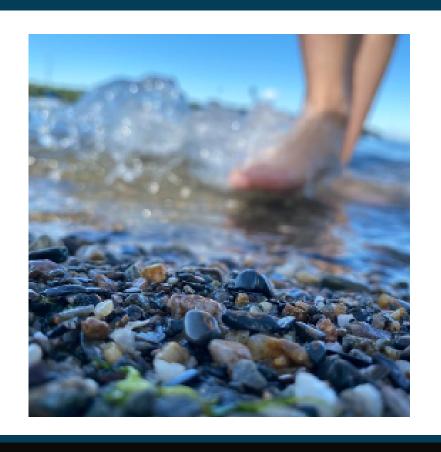
"The Art of Re-climation" April/May 2022

So many images and words, all connected by the common thread of climate change's impact.

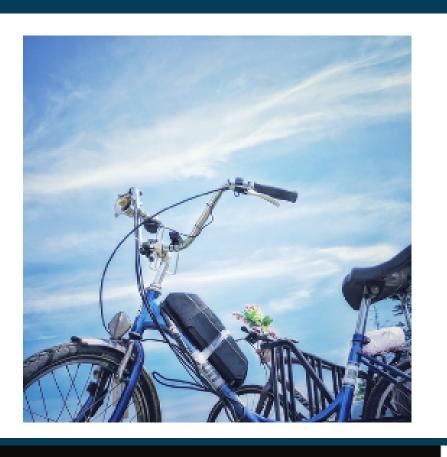
Lots to think about, Thank your

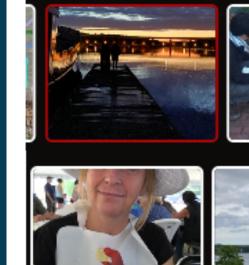
"Places & Play" photo contest July 2022





































































Waldo County Climate Change Symposium 1/22/22



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. Cassaundra Rose



220122_CRose_GOPIF_BelfastClimateSy mposium

A few of the resources I mentioned this morning: Community Resilience Partnership, https://www.maine.gov/future/clim ate/community-resiliencepartnership

http://mainewontwait.org/

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.

Add comment

Chip Curry 1mo

Building Social Norms in Waldo County

I wonder how this group can influence a broader local citizen discussion to prioritize climate change. Could there be a broad challenge to organizations to publicly commit to combatting climate change within and among their other mission priorities?

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.

 \bigcirc 2 \bigcirc 0 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

 \bigcirc 0 Add comment

Maine Environmental **Priorities Coalition Common** Agenda 2022

Anonymous 1mo

https://protectmaine.org/epc/priori ties/2022

Add comment

Next steps?

Anonymous 1mo

Building capacity -young leaders unite!



Young Leaders Series

eventbrite.com 17-MARCH 7, 2022

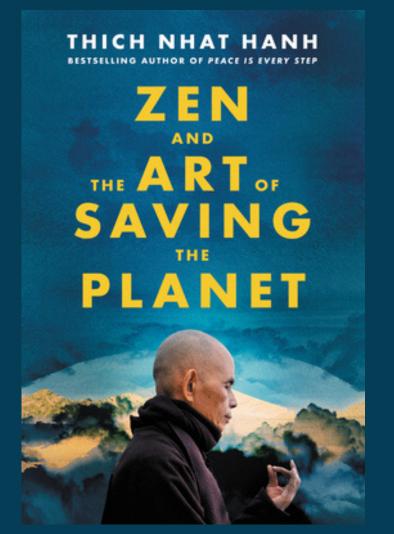
Young Leaders Series 2022

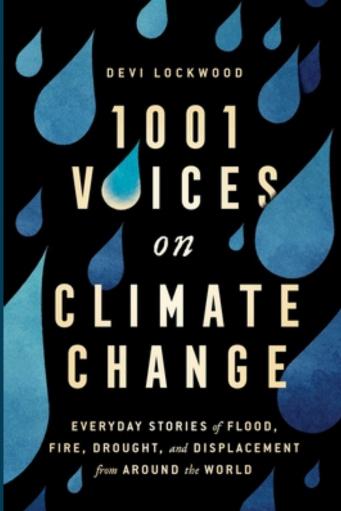
The Island Institute is hosting the 2022 Young Leaders Series featuring four virtual, interactive sessions exploring key aspects of leadership. Sessions are open to all high school and college students, as well as recent graduates. The 4-week series will offer participants the opportunity to actively 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

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/you

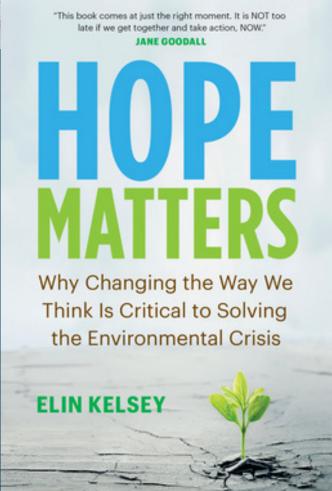
EDUCATE

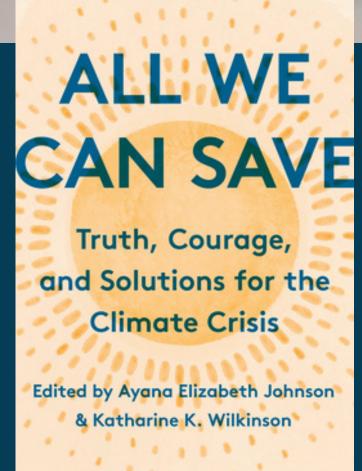
ABCD climate crisis book collection at Belfast Free Library











ADVOCATING

ENVIRONMENT



HOW TO GATHER YOUR POWER AND TAKE ACTION

SUSAN B. INCHES

EDUCATE

BELFAST FREE LIBRARY

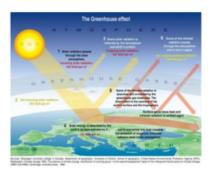
Serving the community of Belfast since 1887

ALL OF BELFAST: CLIMATE DIALOGUES SERVICES



Climate Change 101

The following three overviews each present the basics of climate change, and represent the breadth of impacts and organizations responding. Each presents the same basic information, with the emphasis appropriate to its audience.



The Climate Change 101: climate science basics document presents a short and clear explanation of the mechanisms of climate change and its impacts, with links for more information. Created by the Public Health Institute's Center for Climate Change and Health it emphasizes the ways



mean more solar radiation is trapped within the Earth's atmosphere, making temperatures rise. Source: W. Elder, NPS.

The Land Trust Alliance offers the basics with links for more information on the climate change impacts on various land

The Causes of Climate Change



The National Aeronautical and Space Agency has been tracking climate change indicators from orbiting satellites for decades. NASA, an independent agency of the federal government, studies Earth's climate as a matter of national importance.

BELFAST FREE LIBRARY

KIDS & TEENS EVENTS ALL OF BELFAST: CLIMATE DIALOGUES SERVICES SUPPORT THE LIBRARY

Serving the community of Belfast since 1887



Talking About Climate Change: Why & How

A Climate Scientist Makes the Case for Talking

Watch this 17-minute video to hear what climate scientist Dr. Katharine Hayhoe suggests.



The Science of Climate Change Communications

Yale Program on Climate Change Communication











Yale Program on Climate Change Communication is perhaps best known for its publication Global Warming's Six Americas. The six Americas study has been repeated regularly since the original publication in 2009. It now serves as a powerful marker of the changing attitudes of Americans. The study also offers

EDUCATE

40+ programs

Over 2,000 views on YouTube (and counting)

An Introduction to: "The Warming Sea," a symphony about Climate **Change by Lucas Richman**

Thursday, November 4th 6:30 PM on Zoom







Farmers Market Conversations: How is climate change impacting you?



Friday, August 27, 2021 9:00 AM at Belfast Farmers Market Waterfall Arts, 256 High Street



Maine Won't Wait: How Maine is Taking Action on Climate Change with Dr. Cassaundra Rose

Thursday, October 21st 6:30 PM on Zoom







ABCD

Rx for a Chaotic Climate: Healthy Soils

Tuesday, March 28th 6:30 PM on Zoom





and River:



The Maine Offshore Wind Initiative: How Maine is Charting Our Own Course

Thursday, February 17th 6:30 PM on Zoom







Living With Thin Ice: Past Perspectives on Climate Change in Belfast, Maine with Emma Moesswilde



Tuesday, May 10 6:30 PM on Zoom



Growing Resilience: Local Farmers Respond to Climate Change





Storm Surge in the Penobscot Bay Observations & Lessons Learned

Thursday, September 16 6:30 PM on Zoom







Sea Level Rise, Storms, & Citizen Science



Tuesday, June 21st 6:30 PM on Zoom

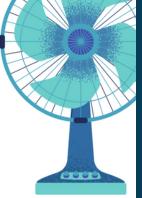


Hot enough for you?

Join a Belfast community discussion about extreme heat. Share your concerns and suggestions!

Thursday, August 26 6:00 PM on Zoom





Once They're Gone, They're Gone for Good: Indigenous Shell Heaps, Climate Change, and Confronting Heritage Loss through Citizen Science







Thursday, May 19 6:30 PM on Zoom



Growing Food and Ornamentals in a Changing Climate

Tuesday, February 22nd 6:30 PM on Zoom







Growing Resilience: Local Farmers Respond to Climate Change Thursday, January 20th 6:30 PM on Zoom

Farmer panel discussion January 2022: Second Frost Farm, Daisychain Farm, Bahner Farm



COMMUNITY CLIMATE CONVERSATIONS

What should be in Belfast's Climate Action Plan?



Public Discussion on June 14, 2022 50+ participants

Car-Gree lifestqle Brojualkaren + bike New neighbors Everyone involved, engaged Oldgrowth forest Vibrant ecosystems Net zero homes for all Cleaned up industrial spaces Electric Transport + energy



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

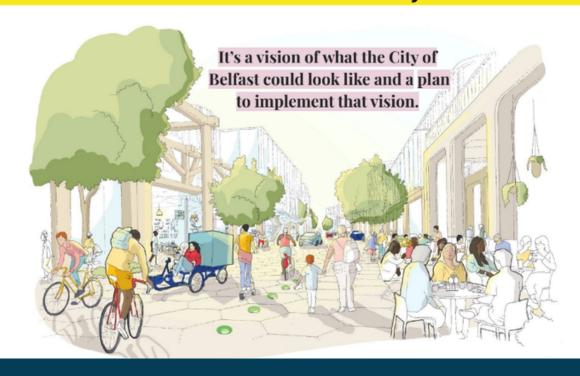
City of Belfast Climate Crisis Committee



Thursday
February 9, 2023
6:00 PM
at Belfast Free
Library & on Zoom

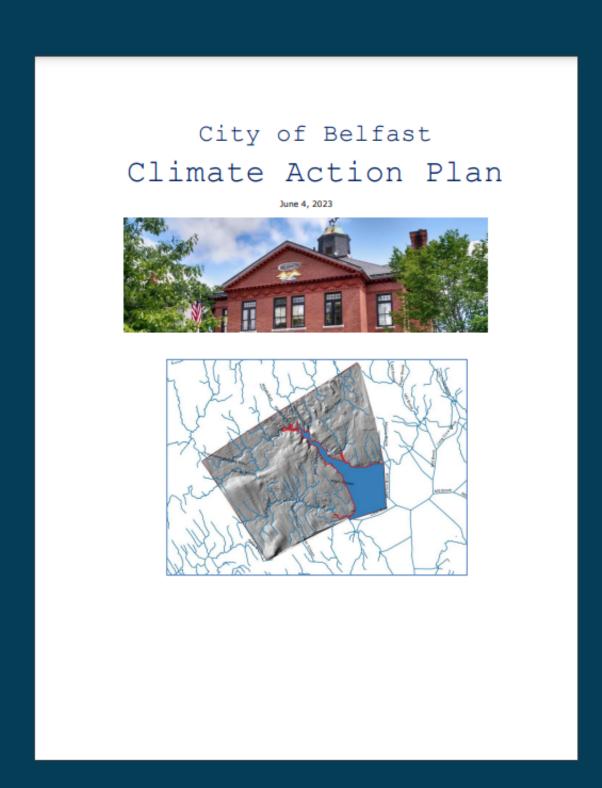


What's a Active Transit aka Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan?



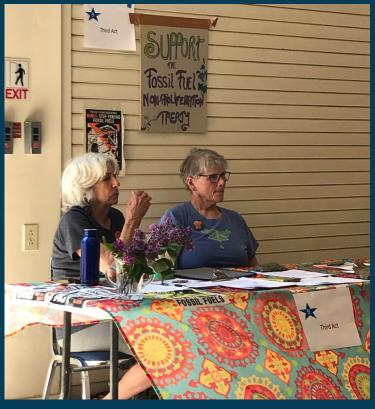


Introducing the Climate Action Plan for Belfast August 8, 2023 with Belfast Climate Crisis Committee











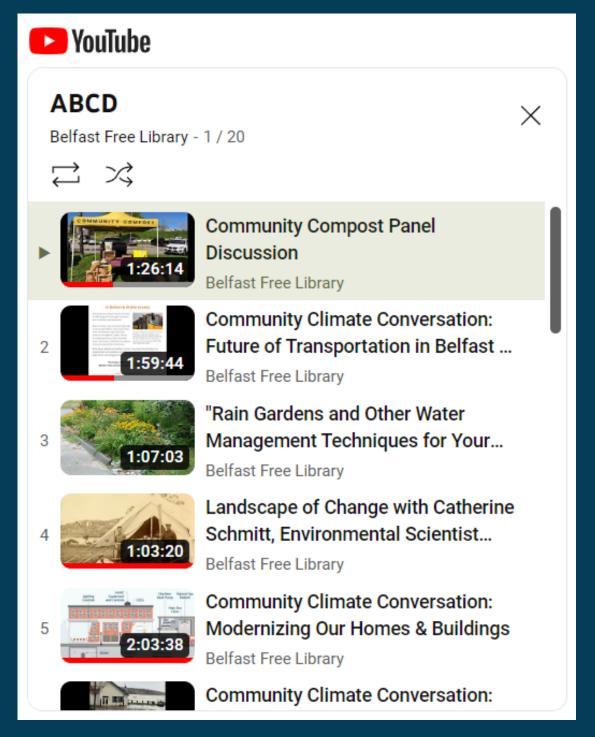
Sustainable Communities Day with **Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition's Penobscot Bay Stewards** June 1, 2023





ARCHIVE

Library YouTube channel



The ABCD Collection: https://abcdbelfast.omeka.net

ALL OF BELFAST: CLIMATE DIALOGUES

Browse Items Browse Collections



Browse Exhibits

Browse Items (102 total)

Browse All Browse by Tag Search Items

Sort by: <u>Title Creator</u> <u>Date Added</u>

About

Contact Us

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

Share Your Story

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.

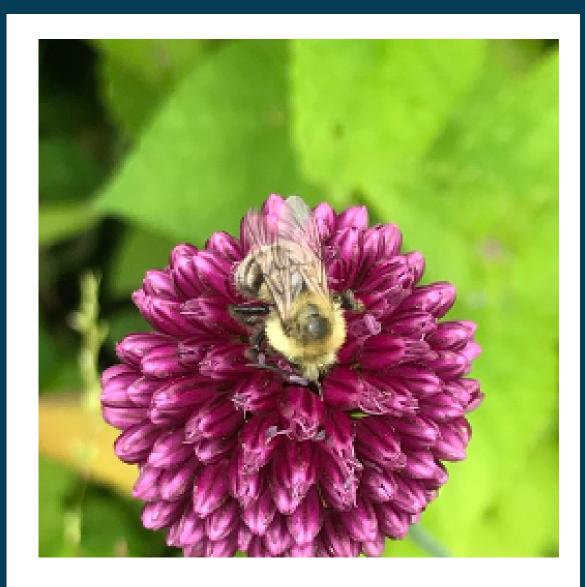
ABCD Team, October 18, 2022

ARCHIVE - THE ABCD COLLECTION

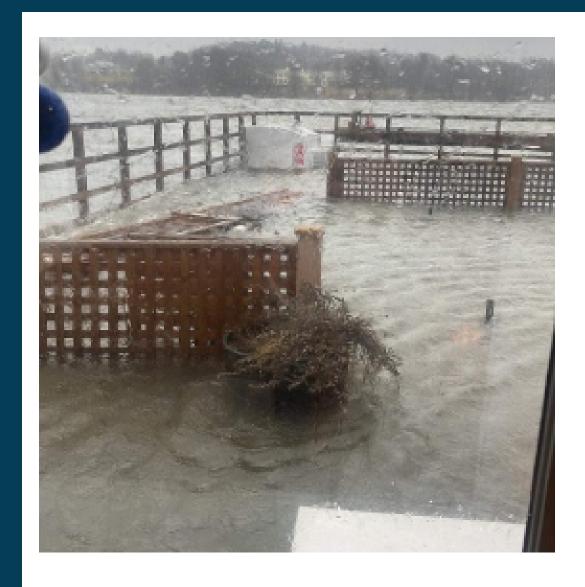


ir, of the Belfast Climate Crisis Committee talks to two people who came to the introduc k Initiative in October 2021, Credit; Abigail Curtis / BDN

"The world can't wait for climate action": Letter to the editor from UnitarianUniversalist Church of Belfast



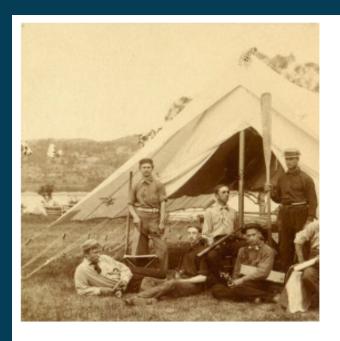
Where Are All the Bees?



"Never seen the water this high in Belfast" - December 23, 2022 storm

ARCHIVE THE ABCD COLLECTION

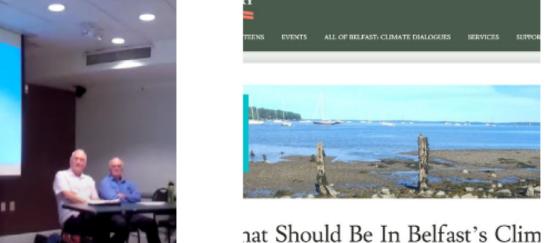
8 topical collections
120 items



<u>Historical Perspectives</u>
<u>View the items in Historical</u>
<u>Perspectives</u>



Community Climate
Conversations
View the items in Community
Climate Conversations



Action Plan?

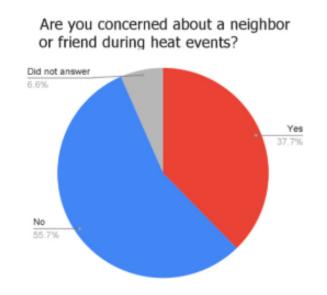
View the items in Local Voices on

Local Voices on Climate

Climate



Art & Climate Change
View the items in Art & Climate
Change



Health of Belfast Area
Residents
View the items in Health of Belfast
Area Residents



Climate Change in Belfast
Area Farms & Gardens
View the items in Climate Change
in Belfast Area Farms & Gardens



Belfast's Forests and Climate
Change
View the items in Belfast's Forests
and Climate Change



Oceans and Stormwater
View the items in Oceans and
Stormwater

UPDATED WEBSITE



All of Belfast: Climate Dialogues

From 2020-2023, ABCD held over 40 educational programs & community conversations engaging well over 1,600 people. The Library will continue to offer educational programming on topics around the climate crisis, and will continue supporting citizens to take action.

Local Action on the Climate Crisis

Local Citizens Taking Climate Action



Sustainable Communities Day June 1st with Belfast Bay Watershed & Pen Bay Stewards

St. Margaret's of Belfast successfully raised funds to install 3 downtown public water fountains for people and pets, reducing cingle use plactic water bottles

City of Belfast's Work on Climate Solutions



June 6, 2023 ClimateWorkshop

Belfast accepted to Maine's Community Resilience Partnership and applies for funding to install heat pumps in multiple City-owned buildings - July 2023

Belfast Climate Action Plan June 2023

Comprehensive Plan Draft Undate May

Many ABCD project partners have helped amplify the conversation - and are taking action! - on climate change.

Project Partners Working on

Climate Change

Resources on Climate Change

Maine Climate Action Resources



Maine climate action resources including Maine Won't Wait (our 4-year climate action plan), and many other organizations & resources for Mainers.

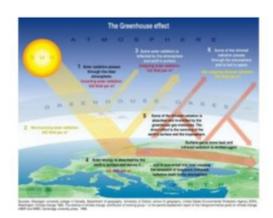
Talking About Climate Change



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

Why talking about climate change is one of the most important things you can do...and how to find hope in dealing with the climate crisis

Climate Change Basics



Climate Change 101

ABCD pages on the Library website will continue as a resource for:

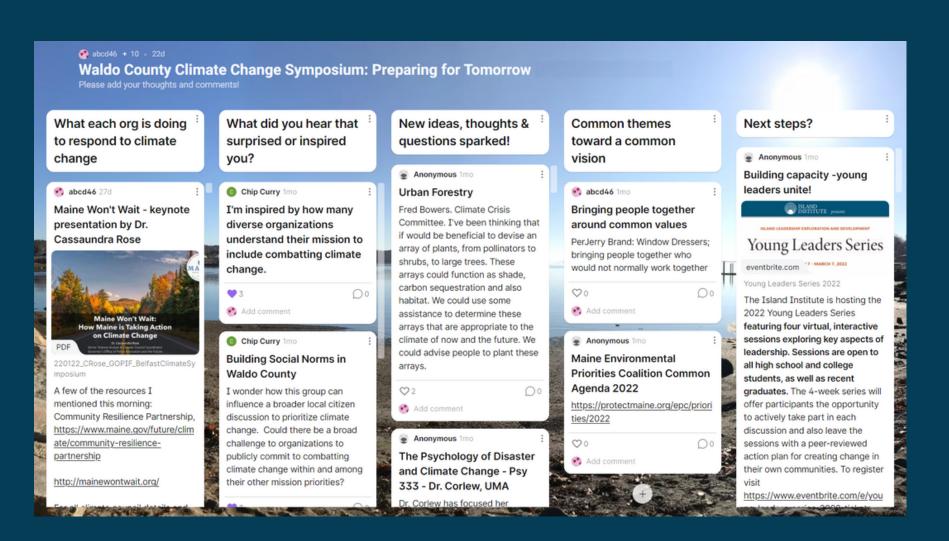
- Climate events
- Maine climate action resources
- Highlighting local activity

We heard clearly from community voices:

"We don't just want to talk about it!

What can we do?"

Many local organizations were already working on climate-related issues: "We aren't alone!"



"I am inspired by how many diverse organizations understand their mission to include climate change."

~ State Senator Chip Curry, at Waldo County Climate Change Symposium, January 22, 2022

Don't reinvent the wheel: many models & resources to learn from







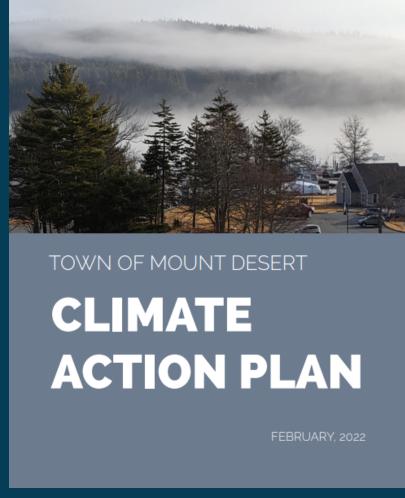












Local AND National action are both needed



Local action improves the community's quality of life, mental health, equity & climate resilience

TIME

How the Inflation Reduction Act Has Reshaped the U.S.—and The World







CLIMATE

A year in, landmark U.S. climate policy drives energy transition but hurdles remain

August 16, 2023 · 7:48 PM ET

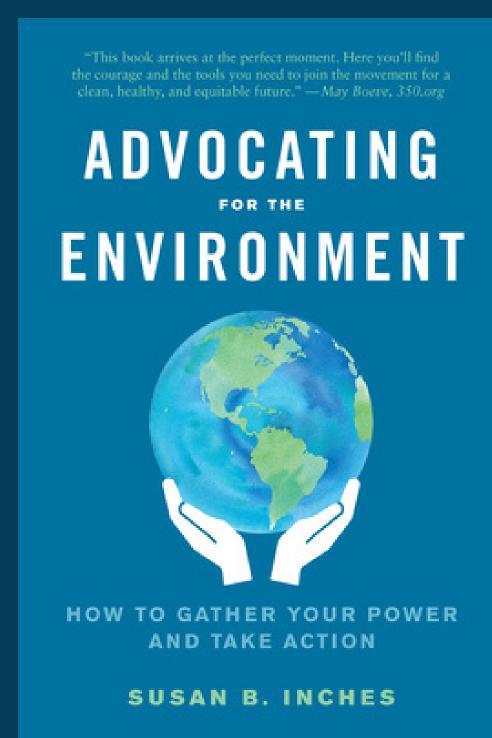
By Rachel Waldholz

Federal action is needed to lower global carbon emissions

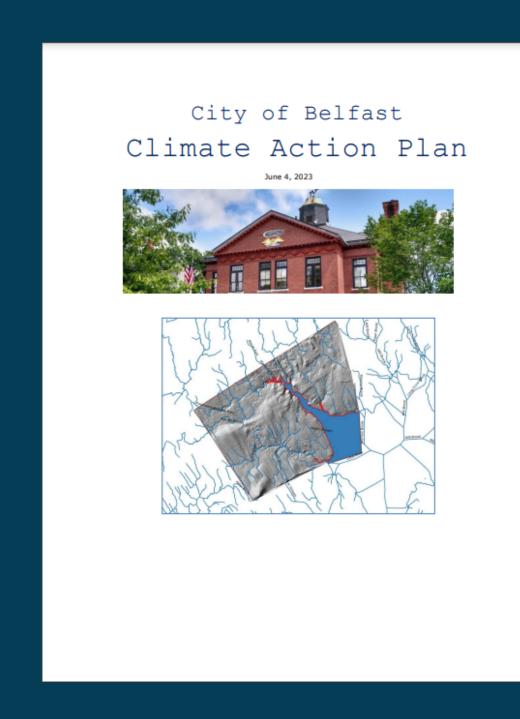
(pictured: Belfast Window Dressers)

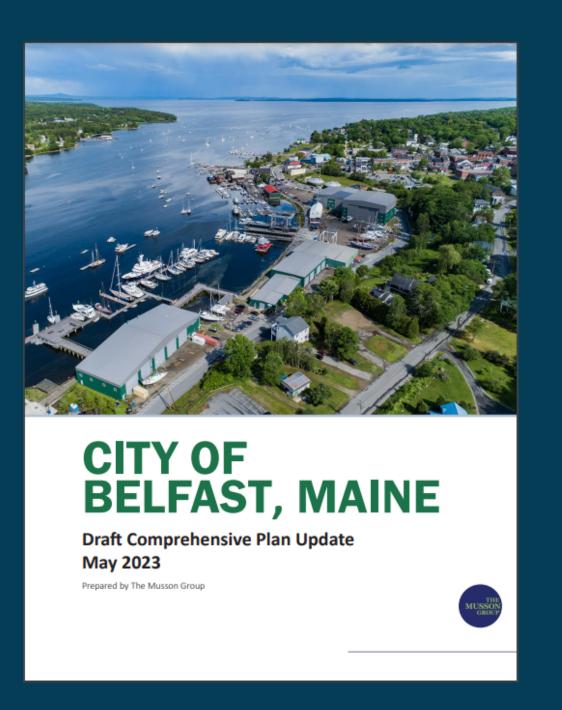
Remember: We as citizens have the power & tools to create change

- We live in a democracy get involved!
- Be informed: sign up for news; follow climate leaders
- Figure out who has decision-making power
- Go to City Council meetings
- Join a City committee
- Contact your legislators
- "Make your actions contagious by talking about them"
 - Katharine Hayhoe



Municipal decision-making that integrates climate resiliency





Take advantage of funding for climate resiliency (individuals, communities & municipalities)

Janet Mills increases state heat pump goals after hitting milestone two years early

Maine Public | By Murray Carpenter



EV chargers are coming to 12 new locations in Maine

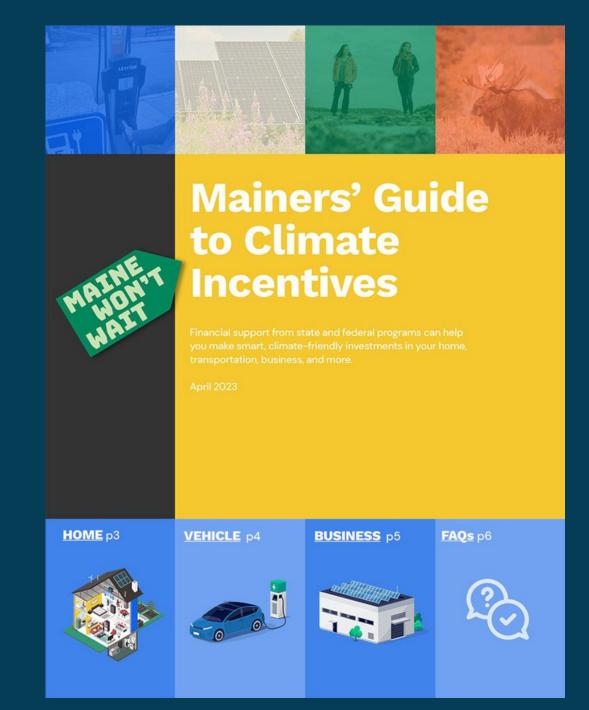
Maine Public | By Nicole Ogrysko



EPA awards Maine \$3 million in funds to cut pollution that contributes to climate change

Maine Public | By Murray Carpenter Published April 3, 2023 at 5:38 PM EDT









More community-driven climate action for Belfast!







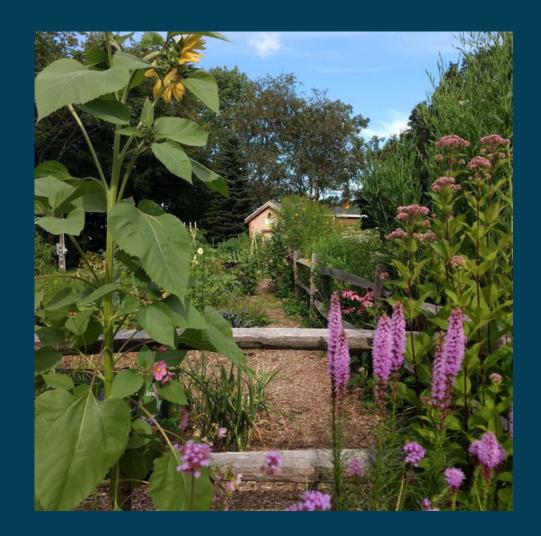


For example, Belfast Area Transition Initiative ~2010-2019

Join others in action!



Community composting for Belfast?



Wales Park Community
Garden - certified
pollinator garden



Downtown refillable water bottle stations - St. Margaret's

Join others in action!



Troy Howard
Middle School
Garden



GreenStreets is getting a reboot this fall



Third Act Maine



Belfast Bay Watershed
Coalition / Pen Bay
Stewards program



ABCD PROJECT PARTNERS































Possibility Alliance



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

























CONCLUSION

Working together is the best antidote to despair.

The ABCD project endeavored to help connect the dots between climate concern, climate hope, and climate action.

There are things each of us can work on today - from taking small personal actions to working towards big systemic change. We all matter. Together, we can - and are - making a difference. And nothing feels as hopeful as taking action with others against climate change.

THANK YOU

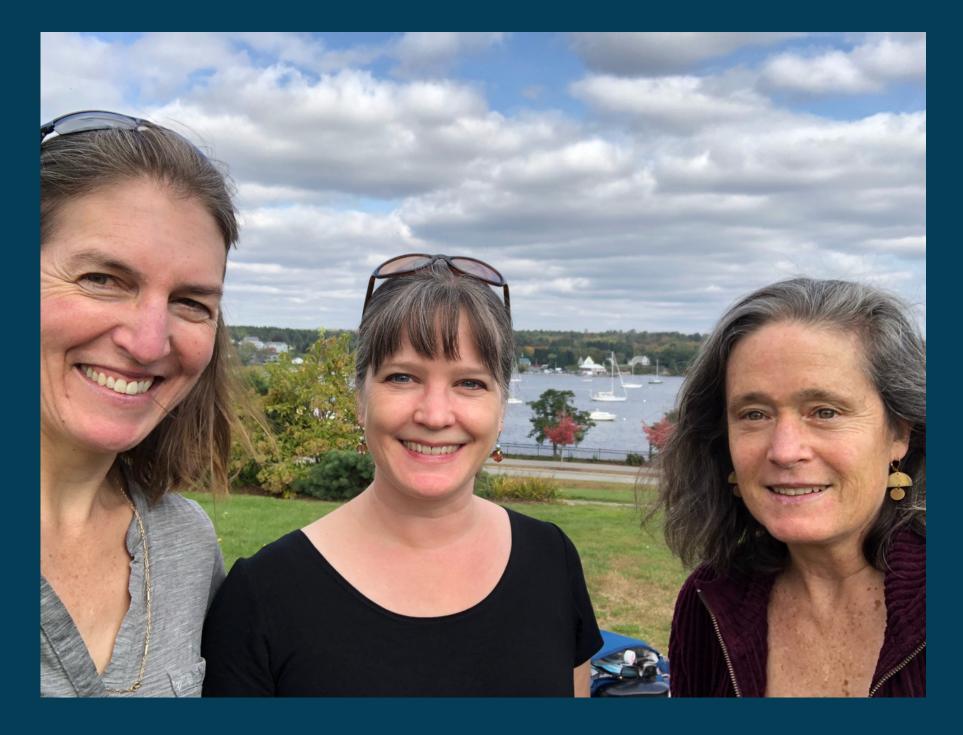
Thank you to all who have participated in and supported All of Belfast Climate Dialogues for the past three years!

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