

# Climate Hopes & Plans for the New Year

## Reflections from the ABCD team for 2022

Over the past year, the **All of Belfast: Climate Dialogues** project has broadened the local conversation around climate change by offering [informative programs](#), curating web pages of resources on [climate change science](#) and [communication](#), and expanding the library's offering of books. The [ABCD](#) collection of personal climate stories, concerns, and observations is growing.



Sarah Kirn, Misty Mallar, and Brenda Harrington of the ABCD team

## Why we started this project & what inspires us

The ABCD project was founded on the ideas so well expressed by our recent speaker [Sue Inches](#): **that sharing our stories and talking about climate change and its effects and challenges is the best way to come together, feel less alone, and plan action.**

In the last year, our team has been inspired and excited by stories of progress and hope, and the growing number of voices bringing attention and calling us to climate action, including:

- [Community planning, education & action](#) by the Belfast Climate Crisis Committee, local churches, non-profits & others
- Belfast's leadership in [installing 3 tide gauges](#) to monitor sea level rise
- Art and music as a way to communicate about climate change - such as the [upcoming symphony 'The Warming Sea'](#)
- Increased media focus, including Maine Public's new series, "[Climate Driven: A deep dive into Maine's response, one county at a time.](#)"
- Maine's progress on our [ambitious climate action plan](#) - heat pumps, home weatherization, electrifying municipal fleets & school buses, community solar, upgrading the electric grid, and more.

**Our team is excited to bring you stories of hope and action in 2022, from speakers to art shows to new web content!**

Learn more at [www.belfastlibrary.org/all-of-belfast-climate-dialogues](http://www.belfastlibrary.org/all-of-belfast-climate-dialogues)

## How you can get involved

We invite you to share what brings YOU hope with our whole community!  
Things you can do:

- > Take a quick survey on our website.
- > Share this newsletter with a friend.
- > Learn more at an ABCD Zoom event - see our upcoming events below.
- > Tell us about your climate change concerns & hopes and see what your neighbors are sharing:



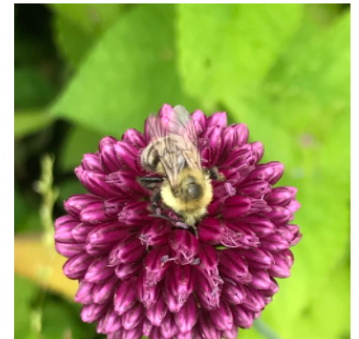
Climate Crisis Is Impacting Our Farm in Subtle, and Many, Ways  
Dickey Hill Farm, July 28, 2021



Torrential Rains Overwhelming Culverts and Storm Drains  
Aidan Webb, July 9, 2021



Trees of Belfast  
Fred Bowers, October 28, 2021



Where Are All the Bees?  
Misty Mallar, July 2021

We look forward to hearing even more voices from the Belfast area community in the coming year!

## Upcoming Events

### Growing Resilience: Local Farmers Respond to Climate Change

Thursday, January 20 at 6:30 PM on Zoom

Join us for a panel discussion with farmers from three Waldo County Farms: [Bahner Farm](#), [Daisychain Farm](#) and [Dickey Hill Farm](#). They will discuss how the effects of climate change - including droughts, floods, pests and extreme weather events - have challenged and changed their farming practices, and answer your questions.

Go to [www.belfastlibrary.org/abcd-events](http://www.belfastlibrary.org/abcd-events) to get the Zoom link.



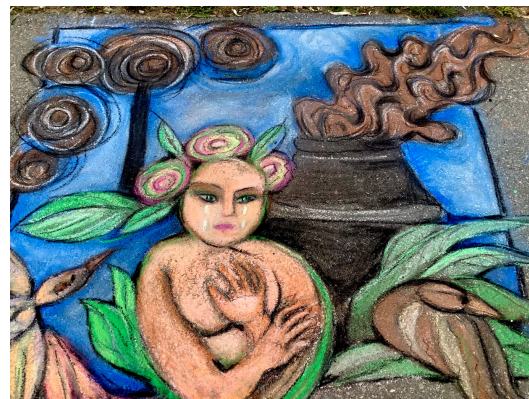
Winter solstice greens harvesting, Dec. 21, 2021 ~ courtesy Dickey Hill Farm

## CALL FOR ART: “The Art of Re-Climation”

ABCD and the Belfast Free Library are calling for submissions of art that responds to the current climate crisis for an April/May 2022 exhibit in the Kramer Gallery titled “The Art of Re-Climation.”

**Submissions are due January 21, 2022.**

Go to [www.belfastlibrary.org/abcd-events](http://www.belfastlibrary.org/abcd-events) to learn more and submit your work.



“Mother Nature Holds Her Breath” by Mj Viano Crowe

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

*This winter the Belfast Garden Club Evening Lecture Series, co-sponsored by ABCD, will focus on the effects of the Climate Crisis on our forests and farms.*

**Tuesday, January 25 at 6:30 PM on Zoom**

Dr. Fernandez, from the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine, will summarize key findings from Maine-focused climate assessments. He will talk about how to enhance soil to capture carbon, to help reduce atmospheric carbon levels. The presentation will also summarize forest management recommendations from the Governor’s Task Force on a Forest Carbon Program in Maine.

Go to [www.belfastlibrary.org/abcd-events](http://www.belfastlibrary.org/abcd-events) to get the Zoom link.





## Browntail Moth & Emerald Ash Borer in Waldo County

This event is co-sponsored by the Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition and ABCD.

**Tuesday, February 1 at 6:30 PM on Zoom**

Tom Schmeelk, State Entomologist, will be back with us again to discuss the acute browntail moth infestation in Belfast and surroundings, how we can protect ourselves, and how we can work as a community to curb this problem. He will also discuss emerald ash borer and other forest invasive pests.



Go to [www.belfastlibrary.org/abcd-events](http://www.belfastlibrary.org/abcd-events) to get the Zoom link.

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Learn more about the ABCD project on the Library website, Facebook, and Instagram, and by chatting with your librarians.

[www.belfastlibrary.org/all-of-belfast-climate-dialogues/](http://www.belfastlibrary.org/all-of-belfast-climate-dialogues/)

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**Wishing you a Happy & Hopeful New Year  
from ABCD and the Belfast Free Library!**



*The All of Belfast: Climate Dialogues (ABCD) project is capturing community perspectives - photographs, written stories, videos and more - on the ABCD website. This collection will help increase our awareness of each others' experiences, create a point of reference for the future, and perhaps prompt us to take action now in preparation for the challenges ahead.*

*This project of the Belfast Free Library was made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. IMLS grant number: APP-246100-OLS-20. Read the proposal on the IMLS website.*

