



Welcome to Climate Toothpaste! This **Activist Activator** letter connects you to local climate groups. Many folks are concerned about climate change, but feel overwhelmed. They don't know where to turn.

Good news: amazing groups are already working on solutions! Climate Toothpaste is here to tell you about these groups, so you can find your fit.

Here's a text to introduce yourself:

I'm concerned about climate change and am learning how to be involved with climate solutions/carbon pricing initiatives/conservation. Can you tell me about your group and what you do?

PENNSYLVANIA

Pricing Carbon

Citizens Climate Lobby
www.citizensclimatelobby.org

Citizens Climate Lobby is an international organization that is trying to pass legislation for a national carbon fee and dividend. What's missing from climate change? Political will. CCL creates that will by educating about climate change. CCL has chapters in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

Climate/Environment/Action

350.org www.350.org

A global grassroots climate movement that holds leaders accountable to the realities of science and the principles of justice. Through online campaigns, grassroots organizing, and mass public actions, 350

brings together a network in over 188 countries. 350.org has chapters in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Bucks County.

Penn Future pennfuture.org

We work to at the federal level to limit industrial carbon pollution, a potent contributor to climate change which impacts human health issues. The campaign also presses the EPA to issue strong standards to limit carbon pollution from both existing and not-yet-built power plants.

Anti-Fracking

Berks Gas Truth gastruth.org

Berks Gas Truth is a grassroots organization of 600 concerned citizens fighting to stop unconventional natural gas drilling. We are dedicated to raising awareness of issues surrounding drilling, and acting to protect our environment, communities, and safety from its consequences.

Marcellus Protest marcellusprotest.org

MarcellusProtest.org is an information clearing house about Marcellus Shale gas drilling and activism and related issues. Although this website's primary focus is Western PA, we include content on the five states where Marcellus Shale is located – and other U.S. shale gas formations.

Pipelines

PA has several contentious pipeline project. Here are some groups mobilizing in response:

Penn East Pipeline: stoppenneast.org

Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline:
wearelancastrercounty.org

Environment/Conservation

Sierra Club pennsylvania.sierraclub.org

Sierra Club helps preserve wildlands, save endangered and threatened wildlife, and protect the planet. The PA chapter has 10 groups.

Climate Mobilization

The Climate Mobilization
www.theclimatemobilization.org

Climate change presents us each with a choice. Will we be passive as civilization slowly collapses around us? Or will we mobilize and fight for a 100% clean energy future? TCM believes we need a WWII-scale national mobilization to fight climate change.

Climate Advocates Save the World!

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You can print out state-specific brochures at climate-toothpaste.com. Climate Toothpaste is a project by artist Heidi Cody. If you notice omissions or errors, please contact hcodystudio@gmail.com. Climate Toothpaste boxes are printed in CA using wind power, renewable energy credits, and vegetable-based inks. The printer is certified by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

TADA! Steps to lower your carbon footprint

These 4 choices have the most impact: **Become vegetarian • forgo air travel • ditch your car • and—most significantly—have fewer children.**

FOOD

- **Become vegan or vegetarian** Eating no meat cuts an individual's carbon footprint by 820 kg of CO2 each year, about four times the reduction they'd get by recycling as much as possible.
- **Buy Local, Seasonal Food** Minimizing transportation of goods mitigates climate change.
- **Eat Organic** when possible. Organic food is grown without pesticides and synthetic fertilizers, which usually begin as byproducts of oil refining.
- **Avoid Palm Oil**, found in many junk foods. The Amazon rain forest is being destroyed partly to plant palm oil trees (and partly for cattle ranching).
- **Filter Your Water** Don't buy bottled water. Not only is there an environmental toll of the plastic; your water is also transported to your store.
- **Bring Your Own Shopping Bags!** Duh.

TRANSPORTATION

- **Get rid of your car**
- **Buy a hybrid or electric vehicle.** They're getting more affordable and battery life is improving.
- **Fly less**
- **Ride a Bike, Use Public Transit or Carpool** Check out rideshare.com, and zipcar.com. The average American spends 18 days of the year in a car,

each car emitting its own weight in carbon dioxide. Try not using your car 1-2 days per week. And if you need to drive, try a carpool. Here are some carpooling apps: on.mash.to/2jPlcq7

HOME

- **Make less babies** Having one fewer child reduces a person's carbon footprint by a whopping 58.6 metric tons—about the same emissions savings as having nearly 700 teenagers recycle as much as possible for the rest of their lives.
- **Ease Off the Thermostat** The biggest residential demand on our energy system is heating and cooling. Keep your house 2 degrees warmer in summer and 2 degrees cooler in winter. Turning off your thermostat while you're NOT in your home can also save you 15% on your energy bill.
- **Go Solar** Adding solar to your home is an excellent way to reduce your carbon footprint. Solar modules create power at the source, for you, and for the grid. In addition, there are several government incentives. Check out www.dsireusa.org for information by state.
- **Chose Energy-Efficient Home Appliances**
- **Change your light bulbs** to compact fluorescent, or LED. One bulb replacement can reduce up to 1,300 pounds of CO2 pollution.
- **Laptop v. Desktop: Laptop Wins!** Laptops are designed to be energy-efficient, because of battery lifespan. According to Energy Star, a laptop can be up to 80% more energy-efficient than a desktop.
- **Unplug and Turn it Off** Powering down your gadgets is good for the planet. Unplug your chargers, a.k.a. "wall warts."

- **Reduce and Reuse before Recycling** Transporting and processing materials for recycling is carbon intensive.

- **Avoid Products with Lots of Packaging**

- **Just Buy Less Stuff** Our disposable consumer culture is a big problem.

- **Line dry** your clothes. Old school!

TAKE IT ONE STEP FURTHER

- **Move Your Money** Lots of banks are funding oil pipelines. Tell those banks to take a hike, and take your money elsewhere. A full list of those banks is listed in this article from Yes! magazine: <http://bit.ly/2cRx7E4>

- **Boycott Trump Products** There's an app for that! Download BoycottTrump in the app store. A similar resource is at grabyourwallet.org.

- **Offset your carbon emissions** Even if you do all this, you'll still create some unavoidable emissions. The United Nations has made offsetting easy, cheap, and reliable, and you decide where the money goes—to solar water heaters in India, for example. Calculate and offset your emissions at climateneutralnow.org. Or check out COTAP.org, which also does wonderful deeds with these funds.

- **Plant a Tree** Trees provide shade and oxygen while consuming carbon dioxide. Just one 10-year-old tree releases enough oxygen into the air to support two human beings.

This list was compiled from a Science.com article by Sid Perkins (07/11/2017), a Forbes.com article by Jeff McMahon, "9 Things You Can do About Climate Change," and a Mashable article by Zoe Fox, "10 Actions You Can Take Today to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint." Additional help from Paige Heggie.