

Reasons for Emergency Action on Climate Change

1. We have already created **dangerous amounts of greenhouse gas (GHG)** emissions, which have permanently damaged critical ecosystems and shifted Earth climate systems into uncharted territory.

2. **New weather records are regularly being set** across the country including, 50 inches of rain in Houston, drought in California, Hurricane Maria's destruction of Puerto Rico, etc.

3. Even at present GHG levels, the **warming of the planet will continue for centuries** and continue to melt ice sheets and glaciers and raise sea level. The last time the Earth had GHG levels this high, sea level was 20 feet higher, a huge threat to coastal communities.

4. Each year of adding more GHG emissions to the atmosphere creates higher **risk of setting off natural feedback loops** that will accelerate GHG emissions.

5. Waiting to invest in climate solutions is creating more damage and more costs through extreme weather events, changes in ecosystems, and **creating long term challenges that will be very expensive to remedy.**

6. Ocean acidification, which is a result of CO₂ being absorbed into oceans, has made the **oceans 30% more acidic** which is negatively impacting shellfish reproduction, accelerating the collapse of coral reefs, and threatening other key species.

7. The longer we wait to shift off fossil fuels the heavier cost **future generations will have to pay for our failures.**

8. The present level of warming is already doing **significant damage to marginalized communities** around the world who are not responsible for creating climate change.

9. Climate change is **accelerating species extinction** with the present rate on extinction 1000 to 10000 times the normal rate (Center for Biological Diversity).



Take action, get involved, sign the petition.
Go to newhavenclimatemovement.org



Need for Emergency Action to Restore Safe Climate

NEW HAVEN
CLIMATE
MOVEMENT



Facing the truth makes us, as individuals and societies, healthier and more resilient. It allows us to approach problems with rationality, creativity and energy that is otherwise weakened by denial and avoidance. That's what the climate mobilization is about: unleashing the power of truth for us as individuals, and for our society, so that we can rise to the challenge of our time before it's too late.



**Support
NEW HAVEN
CLIMATE
EMERGENCY RESOLUTION**

NEW HAVEN RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE DECLARATION OF A CLIMATE EMERGENCY TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE

(Excerpt... Full text online)

WHEREAS, human activities have warmed the Earth enough to end the 12,000-year period of climate stability that allowed agriculture and human civilization to develop;

WHEREAS, global warming has already set in motion disastrous changes to the Earth system, including accelerating ice mass loss from the Greenland and West Antarctic Ice Sheets and the thawing of the borders of the vast Arctic permafrost, which holds twice as much stored carbon as the entire atmosphere;

WHEREAS, NASA scientists have concluded that the complete collapse of the Greenland Ice Sheet alone could raise sea levels 23 feet, creating several billion climate refugees and a “global-scale catastrophe”;

WHEREAS, Connecticut's biggest climate change risks are intimately linked to its 217 miles of Long Island Sound shoreline, where 40 percent of the population lives in 36 coastal communities that now faces the potentially dangerous combination of rising water levels and more frequent and intense storms.....(more online)

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that New Haven declares that we face an existential climate emergency that threatens our city, region, state, nation, civilization, the natural world, and humanity;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that New Haven officially commits to leading an emergency mobilization effort that, with appropriate financial and regulatory assistance from state and federal authorities, ends community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by or before December 31, 2030, and immediately initiates an effort to safely draw down carbon from the atmosphere;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that New Haven Board of Alders works with the Mayor to report back within 90 days on the establishment of a Climate Emergency Mobilization Department with all necessary powers to plan and coordinate all of the New Haven's climate and resilience responses;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that New Haven commits to educating our residents about the climate emergency and the broader ecological crisis, and working tirelessly to catalyze a climate emergency mobilization at the local, state, national, and global levels to protect our citizens as well as all the people and species of the world.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that New Haven commits to work with local organizations and communities to include job creation, environmental justice, and public health in project development in a way that prioritizes equitable outcomes, particularly for poor and marginalized communities.



New Haven Leadership

By declaring that we are in a climate emergency and committing to addressing it in time to avoid the worst outcomes, local governments can become leaders of the climate emergency movement, and inspire others to do the same. Los Angeles, Berkeley, Richmond, CA, and Hoboken, NJ have passed emergency resolutions organized by The Climate Mobilization.

New Haven passed the Climate Framework in 2018 so has a guide to follow, and there are **significant jobs and public health benefits** of taking action now.

A Call for Safe Climate: To protect humanity, we need a massive transformation of our economy and society in a matter of years, not decades. We must rapidly direct our resources toward a singular national purpose: restoring a safe climate for our world.

Decade transition: We must get to zero emissions as fast as possible — in ten years or less — using emergency economic planning measures.

Drawdown: A huge effort to sequester carbon and cool the earth back to safe levels. This includes massive investment in research to improve drawdown methods.

Rebuild transport: An overhaul of our transport system: high speed electrified railroads, new public transit options, new forms of fuel replacement, and car-free cities.

Transform agriculture: A move from industrial agriculture to localized, resilient farming with limits on livestock production and a phase-out of factory farming.

Reduce demand: A fair shares rationing program for energy use (similar to those used during WWII), as well as vastly improved efficiency, will minimize energy use.

Restore ecosystems: A half-earth conservation and ocean-protection program/area to halt the ongoing mass extinction of species and turn ecosystems into effective carbon sinks.

