



**NEW YORK STATE  
PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION**

Envisioning Healthy People in Healthy Places

# Youth Climate Opportunities

**Student, Teacher, Parent Resource Guide**



# Acknowledgements

This Resource Guide was a team effort. First, a big thanks goes to Brett Harris, DrPH, President of the NYS Public Health Association for her ACTION leadership on several issues we face in public health today, and for her trust in allowing me to found and chair a Climate Special Interest Group (SPIG). Early on she saw value in a Youth Climate Resource Guide and made sure it was reviewed by the NYS Public Health Association Board. She encouraged SPIG nomination for a national award, and in November 2023, we were awarded the American Public Health Association (APHA) “Excellence in Climate Leadership Award” for creating such a comprehensive and practical guide.

Thank you to my Climate SPIG for their active participation and staunch support, especially Board Member Nisha Beharie, and members Vincent Martello, Heather Duncan, Jana Kantor, Jen Becker, Lynne Greabell, and Nia Goodridge. We have miles to go...

Inspiration for the Youth Climate Resource Guide came from The Wild Center in Tupper Lake, NY, selected USA Today’s Best Science Museum in 2024. The Wild Center is a national leader in youth programming and a pioneer in Youth Climate Summits. At a Youth Climate

Summit, I came to believe all students, parents, and teachers deserve to know about climate-education-and-action opportunities. It was to fill an education and awareness gap that NYSPHA Climate SPIG created and launched its Youth Climate Resource Guide.

Kudos go to the Climate Resilience and Education Task Force (CRETf) for their persistent work with the NYS Education Department and the State Legislature on behalf of Climate Education for all youth, K-12.

In the same vein, NYSCHECK is a leader in children’s environmental health, and operates a Summer Academy for youth. Thank you, NYSCHECK, for the inspiration that helped seed our Resource Guide.

Last but not least, I want to thank Kirstin O’Sullivan, NYS Public Health Association Intern from the Master of Public Health program at UAlbany, for her research and initial design of the Guide. To our readers, please provide your feedback, and let’s keep the momentum going!

**Susan Harris, EdD**

NYS Public Health Association  
Chair, Climate SPIG



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# Calling All Student Changemakers!

You get to choose.

Climate Change is the greatest environmental, societal, and health challenge of our time. We have the brains and technology to manage it, if we muster the will and commitment to work together. With this Resource Guide, you can find fun yet meaningful ways to get involved in the climate movement. You can connect with other people your age and find action groups around the state and beyond.

This is a global call to action that needs all of us.

Let's Get Going!



# Calling All Teachers & Parents!

Young people are worried and even anxious about how climate change will impact their lives and their futures. This is an opportunity for adults to connect with kids on a mega-issue that really matters to them.

This Guide is not just for kids. It contains teacher-parent resources: workshops and retreats, museums and exhibits, newsletters and podcasts, and climate gatherings to attend. We cover New York State and beyond, because climate change knows no boundaries.

We are constantly learning and updating our entries, so please tell us what you think. To offer additional resources for consideration, email [advocacy@nyspha.org](mailto:advocacy@nyspha.org).



# Summer Camps and Learning Opportunities



## NYS DEC Camps

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Camps teach kids about forests, water quality, habitats, and other environmental topics while they swim, canoe, hike, backpack, and camp out. Choose from 4 distinct locations: Camp Colby (Northern Adirondacks), Pack Forest (Southern Adirondacks), Camp DeBruce (Catskills), and Camp Rushford (Western NY). Check out the link or email [EducationCamps@dec.ny.gov](mailto:EducationCamps@dec.ny.gov). Ages 11-17.

## NYSCHECK Summer Academy

The NYSCHECK Summer Academy is an 8-week, part-time, virtual training program for students interested in environmental health and the health impacts of climate change. Students learn from professionals then work in teams on climate change advocacy projects that are emergent and timely. The Academy is designed for high school through graduate and medical school students. Free.

## Audobon Nature Camps

The Audubon Society offers nature camps from Arizona to Maine, with several in New York State. Some are day camps, others are residential, and some are specialized. Choose from Jamestown Audubon Summer Camp, Greenwich Audubon Center, Theodore Roosevelt Audubon Center in Oyster Bay, Buffalo Audubon Society, and Beaver Meadow Audubon Center in North Java, NY.

## Barnard Pre-College Program: Sustainable Food and the City

Barnard's three-week program looks at the U.S. food system, examining food production, consumption, and waste management through four lenses: agriculture, health, policy and justice, and climate change. Check for early application deadlines.

## Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Center for Climate, Health, and the Global Environment, C-Change

Every summer, in partnership with the Putney pre-college program, high schoolers from around the world come together to learn how to become climate and health leaders in their communities. Students are offered workshops, field based activities, and meetings with scientists, health and policy experts, academics, and energy innovators. Financial support is available..

## Environmental Studies Summer Youth Institute (ESSYI)

At Hobart and William Smith College, fifty students and eighteen faculty and staff embark on a two-week environmental adventure. Talented high school students entering their junior and senior years can earn one college credit that serves as an introduction to an environmental studies track in college. Check early application deadlines.

## UAlbany WEATHER, CLIMATE, & CHEMISTRY CAMP

A week-long day camp for teens from the Capital District, this is an interactive experience where students learn about the science of weather, climate, and atmospheric chemistry. Understand the causes and consequences of air pollution and climate change. Learn about career opportunities, college application, financial aid, and college life. Free, Grades 9-12.

## COLUMBIA CLIMATE SCHOOL

Climate LIVE K12 is an online video series open to all learners curious about climate and sustainability. From November to June, Columbia Climate School researchers and students share their expertise on topics from coral reefs and blue carbon to youth leadership and pollution solutions. Sessions run 30 minutes via Zoom with Q&A on the second Wednesday of each month. Free, but registration required.





# Youth Clubs and Extracurriculars

## Climate and Resilience Education Task Force (CRETf) Youth Steering Committee (YSC)

The YSC is a community of like-minded high school students who advocate to include

climate education in NYS public schools. To fill a serious curriculum void, they work together on state-level policy and communicate with educators, NGOs, and other experts in the field. They are building a network of youth dedicated to climate and social justice.

## NY Youth Climate Leaders(NY<sup>2</sup>CL)

NY<sup>2</sup>CL is a policy-driven coalition of youth organizations from across New York State advocating for environmental and economic justice. NY<sup>2</sup>CL provides a platform for young people to engage in climate advocacy and policy-making, and they work to ensure that the voices of young people are heard. All Ages.





## The Wild Center

The Wild Center's Youth Climate Program works to convene, engage, connect, and empower young people around the world to take action on climate change. The program offers several opportunities for youth, such as the Adirondack Youth Climate Summit, educator and student retreats, and climate education resources. Greater Adirondack region. All ages.

## Kids GO (Get Outside)

A program of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Kids GO has great resources for you and your adult, including pages you can print and take with you as you explore outside. You can take a hike with a nature bingo card, record observations in your own nature journal, or learn about our state symbols. Share your adventures with #KidsGO and show the world how awesome it is to be outside!

## Environmental Advocates NY

Environmental Advocates NY will update you on the latest environmental issues on the local, state, and federal levels. With their Action Alerts, you can contact government officials directly to share your position on important policies.

## The Sierra Club

Begun 130 years ago, The Sierra Club is the most historic grassroots environmental group in the nation. We partner with communities to ensure all people benefit from clean air, fresh water, a stable climate, and a direct connection to nature. Check out a chapter or group near you: [CNNY \(Central & Northern NY\)](#), the [NYC group](#), the [Atlantic chapter](#), and the [Niagara group](#).



# Youth Climate Summits

## The Wild Center's Youth Climate Summit

The Wild Center and its Youth Climate Summit in Tupper Lake, NY, offers a unique blend of immersive nature experiences, environmental education, and interactive science museum. Visitors can explore interactive exhibits, observe animals, participate in outdoor activities, and attend special programs. The center encourages exploration, curiosity, and connection with nature and empowers young people to become stewards of the environment.

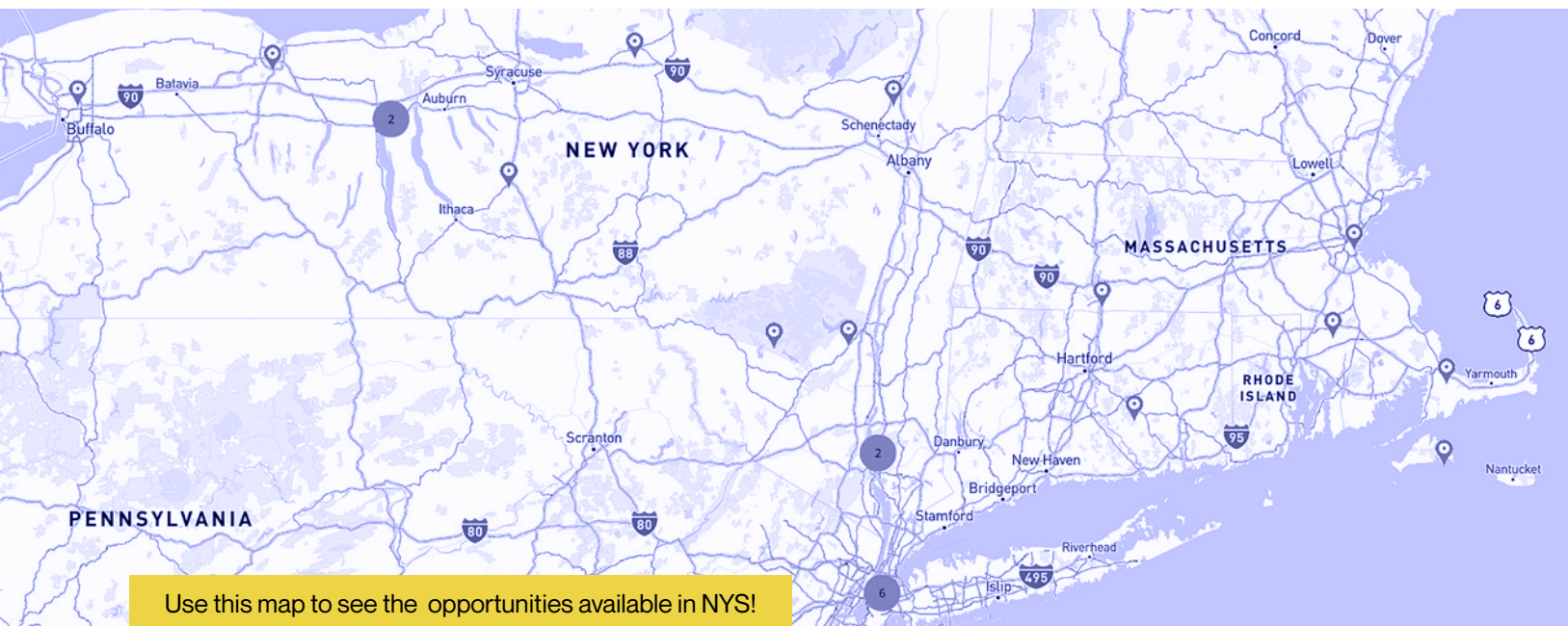
In addition, The Wild Center sponsors a network of more than 60 youth climate summits, locally and internationally. These summits offer the next generation of leaders the tools to become well-informed, engaged, and effective advocates for climate justice. Check the map below to see available opportunities throughout the U.S.:

## Central New York (CNY) Youth Climate Summit

The Central New York Youth Climate Summit empowers middle and high school students to learn about climate change, connect with like-minded peers, and develop actionable plans to address this critical environmental issue.

## Mohawk Valley Youth Climate Summit

Modeled after the Wild Center's Youth Climate Summit, this is a free one-day event for 7th-12th graders, held at the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES. The event is organized by the Onondaga Environmental Institute and partners. Aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards, it introduces students to green career pathways.



## Youth Empowerment and Sustainability Summit: (YESS!) at Ashokan

A 3-day immersive experience held at the Ashokan Center in the Catskills, for upper-middle and high school students. Build skills and confidence to lead community action. Promotes civic engagement and the power of personal storytelling. Students take an action plan home to their schools and communities.

## Columbia University Youth Climate Summit

Columbia EcoReps presents a free one-day conference for NYC high school students. Learn from Columbia University professors and NYC environmental organizations; create a climate action plan; network with other youth climate leaders. Based on the Wild Center's Youth Climate Summit model, it is now used all over the world.

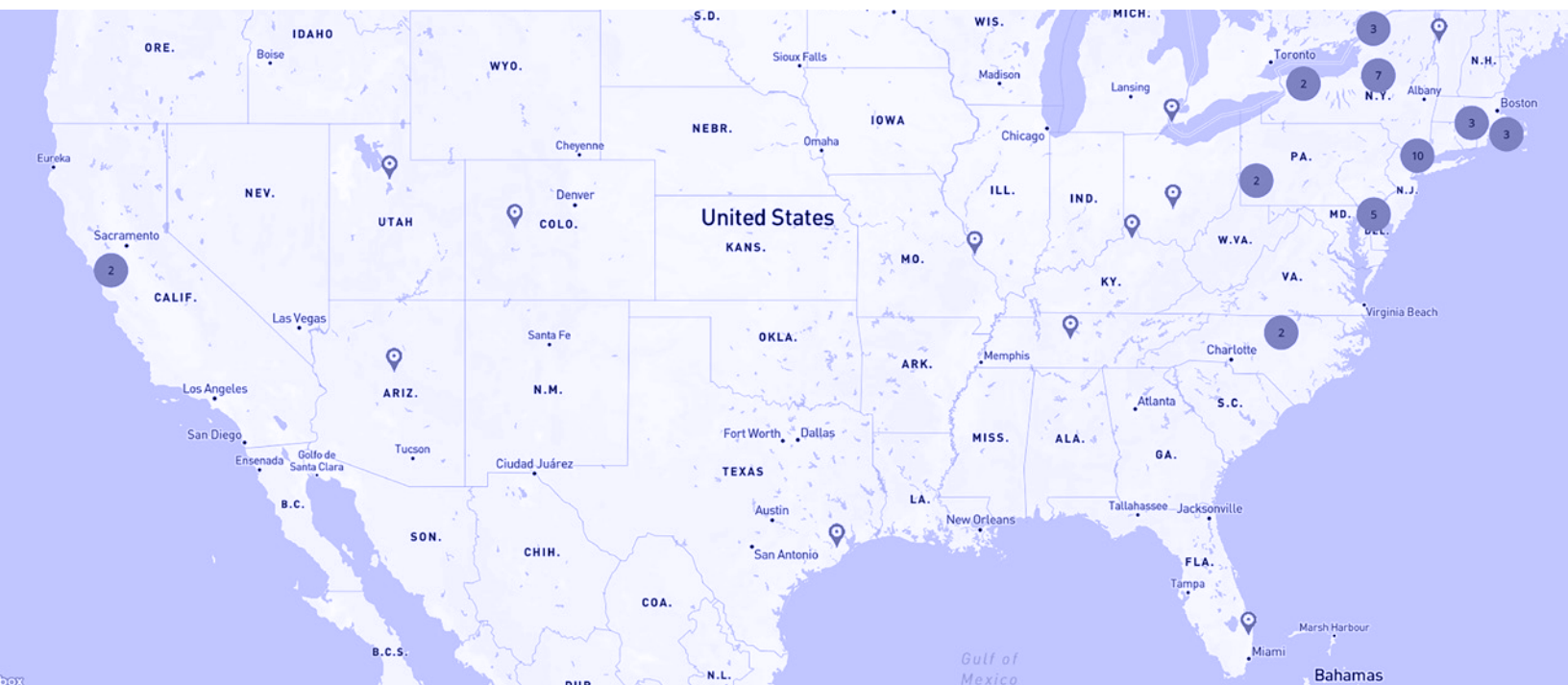
## Finger Lakes Youth Climate Summit

The Finger Lakes Youth Climate Summit is a one-day conference specifically designed for

high school students in the Finger Lakes region of New York. It takes place annually at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY. The goal of the summit is to empower students to learn about climate change, its impacts on the Finger Lakes region, and what they can do to take action. Students hear from experts and attend workshops on topics including the science of climate, climate justice, and sustainable living. Finally, they work together in teams to develop a Climate Action Plan they implement in their school or community.

## RPI (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) Youth Climate Career Summit

Climate Justice meets Clean Energy Conference meets Sustainable Job Fair. A one-day event for college students. Learn from Columbia University professors and NYC environmental organizations; create a climate action plan; network with other youth climate leaders. Based on the Wild Center's Youth Climate Summit model now used all over the world.





# ECO Corps

## Excelsior Conservation Corps

The Excelsior Conservation Corps is a program run in partnership with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the New York State Office of State Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, the New York State Commission for National and Community Service, and the Student Conservation Association. The program engages youth and young adults in conservation projects throughout New York State, including trail maintenance, invasive species removal, and habitat restoration. Multiple ages.

## Forest Conservation Corps

This program provides paid summer internships for young people to work on conservation projects in national forests and grasslands. Participants gain valuable experience in environmental stewardship and learn about careers in natural resource management. Ages 15-18.



# Youth Employment

## **SUNY Climate Corps Internships (PAID)**

More than 40 SUNY students a year are connected to paid internships at partner agencies to get hands-on experience, knowledge, and skills to excel in the climate field across the disciplines of planning, technology, renewable energy, sustainable infrastructure, and the circular economy. Partner agency work sites include the Department of Environmental Conservation, Department of Public Service, New York Energy Research and Development Authority, and Office of General Services.

## **The Green Teens Program (PAID)**

The Green Teens program in New York City is a youth development program that empowers urban youth to be effective community change agents by immersing youth in the local food system. The program engages teenagers to become stewards of their own local parks and recreation centers, encouraging the public to recycle. Teenagers are hired to grow food in the Green Teen Gardens and distribute the food

with Common Ground Farm through their Free Farm Stand, “Common Greens.” NYC Parks and Recreation. Ages 16+.

## **NYC Youth in the Environment (PAID)**

NYC Youth in the Environment is a program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 and the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC). It exposes young people to potential environmental career paths. The program is open to underserved youth and provides them with experience in the environmental field. NEIWPCC collaborates with summer youth employment programs in each city, which hire and pay teens. Location: NYC, Lowell & Lawrence MA. Ages 16-18.





## **Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers (PAID)**

Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers, operated by the U.S. Department of Labor in partnership with the Forest Service, provide job training and educational opportunities for young adults. Participants can learn skills in fields such as forestry, wildlife biology, and fire management. Ages 16-24

## **Youth Conservation Corps (PAID)**

The Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) is a youth employment program that engages young people in meaningful work experiences at national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, and fish hatcheries while developing an ethic of environmental stewardship and civic responsibility.

The program is generally 8 to 10 weeks long, and members are paid at least the state or federal minimum wage (whichever is higher) for a 40- hour work week.

YCC members work in a healthful outdoor setting on a variety of projects, including building trails, maintaining fences, cleaning up campgrounds, improving wildlife habitat, environmental education planning and teaching, stream restoration, historic building preservation, and more. The program provides a great opportunity for youth to learn about conservation, environmental issues, and careers in conservation, and to connect with the natural world. There are several participating parks in the state.



## **Ulster County Climate Corp (PAID)**

The Ulster County Climate Corps is a project-based summer internship program. Participants are assigned to County departments to help implement the County's climate and sustainability initiatives. This internship supports a broader effort to recruit and cultivate the next generation of County employees reflecting the talents and diversity of the community. Interns gain professional and practical experience in local government, supplemented by skill-based trainings and guest speakers on topics related to the environment, project management, and public administration. Interns can also participate in community engagement and fieldwork. Ages 16+.



# Youth Advocacy

## NY Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG)

The New York Public Interest Research Group offers students an array of opportunities to participate in high stakes public policy discussions. Students working with professional NYPIRG staff help lead projects and campaigns on a variety of urgent issues such as environmental protection, mass transit, and homelessness. This hands-on approach teaches them skills they don't necessarily receive in the classroom which may assist them in entering the workforce.

## NY Renews

NY Renews advocates for an end to fossil fuels, good-paying, clean-energy jobs, and social justice. It's a coalition of over 370 environmental, justice, faith, labor, and community groups, and the force behind the nation's most progressive climate law, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. NYRenews runs a Youth Advocacy Group.



## Climate and Resilience Education Task Force (CRETF)

The Climate and Resilience Education Task Force (CRETF) advocates for interdisciplinary climate education for all students in NYS schools, P-12, along with professional development opportunities for all teachers. The CRETF mission is to provide all youth, through public education, the climate knowledge and skills they need for a rapidly changing world. CRETF's Youth Steering Committee provides NYS high school students the tools to advocate for their own climate education. The YSC emphasizes youth-led, solutions-based activities that promote civic engagement.

# Climate Contests

## Green Stories Project

Green Stories is a series of free writing competitions across various formats (short story, video) to imagine what a sustainable society would look like.

## Ocean Awareness Contest

This international art competition challenges students ages 11-18 to explore the connections between human activities and the health of our ocean, and to creatively inspire action to protect it.

## American Climate Leadership Award - ECOAmerica

Monetary awards are given for initiatives with proven success in building community engagement and/or political will for climate action, advocacy, preparedness, or resilience.

## Envirothon Contest

Envirothon is an environmental education program and competition targeted towards high school students (grades 9-12). It is a multi-layered competition that blends classroom learning with hands-on field experiences to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to address environmental challenges. Teams of five students compete at local, state, and national levels, testing their knowledge and problem-solving abilities through written exams, field tests, and presentations addressing environmental issues.

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) “Picture for Climate Change” Student Contest

Open to students in grades 5-12, this contest encourages them to capture the impacts of climate change through photography.



# Climate Art and Culture

**“Art really does have the power to change people, and thus, our future”**

- Leonard Bernstein

Artists from

## **Yale Climate Connections and The Climate Reality Project**

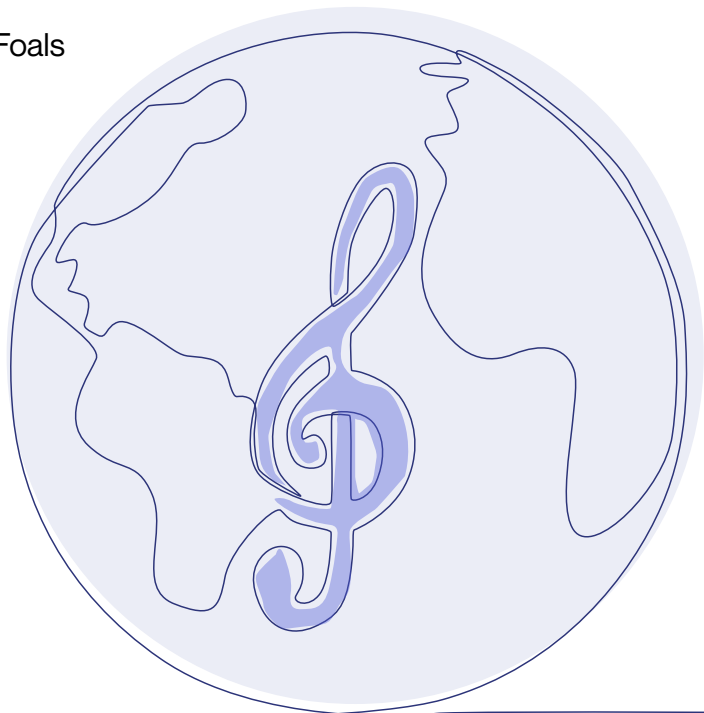
- Sara Black & Amber Ginsburg – Sculptors
- Rebecca Lee Kunz – Story Painter
- Terry Evans – Photographer
- Madjeen Isaac – Painter
- Jack Coulter – Painter
- Catherine Sarah Young – Multimedia
- Dana Jung – Illustrator
- Lorenzo Quinn – Sculptor
- Nichole Sobecki – Photographer, Filmmaker
- Olafur Eliasson – Sculptor, Photographer
- John Akomfrah – Videographer
- Daniel Beltra – Photographer
- Ana Teresa Fernandez – Sculptor, Painter
- Allison Janae Hamilton – Sculptor, Photographer, Videographer
- Alejandro Duran – Nontraditional Multimedia
- Katherine Boland – Nontraditional Media
- Jason Decaires Taylor – Sculptor, Underwater Photographer
- Julie Heffernan – Painter





# Climate Music

- “The Four Seasons” – Antonio Vivaldi
- “all the good girls go to hell” – Billie Eilish
- “Despite Repeated Warnings” – Paul McCartney
- “Feels Like Summer” – Childish Gambino
- “Big Yellow Taxi” – Joni Mitchell
- “Global Warming” (album) – Pitbull
- “Solar Power” – Lourde
- “Colorado” (album) – Neil Young
- “Everything Not Saved Will Be Lost” – Foals
- “Walk With You” – Janelle Kroll
- “How Far I’ll Go” – Alessia Cara
- “New Tomorrow” – Dougie MacLean
- “The Storm” – Moving Hearts
- “Catalyst” – Rising Appalachia
- “Not Over Yet” – Jamie MacLean
- “Rain” – Maddy Prior and the Girls
- “Land of the Sky” – Al Petteway and Amy White
- “Old and Strong, the Mountain Song” – Jane Russell and Christine Kydd
- “Who Will Heal the Land?” – Luka Bloom
- “The Wishing Tree” – Mike Goldrick, John McCusker, John Doyle
- “Follow the Heron” – Karine Polwart
- “Ode to a Butterfly” – Nickel Creek
- “Wild Mountainside” – Eddi Reader
- “Voices of the Land” – Maire Brennan
- “The Drop That Contained the Sea” – Christopher Tin
- “Our Future in Your Hands” – Laura Attridge
- “Elegy for the Arctic” – Ludovico Einaudi



# Join an Organization!

## Climate Reality Project

Founded by former V.P. Al Gore, we recruit, train, and mobilize folks from all walks of life to bring about sustainable change. We are advocates, cultural leaders, organizers, scientists, and storytellers ready to lead the way.

## Climate Families NYC

We're a NYC grassroots, all-volunteer group of kids and caregivers fighting for an end to fossil fuels and a cleaner planet. We have fun while doing it.

## Climate MAMA

We are mamas, papas, aunts, uncles, grandparents with a variety of roles in fighting climate change. Executive Director Harriet Shugarman is the author of "How to Talk to Your Kids About Climate Change" and "Turning Angst into Action." Education and advocacy.

## Fridays for Future

We're a youth-led organization, begun by 15-year-old Greta Thunberg and other activists. Find out what you can do.

## You Change Earth

We help students make a difference through simple lifestyle changes, influencing local and state government, and choosing climate-centered careers.

## Earth Guardians

We train and empower youth to be leaders at the intersection of the environmental and climate justice movements: through art, storytelling, and civic engagement. Find a crew near you, or start your own.

## Earth Uprising

We are a global, youth-led climate movement for education, reparative justice, and a just transition to a regenerative economy. Join a chapter, or start one in your community.



## Gen Z for Change

We represent a new era of organizing. From frontline community organizing, to social media content creation, to programming, to graphic design, we use our talents to empower.

## Future Coalition

We are a coalition of youth climate organizations and adult allies dedicated to mobilizing the historically under resourced. We organize around elections and provide sponsorships.

## ECORISE

Our flagship program includes access to K-12 curricula, professional development, connections to partners, and access to student grants. Green job opportunities for high schoolers and opportunities for underrepresented youth.

## 350 Coalition

Our mission is to stop fossil fuel projects everywhere, halt fossil fuel finance, support investment in renewables, and power-up campaigns for energy justice.

## New York State Public Health Association (NYSPHA) Climate Committee

Awarded “Excellence in Climate Leadership” by the American Public Health Association, we invite students, high school and up; teachers of climate change; interested business people; scientists and public health professionals of all stripes to join our crusade to save the planet. This Youth Climate Resource Guide is one example of our work. Our Youth Climate Focus Groups is another.

## We Act

We provide Environmental Health & Justice Leadership Training (EHJLT) because environmental justice isn’t just for experts, it’s for everyone! We do community organizing and campaign work in Northern Manhattan. See our Summer Program and podcast, Uptown Chats.

## Third Act

“Our generations (Boomer and the Silent Generation) have done our share of climate damage,” according to founder Bill McKibben. But now we’re organizing “experienced” Americans, 60+, to help fix the climate emergency alongside younger generations.

## Red Rebel Brigade

We are a performance-activist troupe, in red uniform, that draws attention to the climate emergency and actions taken to combat it.

## League of Conservation Voters

We influence policy and legislation, hold politicians accountable, and win elections to create safe, healthy communities protected by a just and equitable democracy.

## National Environmental Youth Advisory Council (NEYAC)

We present an exceptional opportunity for individuals across the country, aged 16-29. With sixteen members in total, you can either nominate someone or apply yourself. Members are appointed for a two-year term, and applications are accepted biannually. For details on the application process, please refer to the link provided above.



## Alliance for Ecotherapy and Social Justice

For therapists who want to become more aware of the mental health impacts of climate change at the macro-, mezzo-, and micro- levels. Workshops, reading lists, climate therapist directories.

## Scenic Hudson

Instead of climate doom and climate paralysis, volunteer your skills. Wanted: community gardening, monitoring animals, trail building, clearing invasive species, cleaning up, sharing your specialty.

## The Last Generation

We are a national student-led organization that aims to raise awareness for climate change and environmental injustice. We believe everyone has the right to clean air, clean water, and a clean planet. We hope to make a difference by providing these things to every single person across the globe, regardless of race, socioeconomic status, or sexual orientation. We are tired of leaders acting like children. We believe that now is the time for children to act like leaders.

## Zero Hour

Zero Hour is a movement led by young people. We prioritize diversity in discussions about climate and environmental justice. Our goal is to ensure that all individuals in every community have access to clean air, water, and public lands and that the well-being of communities takes precedence over corporate interests.

## America Conservation Coalition

The American Conservation Coalition (ACC) is a leading nonprofit organization that mobilizes young conservative individuals to engage in environmental and climate issues through market-based, common sense, and limited government ideals. ACC is dedicated to fostering an inclusive platform where everyone can contribute to conservation conversations while simultaneously promoting environmental and economic success. ACC offers group membership opportunities, events, and resources to help establish branches in local communities.

## Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change

The United Nations Secretary-General has established the Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change, aiming to benefit from the practical insights of seven young climate leaders. Our group is open to young individuals around the world between the ages of 18 and 28 who have displayed exceptional dedication to climate action and advocacy. The Secretary-General selects and appoints the group members from a collection of nominees, sourced from various nongovernmental and civil society organizations worldwide, with a focus on youth and climate. The selection process occurs biennially, and interested individuals can check the official website for the upcoming application period.

## Roots and Shoots

We are a global movement that brings together youth from preschool to university age to work on environmental, conservation, and humanitarian issues. The organization has over 8000 local groups worldwide that involve nearly 150,000 youth. The program encourages young people to create projects that support campaigns. Roots & Shoots provides resources about how to integrate these projects into the local community. Find a chapter near you and get started.

## The Nature Conservancy

We offer activities for kids to learn about nature, such as visits to rivers or streams to learn about fish and other aquatic life. We offer nature lessons and activities for all ages through our youth curriculum platform, Nature Lab.

## TREEage

We are a youth-led organization based in New York, advocating for a local Green New Deal. We work towards securing tangible and transformative actions to address the climate crisis and build a New York with clean air, water, and equitable access to a healthy environment.

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## The Sunrise Movement

We engage young people in the fight for climate justice through various youth programs:

### Sunrise Summer Camp:

This immersive residential program brings together hundreds of young people for a week of learning, strategizing, and building community around the Green New Deal. Campers participate in workshops, discussions, and action planning sessions, all while enjoying the outdoors and forming lasting connections with fellow activists.

### Sunrise Movement Hubs:

These local chapters are the backbone of the Sunrise Movement, providing young people with opportunities to get involved in their communities. Hubs organize educational events, voter registration drives, and direct actions to raise awareness about the climate crisis and push for change.

### Sunrise Movement Academy:

This online platform offers a variety of free courses and resources on climate justice, activism, and organizing. Young people can learn about the science of climate change, develop organizing skills, and connect with mentors and other activists.

### Sunrise Movement Action Network:

This platform allows young people to connect with each other and take action on climate issues, even if they don't live near a Sunrise Hub. Through the Action Network, young people can find local events, sign petitions, and contact their elected officials.

### **Sunrise Movement Fellowship:**

This selective program provides financial and mentorship support to young people of color who are passionate about climate justice. Fellows participate in leadership development training, attend conferences, and work on Sunrise Movement campaigns.

## **Faith-Based Organizations**

<https://www.rivers-mountains-greenfaith.org/>

We inspire and mobilize climate and environmental action among people of diverse faiths, including those who are spiritual, but not religious. Local, regional, national.

### **Jewish Youth Climate Movement-Adamah**

We are a Gen-Z-led movement dedicated to combatting climate change and environmental injustice from a Jewish lens, Tikkun Olam. Our leadership board is composed of teenagers.

### **Muslim Climate Watch**

We aim to empower Muslims with the education and tools to inspire climate justice and climate action embedded in Islam. Not fatalism, but preparedness in the face of extreme weather.

### **Christian Climate Action**

We are aware that taking climate action can be outside people's comfort zone. To find out more, attend an online Zoom meeting (events page), subscribe to our monthly newsletter, or find a local, regional, or national group.





# Climate Gatherings

## Climate Week NYC

A week-long event featuring conferences, summits, panels, and exhibitions focused on climate solutions across various sectors. This event showcases progress and accelerating action on climate change.

## New York Climate Action Summit

Organized by Climate Solutions NY, this summit brings together leaders from government, business, and civil society to discuss and advance climate solutions in the state.

## Environmental Education for Educators Conference

Held by the New York State Education Department, this conference provides professional development for educators on incorporating environmental education into their curriculum.



# Climate Games

## Games for Youth

### National Geographic Kids Ocean Game

This interactive game allows kids to explore the ocean depths and learn about the different animals that live there. It also teaches them about the threats facing the ocean and what they can do to help.

### Design Squad Fidget Power Game

This game challenges kids to use their creativity and science skills to design energy-efficient devices. It's a great way to get kids thinking about sustainable solutions to real-world problems.

### Eco Empire

This strategy game lets kids build their own sustainable city. They need to balance their energy needs with the environment and learn about renewable energy sources and conservation.

### Coral Beaching

This game teaches kids about the causes and effects of coral bleaching. They need to manage different factors to keep the coral healthy and prevent bleaching.

## Games For Teens and Young Adults

### Go with the Flow

This game challenges players to manage a water system in a changing climate. They need to make decisions about water use, conservation, and infrastructure to ensure everyone has access to clean water.

### C-Roads

An online policy simulator that allows users to test and visualize the long-term impacts of climate strategies across distinct regional groups. The C-ROADS simulator offers global, 3-region, and 6-region modes in order to test national and regional emission reduction policies.

### SimCity Green Cities

This city-building game encourages players to create sustainable cities with renewable energy, efficient transportation, and green spaces. It's a fun way to learn about urban planning and the environmental impact of our cities.

### Climate Game

Can you reach net-zero by 2050? See if you can save the planet from the worst effects of climate change.

# Climate Fiction

## CLIFI



- [After the Flood](#) – Kassandra Montag
- [American War](#) – Omar Akkad
- [Bangkok Wakes to Rain](#) – Pitchaya Sudhanthad
- [Barkskins](#) – Annie Proulx
- [Bewilderment](#) – Richard Powers
- [Birnam Wood](#) – Eleanor Catton
- [Blackfish City](#) – Sam J. Miller
- [Blue Skies](#) – T. C. Boyle
- [A Children's Bible, a Novel](#) – Lydia Millet
- [The Denial](#) – Ross Clark
- [The Disaster Tourist](#) – Yun Ko-eun
- [Everything Change: An Anthology of Climate Fiction](#) – Arizona State University, pub.
- [Fever Dream](#) – Samantha Schweblin
- [Future Home of the Living God](#) – Louise Erdrich
- [The Fifth Season](#) – N. K. Jemisin
- [A Half-Built Garden](#) – Ruthann Emryr
- [How Beautiful We Were](#) – Imbolo Mbue
- [Legend](#) – Marie Lu

- [The Light Pirate](#) – Lily Brooks - Dalton
- [The MaddAddam Trilogy: Oryx and Crake; Year of the Flood; MaddAddam](#) – Margaret Atwood
- [The Ministry for the Future](#) – Kim Stanley Robinson
- [Once There Were Wolves](#) – Charlotte McConaghy
- [The Overstory](#) – Richard Powers
- [Parable of the Sower](#) – Octavia Butler
- [Salvage the Bones](#) – Jesmyn Ward
- [Tales of the Warming: Envisioning the Human Impact of the Climate Crisis](#) – Lorin R. Robinson
- [Tentacle](#) – Rita Indiana
- [Termination Shock](#) – Neal Stephenson
- [Two Degrees](#) – Alan Gatz
- [The Water Knife](#) – Paolo Bacigalupi
- [Weather](#) – Jenny Offill
- [A Wizard of Earthsea](#) – Ursula K. LeGuin



# Climate Non-Fiction

- [All We Can Save](#) – Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Katherine Wilkinson
- [The Big Fix: 7 Practical Steps to Save Our Planet](#) – Hal Harvey and Justin Gillis
- [The Climate Book](#) – Greta Thunberg
- [Deep Economy: The Wealth of Communities and the Durable Future](#) – Bill McKibben
- [Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming](#) – Paul Hawken
- [The End of Nature](#) – Bill McKibben
- [Falter: Has the Human Game Begun to Play Itself Out?](#) – Bill McKibben
- [Generation Dread](#) – Britt Wray
- [Girls Who Green the World](#) – Diana Kapp and Ana Jaren
- [H Is for Hope](#) – Elizabeth Kolbert
- [Hot, Flat, and Crowded](#) – Thomas Friedman
- [The Madhouse Effect: How Climate Change Denial Is Threatening Our Planet, Destroying Our Politics, and Driving Us Crazy](#) – Michael Mann
- [The Nature Fix: Why Nature Makes Us Happier, Healthier, and More Creative](#) – Florence Williams
- [Net Zero: How We Stop Climate Change](#) – Dieter Helm
- [The New Climate War](#) – Michael Mann
- [Ocean of Life: The Fate of Man and the Sea](#) – Callum Roberts
- [One Green Thing: Discover Your Hidden Power to Help Save the Planet](#) – Heather White
- [Our Fragile Moment: How Lessons from the Earth's Past Can Help Us Survive the Climate Crisis](#) – Michael Mann
- [The Parrot and the Igloo: Climate and the Science of Denial](#) – David Lipsky
- [Regenesiis: Feeding the World Without Devouring the Planet](#) – George Monbiot
- [Silent Spring](#) – Rachel Carson
- [The Sixth Extinction](#) – Elizabeth Kolbert
- [Supercharge Me: Net Zero Faster](#) – Eric Loneragan and Corinne Sawers
- [Sustainable Nation: Urban Design Patterns for the Future](#) – Douglas Farr
- [This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs The Climate](#) – Naomi Klein
- [Under A White Sky](#) – Elizabeth Kolbert
- [The Uninhabitable Earth](#) – David Wallace-Wells
- [Waste: One Woman's Fight Against America's Dirty Secret](#) – Catherine Coleman Flowers
- [What the Eyes Don't See: A Story of Crisis, Resistance, and Hope in an American City](#) – Mona Hanna-Attisha

# Climate Poetry

- Alarum – Amanda Gorman
- Earthwise – Amanda Gorman
- Homework – Allen Ginsberg
- Letter to My Great, Great Grandchild – J.P. Grasser
- The ‘Change’ in Climate Change – Jacob Shores-Arguello
- “X” – Imtiaz Dharker
- Warned – Sylvia Stults
- Our Mother Earth – Joshua Isham
- Ovid on Climate Change – Eliza Griswold
- Can Earth Be Earth? – Garvit
- A Radiant Romance – Matt Harvey

- A Language of Change – David Sergeant
- Surplus Value – David C. Ward
- Report to Wordsworth – Boey Kim Cheng
- The Climate – Annelyse Gelman
- Love in a Time of Climate Change – Craig Santos Perez



# Climate Films & Documentaries

- Before the Flood Burning
- Burning
- Chasing Corals
- Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret
- David Attenborough: A Life on Our Planet
- The Day After Tomorrow
- Don't Look Up
- Eating Our Way to Extinction
- Extrapolations
- The Fire Next Time
- Godzilla: King of the Monsters
- How to Blow Up a Pipeline
- An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power
- An Inconvenient Truth
- The Minimalists: Less is Now
- Moana
- A Plastic Ocean
- Seaspiracy
- Strange World
- A Tale of Fire and Ice
- Years of Living Dangerously





# Climate Drama - Plays

- 100 Plays to Save the World – Elizabeth Freestone, Jeanie O'Hare
- Dry Time – Harry Newman
- Emergent Strategy: Shaping Change, Changing Worlds – Karen Malpede
- Extreme Whether – Karen Malpede
- An Enemy of the People – Henrik Ibsen
- Mammelephant – Lanxing Fu
- No More Harveys (from “The Arctic Cycle”) – Chantal Bilodeau
- Salmon is Everything – Theresa J. May
- Scenes From the Climate Era – David Finnigan
- The Water Warrior – Ken Weitzman



# Climate Museums

## **The Wild Center (Tupper Lake)**

Discover the Wild Center, a natural history center located in Tupper Lake, New York, near the center of New York State's Adirondack Park. It was founded in 2006 and is known for its interactive exhibits, such as "Climate Solutions," live animals, and scenic trails. It is a pioneer of the Youth Climate Summit.

## **New York Hall of Science (Queens)**

Dive into a world of climate change wonders with exhibits unveiling the mysteries of climate shifts and cutting-edge solutions.

## **American Museum of Natural History (Manhattan)**

Explore the realm of climate change through captivating exhibits like the "Hall of Biodiversity" and "Our Changing Planet" display.

## **The Buffalo Museum of Science (Buffalo)**

Discover a trove of exhibits delving into climate change and its effects on the Great Lakes region.



## **The Rochester Museum & Science Center (Rochester)**

Unravel the secrets of climate change and its impact on local ecosystems at the "Climate Change: Our Choices, Our Future" exhibit.

## **The Climate Museum (Manhattan)**

Delve into the social, cultural, and political aspects of climate change through their engaging exhibits and events.

## **The Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies (Millbrook)**

Teachers, apply for paid immersive research opportunities. College students, apply for paid summer fellowships. The Institute has K-12 curricula and hands-on activities for students to explore ecosystems around them. Public lectures.

## **Museum of the Earth (Ithaca)**

See the permanent exhibit “Changing Climate: Our Future, Our Choice.” It shows how the earth’s climate has changed many times and is now changing at an unprecedentedly rapid rate due to the actions of humans. It also shows how we have the power to take action. Check out the online exhibit before visiting.

## **Sciencenter (Ithaca)**

In a hands-on exploration of weather, create rain, sleet, snow, and manipulate landscapes to understand water flow. Track real-life weather changes at our weather station.

## **Hudson River Maritime Museum (Hudson)**

Be forewarned. “Warning Signs: Climate Change in the Hudson Valley” is a permanent exhibit which includes an audio-tour. It examines the science and history behind climate change and how this has affected, and will continue to affect, the Hudson River Valley.

## **Jones Beach Energy and Nature Center (Long Island)**

When you head to Jones Beach, don’t miss this. The Center offers permanent and rotating exhibits, public programs, and educational resources to help visitors understand the coastal environment. Explores relationships between human beings, energy systems, and environmental stewardship.

## **Art X Climate Gallery (Virtual)**

Visit the first art gallery to be featured in the National Climate Assessment. This shows the power of art to advance the conversation around climate. Work is from all 10 NCA regions, some from students. Artist statements are included.

## **Climate Art Gallery (Virtual)**

Visit this virtual art gallery that deepens understanding of climate change and biodiversity.



# Eco-Tourism



## The Broke Backpacker

Get a list of the best eco-lodges in New York. As well as being immersed in exceptional natural beauty, eco-lodges aim to reduce their environmental impact and carbon footprint.

## The Definitive Guide to Ecotours in NYC

NYC is a living showcase of urban sustainability, with rooftop farms, green buildings, habitat restoration projects, and pioneering eco-experiments. Explore the green side of NYC with an expert guide or construct a custom itinerary.

## Ecovillage Ithaca

We are part of a global movement to promote experiential learning around human needs for shelter, food, energy, livelihood, and social connection. Learn about residential life here, take a workshop, or delve into organic farming, green building, sustainable community, and healthy living.

## NYC Bucket List 10 Eco-friendly Activities

From green land marking to vegan restaurants, we've compiled a list of the top ten sustainable and eco-friendly must-do's when traveling to NYC.

## New York State Ecotourism

Family-friendly natural sites to visit and explore - we promote enjoyable ways of experiencing the great outdoors in a socially and environmentally responsible manner.

## 10 Most Beautiful Ecotourism Destinations in NYS

A list of must-sees in NYS.

## 12 Unforgettable Farmstays Across NY

Join in on farm activities, garden work, wagon rides; follow woody trails; enjoy bonfires under the night sky.

## Sustainable NYC: A Guide to 10 Ways You Can Visit in an Eco friendly Way

How to visit the Big Apple sustainably and ethically.

# News

- The Climate Awareness Minute: A free 60-second radio feature available to radio stations. Co-produced by Scenic Hudson and the Climate Awareness Project. For listeners, access the Climate Minute at [www.radiowoodstock.com/wdst/index](http://www.radiowoodstock.com/wdst/index)
- BBC: <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment/56837908>
- Bloomberg: <https://www.bloomberg.com/climate>
- Carbon Brief: <https://www.carbonbrief.org/>
- CNN: <https://www.cnn.com/world/cnn-climate>
- The Cooldown: [www.thecooldown.com](http://www.thecooldown.com)
- Citizens' Climate Education: <https://citizensclimateeducation.org/>
- Climate Change Communication: <https://www.climatechangecommunication.org/>
- EcoAmerica: <https://ecoamerica.org/lets-talk-climate/>
- Environmental News Network: <https://www.enn.com/climate>
- Euro News: <https://www.euronews.com/green/green-series/climatenow>
- Grist: <https://grist.org/>
- The Guardian: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/climatecrisis>
- Inside Climate News: <https://insideclimatenews.org/>
- New York Times: <https://www.nytimes.com/section/climate>
- Politico: <https://www.politico.com/news/climate-change>
- Positive Climate News: [https://www.instagram.com/jessicakleczka/?img\\_index=1](https://www.instagram.com/jessicakleczka/?img_index=1)  
[https://www.instagram.com/p/C1Oz9PiNeWj/?img\\_index=1](https://www.instagram.com/p/C1Oz9PiNeWj/?img_index=1)
- Reuters: <https://www.reuters.com/business/environment/>
- Sunrise Movement: <https://www.sunrisemovement.org/latest/>
- 350.org: <https://350.org/>
- Washington Post: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/>
- Yale Climate Communication: <https://climatecommunication.yale.edu/>
- Yale Climate Connections: <https://yaleclimateconnections.org/>



# Podcasts

- [Environmental Defense Fund](#)
- [The Energy Gang](#)
- [GreenBiz350](#)
- [How to Save a Planet](#)
- [Mothers of Invention](#)
- [My Climate Journey](#)
- [Pricing Nature](#)
- [Sense and Sustainability](#)
- [Sustainability Defined](#)
- [TED Talks on Climate for Adults and Kids](#)
- [The Business of Sustainability](#)
- [Uptown Chats](#)



# Resources: Teachers, Parents, and Students

## **APHA Eco Bookworms**

The American Public Health Association (APHA) has created an Eco “Book Club” for youth ages 4-8. On their website you can find an array of equity-focused, illustrated children’s books for parents to enjoy with their kids.

## **Our Kids Camp Resource**

The “Our Kids” website offers an extensive catalog of summer camps in New York State, which includes both day and residential camps. Additionally, there are options for camps that prioritize environmental education and sustainability.

## **NYS Children’s Environmental Health Centers (NYSCHECK)**

Since 2017, NYSCHECK has trained over 1,700 environmental health leaders. The New York State Children’s Environmental Health Centers (NYSCHECK) is comprised of seven centers located throughout New York State. The centers collaborate to identify and address environmental exposures that impact the health of children and families. Also, check out [NYSCHECK’s summer learning academy](#).

## **Climate Cafes**

Community-led informal, safe places to talk about climate change. Not a substitute for clinical care or psychotherapy. Join a cafe or start your own.

## **Subject To Climate**

To find credible and engaging materials on climate change, at no cost, educators in all subject areas are encouraged to explore this climate education hub. Network, ask each other questions, and exchange ideas.

## **The CLEAN Network**

The Climate Literacy and Energy Awareness Network (CLEAN) is a dedicated community striving to enhance climate and energy awareness at local, regional, national, and global levels. Its primary goal is to furnish a reviewed collection of free, high-quality teaching materials that facilitate the teaching of climate and energy and support the CLEAN Network’s community of professionals. It also conducts teleconferences to foster collaboration and exchange of information.

## **Climate Change Educator Retreat**

The Wild Center hosts a Climate Change Educator Retreat, which is a hands-on exploration of how to teach climate change science, impacts, justice, and solutions. The retreat includes a variety of curricula, interactive workshops, field trips, and guest speakers, and it is designed for educators working with middle to high school aged youth across all disciplines. The program provides opportunities for curriculum and program planning and welcomes educators to attend in teams from their district or organization. The retreat is co-hosted by the Finger Lakes Institute at Hobart and William Smith College and The Wild Center, with residential and non-residential options available.



## **The Teacher-Friendly Guide to Climate Change**

This guide includes both the basics of climate change science and perspectives on teaching a subject that has become socially and politically polarized. Find resources aligned with Next Generation Science Standards, videos, and opportunities for teacher professional development on climate change and energy.

## **Climate Interactive**

Join our free, virtual training program. Interactive lessons on climate solutions, using our En-ROADS Climate Simulator, will spark climate action for you and your community.

## **Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies**

Teachers may apply for paid immersive research opportunities and college students for paid summer fellowships. K-12 curricula and hands-on activities for students to explore ecosystems around them. Public lectures, walks, newsletters.

## **North American Association of Environmental Education**

Our coalition works to address a number of policy initiatives focused on the state and national levels. We promote climate education in schools and climate literacy for all along three dimensions: cognitive, social- emotional, and action.

## **The Climate Project at MIT**

MIT President Sally Kornbluth has described climate change as “the greatest scientific and societal challenge of this, or any age.” Launched in February of 2024, The Climate Project is a whole-of-MIT mobilization and all out collaboration with partners regionally, in the U.S., and around the world. The goal is to speed

up the cycle of activities needed to implement new technological, behavioral, and policy solutions at scale.

## **Schools for Climate Action**

We are a youth-adult campaign to help student Green Teams, Student Councils, School Boards, PTA's, and Teachers' Unions expand school district responses to the climate crisis.

## **Natural Resources Defense Council (NDRC)**

While we are a leader in environmental policy and leadership, we also provide news and down-to-earth solutions on climate change. How-to- take-action toolkits and events.

## **Our Climate Our Future**

We are a collection of educational resources on climate science, climate justice, and climate solutions. Just sign up to access videos and other resources.

## **CUNY Institute for Sustainable Cities**

We look at cities as part of the solution to sustainability challenges. We examine consumption patterns and impacts; how cities are vulnerable to environmental impacts and their response capacities; and what vital services cities provide, plus the cost-benefit of maintenance and restoration.

## **You Change Earth**

Check out ways students can make a difference, how individuals can influence local and state government, how you can make your career climate-oriented, and how you can make lifestyle changes. Be empowered.

## New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)

The Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) offers a wealth of resources and information on afterschool programs, including those with a focus on environmental education and sustainability.

## Climate and Health Youth Education Toolkit

The American Public Health Association (APHA) and Biogen bring high school students a first-of-its-kind curriculum on health impacts of the climate crisis. The effort is designed to reduce the gap between science and health education.

## Morningside Center

We provide examples of “teachable moments” for educators. Help students with social-emotional skills during a time of climate anxiety. Support for feelings of sadness, anger, guilt, powerlessness.

## New York Times

See resources for Teaching About Climate Change With The New York Times. Dozens of resources to help students understand why our planet is warming and what we can do to stop it.

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Climate Change in the Social Studies Classroom: A “Why” and “How to” Guide

## Harvard-Radcliffe Institute: Climate Change Initiative

Our public programming supports vital conversations, from small groups to major conferences.

## National Wildlife Federation

The [National Wildlife Federation](#) offers several resources and activities for connecting kids and nature, including creating a nature notebook, becoming a wildlife detective, and getting creative with leaves. The organization also offers educational resources such as lesson plans, curriculum, and webinars for connecting kids and nature. Some of the program offerings for youth include:

- [Eco-Schools USA](#), Turning K-12 Schools Green: Through student-driven action teams, the Eco-Schools USA program brings effective “green” management to school grounds, facilities, and curriculum. This international initiative not only helps schools reduce their carbon footprint, but it inspires kids to be good stewards for the environment and take action in their community.
- Garden for Wildlife™, Empowering People to Restore Habitat: Gardening for wildlife is a perfect way to share your love of the outdoors with children and foster a future connection to nature. The National Wildlife Federation provides tips, resources, and a [Certified Wildlife Habitat®](#) program specially designed around wildlife gardening at [home](#), [school](#), and in [communities](#).
- [EarthTomorrow](#), Organizing Youth Around Service Learning Projects: Earth Tomorrow is the National Wildlife Federation’s multicultural youth environmental education and leadership development program, creating opportunities for underserved youth to develop environmental literacy and life skills and make valuable contributions to the ecological health and leadership of their communities.

## Cornell Cooperative Extension

### Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE): Supporting Local Communities through Research-based Education and Programs

is a state-wide organization that focuses on providing research-based information, tools, and education to improve the economic vitality, ecological sustainability, and social well-being of local communities. With a presence in every county in New York State, CCE offers a variety of programs and services to support families, protect ecosystems, and provide youth opportunities for research-based education in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Here are some of the opportunities CCE offers:

- Exploring Youth's Concerns About Climate Change: Cornell CALS offers a summer internship program that explores youth's concerns about climate change. This program provides an opportunity for youth to learn about climate change and its impacts, as well as to develop skills in communication, leadership, and problem-solving.
- Agriculture and Horticulture Programs: CCE offers programs for commercial horticulture and gardening enthusiasts, including diagnostic services, gardening tips, and horticulture membership programs.
- Community Education Programs: CCE offers free or low-cost workshops on a variety of topics, such as healthy food on a budget and starting a home vegetable garden.
- 4-H Youth Development programs: CCE provides opportunities for youth to engage in community service and research-based education in STEM.



**NEW YORK STATE  
PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION**

Envisioning Healthy People in Healthy Places

 [www.nyspha.org](http://www.nyspha.org)