

UUCF Climate Action Group



Attendees: Eric Goplerud, Bruce Wyman, Sophie Zager, Bill Repsher, Mike Rowe, Loretta Rowe, Dave Culp, Lois Phemister, Suzi Foster, McKinley Sims, Kathy Price, Judy Gallimore.

Coverage of the Climate Action Group table in the Commons after services.

Sunday	Theme	9:15	11:15	Special draw
19-Feb	Food and Water	Judy, David	Loretta, Mike, Judy	Hydroponics, Food
26-Feb	Food and Water	Loretta, Mike	Eric	Free Trade, CSA, Farm Market
March 1	Transportation	David, Bruce, Eric	Catherine, Kathy	Kick off transportation month

UUCF Auction.

Home energy	<i>Learn to reduce your energy bills and save the planet. What could be better? Jedi Masters Eric Goplerud, Jean Wright and Kathy Price will instruct Energy Master Apprentices to wield the Infrared Light Saber thermometer to find energy force field leaks Jedi Knights Academy Saturday, November 18 9:30-11:30 am at UUCF. Breakfast will be provided.</i>	Kathy, Jean, Eric
Food and water	<i>Vegan dinner emphasizing the environmental advantages of vegan diet. The date is tentatively set for July 15, 2017. It will take place at 2202 Loch Lomond Dr., Vienna, Va 22181.</i>	Lois, Wini, Sophie, Joshua
Transportation	<i>Family Bicycle ride (and lunch) for Climate Change with fellow UUs. We'll meet at <TBD>, ride out as far as we can at our own pace for 30 minutes, turn around, and ride back, one hour round trip. Then we'll lunch together at the park.</i>	Catherine, Dave, Eric and Terry
Recycling	<i>UUCF Yard Sale culmination, celebration</i>	Rita, Jean, Claire

Social justice action

Home energy	<i>Petition to McAuliffe on Clean Power Plan, 7 UU ministers sign on letter, Feb 28 testimony on Ffx 2% annual GHG reduction, County budget hearings in February & March, Budget testimony Ap 4-6</i>
Food and water	<i>Plastic bottle ban on UUCF campus, put up signs. Water bottle and filter – cost under \$400, propose to Endowment Fund</i>
Transportation	<i>Writing letters on bike paths. Advocate some UUCF committee meetings by phone. Volunteer carbon tax – promote and show what the benefit is. Show what has been done with the monies. Get training on use of Zoom for conference calls, Zoom best practice policies and recommendations.</i>
Recycling, reuse	<i>Movie – Blood on the Mountains, April 8, People's Climate March, April 29. Arranging carpools or buses – Jean. Engaging the Youth Advisory Committee – Eric connect with McKinley Scientist march April 22. May 8 yard sale.</i>

Carbon Footprint: January – Home energy

- Neat idea from Scott Lundgren – offer infrared thermal guns to congregants to check out to see energy leakage in their homes. We'll announce that and start sharing them next week.

February: Food and Water:

- Vegetarian family recipes: Sophie says lots coming in, got recipes from chili cook-off. Carol Jensen gave us UUCF cookbooks. Eric asked Karen Liggett about providing vegetarian food at Auction, no plastic water containers, disposable or reusable dishes and silverware. Bill developing new a quiz, shared after services. Getting people engaged at the table: Hydroponic gardening display - Judy Gallimore will bring in; Bill Repsher Composting, gardening, worms! – Jerry Poje (Judy will follow up to bring his worms)

Carbon Footprint: March – Transportation -- Dave Culp, Catherine Ives

- Eric is getting materials from Fairfax Department of Transportation – bike and bus maps. Maps from metro. Senior metro cards. Dave, Catherine: Can we get members to bring electric, plug in hybrid and hybrid cars to show some Sunday?
- Ideas for table: local bike maps, discount metro cards for seniors, carpool information, bicycle recycling promotion, free conference call lines, training on use of church's Zoom account
- Walking the talk: Climate Action Group holding conference call meetings first Wednesday of month, provide conference call option for third Wednesday of the month meetings.

Carbon Footprint Game: April -- Recycle, Reuse, Restore

- Big push will be the UUCF yard sale May 8.

Events

- **Fairfax county budget witness:** February 28 5:00 pm at Fairfax Government Center. The Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions is organizing an event to press county leaders to intensify actions to reduce the county's carbon footprint. Media will be covering the event. We'll be testifying before the supervisors that evening.
- **Weekend long environmental fair at UUCF** March 24, 25, 26. , led by Suzi Foster property stewardship. Lois Phemister, Jerry Poje, Jean Wright will do outreach to Unity of Fairfax, other UUs, Plant NOVA native group, home environment inviting wildlife into yard, Hometown Habitat movie show during fair. Speakers to talk about bringing natives into landscapes, workday on campus, speakers, movie, labyrinth, Saturday speakers, movies. Connect with Barbara Bacon at UU Mount Vernon who led very similar event. Vegetarian meal on Saturday. Spreading the word – connecting with Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners. Tree plantings, Fairfax ReLEAF, partner with churches in Mount Vernon area.
- **UUSJ Environmental Justice and Climate Change meeting:** March 18 at Bull Run Unitarian.
- **Paris Pledge at UUCF:** Installation of LEDs just about complete. Dave and Robbie will track changes in energy use. Fits with the environment fair. Next to look at windows. The UUCF Climate Action Group received a \$5,000 grant from the county to support LEDs for the church.
- **County 10 year environmental vision:** Continuing the process that began this past summer, Fairfax produced a [draft update](#) to the Board of Supervisors' [Environmental Vision](#). The county invites public input on this draft, and will incorporate this feedback into a final draft that will be

presented to the Board for adoption later this year. While the vision is not an action plan, it is important because it helps to guide the county's environmental [sustainability initiatives and programs](#). Take the online survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/environmentalvisiondraftupdate> : This survey will be open on Monday, February 6 through Monday, March 6. For more information, visit the [project web page](#), or contact the county's Environmental Coordinator at 703-324-1788

- **People's Climate March: Washington DC April 29** Big march organized by the same people that put together the NYC People's Climate March. Expect that we will be heavily involved.
- **Fairfax Budget hearings** before Board of Supervisors: April 4-6. Community meetings on budget in every Supervisor's district during March.
- **Fairfax Spring Fest** April 29-30
- **Rebuilding Together** April 29
- **How do we know if we are doing "Enough"?** Claire Walden, Nitin Dogra, and perhaps Lore Rosenthal, will lead March 15 meeting reflection and centering. These are difficult, demoralizing times for climate activists. Lots of evidence that extreme weather is increasing -- flooding, wildfires, drought, heat waves. At the same time, the political climate is becoming ever more challenging. Every day we hear climate leaders calling us to do more. How do we decide where to focus our energies: inner spirituality? Individual action? Our town? County? State? Federal government? Congress/laws? Executive Branch? A facilitated meditation and discussion to explore our individual and collective answers to: How Do We Know If We Are Doing Enough? How can we nurture ourselves and one another so we can stay for the long term, maintaining faith and hope?
- **Atlantic Coast Pipeline:** a proposed pipeline through protected mountain conservation easements in Virginia http://www.patc.net/PATC/Library/Newsletter/PA-2017/February_2017.aspx; http://augustacountyalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/ABRA_Update_115_2_3_2017.pdf; http://www.abralliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Why_VOF_Must_Not_Convert_Its_Conservation_Easements_20170131.pdf; <http://www.potomacriverkeepernetwork.org/potomac-riverkeeper-network-events/2017/1/18/transcanada-open-house-on-plans-for-fracked-gas-pipeline>

ATLANTIC COAST PIPELINE:

A THREAT TO SPECIAL RESOURCES IN THE GEORGE WASHINGTON NATIONAL FOREST

If approved, the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) could pass through special areas in the George Washington National Forest west of the Shenandoah Valley and tunnel under the Appalachian Trail near Humpback Rocks and Wintergreen. For us, the ACP hits close to home; it would pass through favorite places on public lands where we and our friends in Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter (SSVC) have been hiking for over 30 years.

Starting in Harrison County, W.Va., the 42-inch ACP would transmit fracked natural gas across the rugged Allegheny Mountains to markets in Virginia and North Carolina. A pipeline of this magnitude has never been built through such rugged mountain terrain, much of it steep and prone to landslides. Initiated by Dominion Resources at a projected cost



SSVC HIKER ON BALD RIDGE TRAIL OVERLOOKING THE PROPOSED ACP ROUTE THROUGH UNFRAGMENTED NATIONAL FOREST LAND. PHOTO BY LYNN CAMERON

of \$5 billion, the 600-mile ACP would create a permanent industrial corridor through our national forest. The damage would be exacerbated by 206 miles of permanent access roads. In addition, Dominion would exercise eminent domain to cross private lands, including 11 conservation easements in Virginia.

In keeping with PATC's mission, SSVC is committed to advocating for protection of our public lands for the enjoyment

of present and future hikers. When we hike, we enjoy viewing wildflowers and native plants, birds and other wildlife, the great variety of tree species in our area, special geologic features, and clean mountain streams. We especially enjoy scenic views. We feel extremely fortunate to live where we can hike in the heart of the George Washington National Forest. SSVC members maintain trails near the pipeline route,

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NEXT MEETING: March 1 from 7:30-9:00 PM, CALL IN NUMBER: 712-432-0361 426443

NOTE: First meeting of the month (March 1) will be by phone, second meeting (March 15) will be in person with conference call capability.

Eric Goplerud