

Tacoma Citizens' Climate Lobby



Creating political will for a livable planet

Core values: focus, optimism, relationships, integrity, personal power, being non-partisan

CCL NEWS

If you missed the **CCL Fall Virtual Conference**, there are recordings of the main meetings and speakers [here](#). Some new faces and interesting talks!

PERMITTING REFORM ACT

Despite broad bipartisan support and a flurry of recent **CCL** lobby activity (including our chapter's), this crucial policy was not included in **Congress's** final **2024** spending package. To be continued...next year.

WA STATE LEGISLATURE

Jan. 13—The **2025** long session will begin and some newly elected climate champions will be on their way to Olympia to help pass good policy! See this year's priority list from the [Environmental Priorities Coalition](#) on p.2.

COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Passed on **Dec. 4!** -see **Elly Claus-McGahan's** message p.2.

PREVIOUS MEETING

In **November** we took time to share our reactions to the election results in breakout rooms, then shifted to action team reports and **CCL's** priority actions for the future. [Minutes](#). In **December** we gathered for a holiday party!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, Jan 2, 6:30 pm
WCA/350WA State Legislative
campaign kickoff on Zoom
[register](#)

Friday Jan 3, 10 am
Resilience group at Cutters
Point Coffee, 5104 6th Ave.

Wednesday, Jan 8, noon
CCL Study Group meeting on
Zoom. (Discussing articles that
we email ahead of time)
contact [Sue Lepore](#)

Thursday, Jan 9, 6-8 pm
Green Drinks
7 Seas Brewery and Taproom,
2101 Jefferson Ave

Friday Jan 10, 10 am
Resilience group at Cutters
Point Coffee, 5104 6th Ave.

Wednesday, Jan 15, 7 pm
Chapter Meeting on Zoom,
Topic: Climate Advocacy in the
State Legislative Session
Contact for [details](#)

Thursday, Feb. 6
Environmental Lobby Day in
Olympia, Washington
Conservation Action.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Nov 22—Eight of us inaugurated the first **Resilience Group** meeting! A casual time to hang out, vent, and build community every **Friday** morning at Cutters on 6th. Prefer an evening or weekend group? Contact [Mustafa Haziq](#) to help plan.

Nov 24 -Kudos! Michael Humkey's great letter to the editor was published in the [News Tribune!](#) Full text, p.2.

Dec. 6—**Sue Lepore** updated the ["Activism" page](#) on our website. Some cool projects, take a look!

Dec. 8—**Holiday party at Doyle's Pub.** A good turnout to celebrate our work together in **2024** and to sign a letter of farewell and appreciation to friend and climate ally, **Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-6)**.

Be sure to visit and participate frequently in **CCL Tacoma's** [Facebook](#) page, managed by **Nancy Atwood** and **Mustafa Haziq**.

John Doherty's "Climate 360" airs on **KTAH Radio Tacoma, KVSH Voice of Vashon, & KBCS Bellevue**, reaching an audience of over 4 million!

See [past newsletters](#)

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and soon, [Bluesky](#)

WEATHER GETTING MORE EXTREME

The News Tribune, 11/24/24

Michael Humkey, Tacoma

I write this with a sense of cynicism because I am tired—tired of worrying about earthquakes, Mt. Rainier erupting, landslides, flooding, and now, hurricanes. Western Washington used to be a place where having an air conditioner was a joke, with people saying, “Two days of suffering is free.” Now, summer stretches into October, and we face record temperatures nearly every year. We also contend with atmospheric rivers, more intense wildfires, and the landslides I mentioned. It’s clear that things are changing. I’m not a weatherman, so I can’t definitively say that climate change caused the bomb cyclone we experienced yesterday. However, I am a betting man, and I would wager this won’t be the last extreme weather event we see. It’s time we acknowledge these changes and take action to protect our community and environment. We can no longer afford to ignore the signs.

ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES COALITION, WCA

The top four priorities for the 2025 WA State Legislative Session ([click](#) for more information):

Protect Advanced Clean Trucks and Climate Progress—“we need steadfast leadership to safeguard vulnerable rules like the Advanced Clean Trucks rule, clean energy policies, and programs to lower costs by supporting energy efficiency in our homes and businesses.” (against the Trump administration’s 2nd term EPA Director and Dept. of Energy head)

Invest in Climate Action—“As the state faces a large funding shortfall, we will make sure that budget writers uphold the people’s will: Climate funds should be used for their intended purpose.”

Sewage Spill Right-to-Know—“Hundreds of sewage overflows occur every year. Few are widely reported to the general public. Too often, the public only finds out about these spills when their local beach or fishing area is closed because of contaminated water. This policy would require the Department of Ecology to establish a public-facing website with maps and searchable sewage spill records.”

Recycling Reform Act (formerly the WRAP Act)—“People are frustrated with excess packaging and plastic pollution. More than 50% of Washington’s consumer packaging and paper products are landfilled or incinerated, wasting an estimated \$104 million in valuable materials. The Recycling Reform Act will require packaging and paper product companies and brands to fund our recycling system.”

COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Elly Claus-McGahan

“A great big thank you to everyone who wrote, called, or testified in response to my cry for help on the rural bonus density elimination. It stayed in place. And the Comp Plan passed last night! Sigh of relief time as a pretty decent County Comp Plan made its way across the finish line. We had a lot to do with the quality and with its success...”

The Countywide Planning Policies will also start going through an update and rumor is that climate will become a bigger part of the picture, using the state’s policy guidelines housed at the Dept of Commerce. We might be able to have some influence there.”