Who's Who in Climate Change in Connecticut A guide to organizations, government agencies (p. 8), and universities (p. 9) working on climate change

For edits or additions contact Diane Lentakis at <u>dlentakis@sbcglobal.net</u> (The Climate Reality Project, Southern CT Chapter). Thanks to Tim Morse, Diane Lentakis and Gaby Barber for their help in putting this together.

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Advocacy Organizations/ Non-Profits on Climate Action

350 Connecticut

350 Connecticut is the Connecticut chapter of a global advocacy organization looking to build a strong, responsive grassroots coalition of people and groups to envision and build a future beyond fossil fuels. The 350 in the name refers to the recognized safe upper limit (in parts per million) for CO2 in the atmosphere.

Web: 350ct.org National: 350.org Facebook: Office: New Haven, CT 06510 Email: <u>contact@350ct.org</u> Phone: 203-350-3508 Contact: Nancy Bowden, <u>nbowden@comcast.net</u>

Acadia Center

Acadia Center is focused on clean energy solutions for the Northeast. They are extremely knowledgeable and are very involved with policy solutions. Web: acadiacenter.org Contact/Email: Amy Boyd, <u>aboyd@acadiacenter.org</u> President: Daniel Sosland <u>dsosland@acadiacenter.org</u> Address: Acadia Center, PO Box 583, Rockport, ME 04856 E-mail/Phone: info@acadiacenter.org, 617-742-0054 x104 media and public relations; admin@acadiacenter.org, 207-236-6470 x001 (general information)

Citizens' Climate Lobby

Citizens' Climate Lobby is a climate change organization that exists to create the political will for a livable world by enabling individual breakthroughs in the exercise of personal and political power. CCL is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots advocacy climate change organization focused on national policies to address climate change.

Web: https://citizensclimatelobby.org

CT chapters:

- <u>Connecticut At Large</u> (In Progress)
- <u>CT District 4</u>- Bridgeport, Norwalk, Stamford, CT (Active)
- CT District 5 East Simsbury- Simsbury, CT (Active)
- <u>CT Greater Hartford</u>- Hartford, CT (Active)
- CT Greater New Haven- New Haven, CT (Active)
- <u>CT Mystic</u>- New London, Mystic, CT (Active)

Climate Reality Project, Southern CT Chapter

This is the Connecticut chapter of the group that Al Gore formed with members who (mostly) have gone through the week-long training program to be Climate Reality Leaders. It is an educational non-profit devoted to education and advocacy around the climate crisis.
Chair: Tim Morse
e-mail: tmorse@uchc.edu
Phone: 860-670-4789
Chair of Advocacy: Diane Lentakis
e-mail: dlentakis@sbcglobal.net
Web: https://www.climaterealityproject.org (national);
https://realityhub.climaterealityproject.org/main/groups/58017/lounge (CT Chapter, members only)

CT Coalition for Climate Action

A Coalition of many of the climate action groups in CT organized to pass meaningful climate legislation and have a united presence and list of events.

Web: Climateactionct.org

Email: info@climateactionct.org

CT Roundtable on Climate and Jobs

CT Roundtable on Climate and Jobs works closely with workers, unions, and communities to combat climate change. They have strong economic and environmental justice focuses. **Web**:ctclimateandjobs.org

Director: Aziz Dehkan

Email: <u>aziz@ctclimateandjobs.org</u> Communications Director: Sydney Barnwell Email: <u>sydney@ctclimateandjobs.org</u> Address: P.O. Box 232, Clinton, CT 06413

Phone: (860) 390-1412

New Haven Climate Movement

An intergenerational grassroots organization of New Haven area residents who push for strong action on climate change in New Haven by mobilizing community residents and local organizations to learn about and act on the climate emergency. We fight for government policies and investments that will restore a safe climate and create a just future for all.

Web: https://www.newhavenclimatemovement.org Email: <u>newhavenclimatemovement@gmail.com</u> Contact: Chris Schweitzer Address: 608 Whitney Ave, New Haven, CT, Connecticut

Peoples Action for Clean Energy (PACE)

Since 1973 PACE has been working throughout Connecticut to promote the development of alternative, renewable sources of energy and encourage others to join in on the conversation. Projects include working with towns to move to clean energy (100PercentCT) and assistance with energy data analysis, clean energy campaigns, and event promotion. They also include the CT Energy Network (CTEN) which is dedicated to promoting clean, renewable energy and helping towns to do it.
President: Mark Scully
Vice President: Bernie Pelletier
Program Manager: Deborah Roe
Address: PO Box 134, West Simsbury, CT 06092
Email: PACE4CT@gmail.com
Phone: (917) 843-7214

Web: pacecleanenergy.org; https://www.pacecleanenergy.org/cten/

Sunrise CT

Sunrise CT is a statewide hub of the Sunrise Movement, working on statewide climate justice issues. Sunrise CT's approach is intersectional, with a focus on youth and achieving climate justice. The hub is completely youth and volunteer run. In the past, Sunrise CT has been the lead organizer of several climate strikes, a youth lobby day, and was one of the lead organizations pushing for climate change education, which passed CGA in 2022.

Web: https://sunriseconnecticut.wixsite.com/website

Email: sunriseconnecticut@gmail.com

Co-Director: Kimberly Reindl

Co-Director: Clara Dewey

Communications Lead: McKena Clemons

Sunrise New Haven is the New Haven hub of the Sunrise Movement. They do a lot of New Haven specific work, focused on getting the city to make progress on climate change, environmental justice, and intersectional issues

https://www.facebook.com/sunrisenewhaven/

Email: <u>newhaven.sunrise@gmail.com</u>

Other Environmental Advocacy Groups Working on the Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice

BLM 860

BLM860 is a racial justice organization working in the Hartford area on a number of different justice issues, including environmental justice. Web: <u>https://www.facebook.com/BLM860CT/</u> Email: <u>Blacklivesmatter860@protonmail.com</u>

CT Clean Water Action

CT Clean Water Action works to protect CT water through policy, education, organizing and more. They have been leading the work on PFAS, among other issues, and are also engaged with other work that is intersectional to water specific issues. They also host the **Coalition for a Safe and Healthy CT**, a community-based coalition of environmental, public health, and labor organizations providing resources and advocacy for reducing the use of toxic chemicals through substitution of safer alternatives.

Web: https://cleanwater.org/states/connecticut; https://safehealthyct.wordpress.com State Director: Anne Hulick, <u>ahulick@cleanwater.org</u> Address: c/o Clean Water Action, PO Box 92, Cromwell, CT 06416 Phone: (860) 232-6232

CT League of Conservation Voters

The Connecticut League of Conservation Voters (CTLCV) is a very active non-partisan, statewide non-profit oriented to Connecticut environmental legislation, and includes a Scorecard for all elected officials showing their history of voting on environmental legislation as well as up-to-date alerts about hearings and bills. They also endorse candidates based on their environmental positions and votes and host an annual Environmental Summit.
 Web: https://www.ctlcv.org and https://www.conservationeducation.org

Managing Director: Mike Urgo, mike@ctlcv.org

Executive Director: Lori Brown, lori.brown@ctlcv.org

Address: 553 Farmington Avenue, Suite 201, Hartford, CT 06105 Phone: (860) 236-5442

CT Forest and Park Association

We connect people to forests, parks, and the Blue-Blazed Hiking Trails to ensure their protection for future generations.

Web: https://ctwoodlands.org

Executive Director: Andy Bicking

Email: abicking@ctwoodlands.org / info@ctwoodlands.org

Address: 16 Meriden Road, Rockfall, CT 06481

Phone: (860) 346-TREE, Ext. 100

Connecticut Climate Crisis Mobilization (C3M)

The CT Climate Crisis Mobilization (C3M) was formed in 2019 to organize the September 20th climate strike that took place at the CT state capitol and brought about 1500 CT residents to the state capitol, making it the largest environmental demonstration in CT since the first Earth Day in 1972. It is a coalition of existing groups, which includes environmental and faith groups, as well as unions.

Web: https://ctclimatecrisismobilization.org/

Organizer: Mitch Phone: (860) 662-6278 Email: <u>c3mobilization@gmail.com</u>

CT Citizens Action Group (CCAG)

CT Citizens Action Group is a member-based organization working on a number of different issues in CT, including climate and environmental issues. They have been leading the work in CT around calling out banks and insurance companies in their role in the climate crisis and are also one of the lead organizations in Renews CT.

Web: https://www.ccag.net/

Email: <u>action@ccag.net</u>

Executive Director: Tom Swan,

Organizer: Angel Serrano; Angel.SerranoCCAG@gmail.com

Address: Connecticut Citizen Action Group, 30 Arbor Street Ste 107, Hartford, CT 06106 Phone: (860) 233-2181

Connecticut Coalition for Environmental and Economic Justice

One of the first and only environmental organizations in CT with a very specific focus on environmental justice. They have been involved in a number of fights, including shutting down the MIRA incinerator, and work on Environmental Health, Climate Change & Energy, and Food issues.

Executive Director: Sharon Lewis Web: <u>https://www.facebook.com/CTCEEJ/</u> <u>https://grassrootsfund.org/groups/connecticut-coalition-for-environmental-justice</u> Email: environmentaljusticect@gmail.com Phone: 603-905-9915

CT Environmental Rights Amendment Alliance

Coordinator: Kim Stoner: <u>kim@ctnofa.org</u> Web: ct-era.org

CT NOFA (Northeast Organic Farming Association)

Director of Advocacy: Kim Stoner, <u>kim@ctnofa.org</u>

CT Renews (coalition)

Renews CT is part of the broader Renew New England coalition, which is working regionally for a just and sustainable world. At the state level, Renews CT has been involved with pushing for bills on housing, food justice, GHG emission reductions, EJ, and more.

Web:-https://actionnetwork.org/forms/ct-renew-survey

Director: Ann Pratt Email: <u>Ann.PrattCCAG@gmail.com</u>

Phone: 860-209-1234

Center for Latino Progress

While Center for Latino Progress is not explicitly focused on climate change, they have been leading a lot of the work on clean transportation, including the Transportation and Climate Imitative coalition.

Executive Director: Arlene Cohen Programs Director: Kimberly Flint Web: <u>https://ctprf.org/</u> Email: <u>latinoprogress@ctprf.org</u> Phone: <u>860-247-3227</u>

Interreligious Eco-Justice Network

Executive Director: Terri Eickel, Email: <u>terri@irejn.org</u> Phone: 860-545-2321

NAACP Willimantic branch

Has an EJ committee and regularly partners with different environmental groups for events. Web: <u>https://windhamctnaacp.org/</u> Email: <u>info@windhamctnaacp.org</u> Address: PO Box 412, Willimantic, CT 06226 -9998 Phone: (860) 230-6911 Email: <u>info@windhamctnaacp.org</u>

NAG Hartford

The Nonprofit Accountability Group (NAG) is an arts and advocacy group working to support marginalized groups. They have been involved with housing work, among other things. **Web**: <u>https://www.naghartford.org/</u>

https://www.naghartford.org/climate

The Nature Conservancy CT

CT Trustee: Anne M. Mulcahy, Chair

Director: Frogard Ryan Director of External Affairs: Nathan Frohling Media and Marketing: Susan Wollschlager, <u>203-209-6218; wollschlager@tnc.org</u> Phone: <u>203-568-6270</u> Email: <u>ct@tnc.org</u> Address: The Nature Conservancy, 55 Church Street, Floor 3, New Haven, CT 06510-3029 Web: <u>https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/connecticut/</u> Sunny Valley Preserve Office: 8 Sunny Valley Lane, New Milford, Connecticut 06776 Phone: <u>860-355-3716</u>Email: <u>lshail@tnc.org</u> Devil's Den Preserve: 33 Pent Road, Weston, CT 06883 Phone: <u>203-226-4991</u>Email: <u>TheDen@TNC.org</u>

New Haven Bioregional Group

Member: Aaron Goode: Email: <u>aaron goode@gmail.com</u> Phone: 203-777-8085 Website: newhavenbioregionalgroup.org

Save the Sound

Save the Sound is leading on bold climate action through policy leadership and on-the-ground projects that help our neighborhoods and ecosystems adapt to escalating climate threats.
 Address: 900 Chapel Street, Suite 2202, New Haven, CT 06510
 Phone: (203) 787-0646

Director of Communications & Marketing: Laura McMillan, 203-787-0646 x137; Imcmillan@savethesound.org

Environmental Justice Specialist: Alex Rodriguez, <u>alexrodriguez@savethesound.org</u> Executive VP of Programs: Denise Stranko: dstranko@savethesound.org E-mail: info@savethesound.org

Web: www.savethesound.org and www.savethesound.org/what-we-do/climate-resiliency/

Sierra Club Connecticut

Sierra Club is a national environmental advocacy group with a very active Connecticut chapter. They do legislative advocacy, endorse candidates, and do community actions with a strong focus on climate change.

Chair: Susan Eastwood, sce4321@gmail.com

State Director: Samantha Dynowski, Samantha.dynowski@sierraclub.org

Legislative Committee: Steve Lewis

Address: PO Box 270595, W. Hartford CT 06127; Office at 30 Arbor St, Hartford, CT 06106 Phone: 860-578-4750

e-mail: <u>Connecticut.Chapter@SierraClub.org</u>

Web: Connecticut.sierraclub.org

National:_Sierraclub.org

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CTSierraClub

Hartford Group: swlewis@sbcglobal.net Shoreline Group: <u>jk_cygnus@yahoo.com</u>

Government/Regulatory Agencies

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

DEEP is the regulatory authority and information source for both greenhouse gases and energy issues and coordinates regionally as well as nationally. Programs that address climate and energy are broken out below.

Commissioner: Katie Dykes Address: 79 Elm St, Hartford, CT 06106-5127 Phone: (860) 424-3000 Email: <u>deep.webmaster@ct.gov</u> Web: https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Climate-Change/Climate-Change

Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3) combines members from state agencies, businesses, local governments, and nonprofits working on mitigation, adaptation, and resilience in relation to climate. They monitor and report on greenhouse gas emissions and have a number of reports and hearings.

Web: <u>https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Climate-Change/GC3/Governors-Council-on-Climate-Change</u>

The **Energy Branch** at DEEP includes the Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy, which develops and implements comprehensive state-wide energy policy, plans, and programs to promote a cleaner, cheaper, more reliable energy future for Connecticut. It includes the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) which reviews rates for electricity, natural gas, water, cable television and other utilities. They have a report on Connecticut's Greenhouse Gas Inventory and a Comprehensive Energy Strategy.

Web: <u>https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Energy/Energy</u>

Contact the Energy Bureau at DEEP.EnergyBureau@ct.gov

Energize Connecticut gives access to energy assessments, finding electricity suppliers, and rebates and incentives for energy efficiency. Web: <u>https://energizect.com/</u>

EV Connecticut provides easy to understand information for consumers, businesses, and government entities to aid in the introduction of more electric vehicles into Connecticut. <u>https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Air/Mobile-Sources/EVConnecticut/EVConnecticut---Home</u>

Connecticut Green Bank works to confront climate change by increasing and accelerating investment into Connecticut's green economy to create more resilient, healthier, and equitable

communities. They help fund large projects as well as low interest loans to households for climate solutions such as solar and storage. **Web**: ctgreenbank.com

The **CT Equity and Environmental Justice Advisory Council** (CEEJAC) advises the Commissioner of DEEP on current and historic environmental injustice, pollution reduction, energy equity, climate change mitigation and resiliency, health disparities, and racial inequity. **Web**:

https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Environmental-Justice/Connecticut-Equity-and-Environmental-Justic e-Advisory-Council

Academic Programs and Centers

Central CT State University

CCSU Sustainability Club

https://ccsu.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/sustainability_club

The Sustainability Club is the campus flag-bearer for promoting sustainable practices and spreading awareness on how we can drive society toward a bright and green future. Through education, community involvement, and activism we will propagate the seeds needed to change or world for the better.

Address: 1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT 06053 Email: daywjames@gmail.com Phone: 860-806-8866

Fairfield University

The Environmental Studies program utilizes an interdisciplinary approach that combines the study of the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities. In response to the growing need for informed leaders on environmental, economic, and human health issues, Fairfield's environmental program adds consideration of sustainability issues and helps students prepare for careers in science, policy, law, business, journalism, education, and medicine.

Type of Degree: Undergraduate major or minor

Faculty Contact: L. Kraig Steffen, associate professor of chemistry

Address: 1073 North Benson Road, Fairfield, CT 06824

E-mail: lsteffen@fairfield.edu

Phone: (203) 254-4000, x2254

Web:

https://www.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/academics/schools-and-colleges/college-of-arts-and-s ciences/programs/environmental-studies/index.html

Southern Connecticut State University

Department of the Environment, Geography, and Marine Sciences

Our department has particular strengths in coastal and marine research, sustainability science, and applied geographic information systems and technology. We aim to engage our students in collaborative research projects in a local as well as an international context. Our faculty and students have engaged in projects focused on coastal resilience and environmental hazards in Connecticut, sustainable food systems in Iceland, geo-political change in Central America, urban change in Central Asia, and environmental and social justice in South Africa.

Faculty Contact: Vincent Breslin, department chair

Address: 501 Crescent Street, New Haven, CT 06515

E-mail: breslinv1@southernct.edu

Phone: (203) 392-6602

Web: https://www.southernct.edu/academics/egms/programs

Degrees offered include:

- Undergraduate minors in Environmental Studies and Marine Studies
- Undergraduate major in Environmental Studies and Sustainability, with concentrations in one of three areas: coastal marine systems; environmental systems; and sustainability science and environmental policy
- Master's degrees in Environmental Studies and Integrative Biological Diversity

Centers and research initiatives:

- Werth Center for Coastal and Marine Studies
- <u>Project Blue</u>: Project Blue will be the initial step towards creating a Blue Economy research, tech transfer and innovation hub in New Haven, Connecticut. By using the emerging Long Island Sound kelp/seaweed industry as a catalyst for subsequent Blue Economy initiatives, this project implements a transdisciplinary approach by leveraging expertise from academia, business, the government sector, and civil society.
- <u>Outer Island</u>: an ecological preserve and refuge for migratory birds off the coast of Branford, Connecticut, where SCSU is a lead partner in research and education

Other programs at Southern:

- <u>Owls4Earth</u>: lead organization for the CT State Colleges and Universities as an official Observer of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- <u>Office of Sustainability</u>: SCSU is part of a coalition of colleges and universities across the United States and internationally that have formally committed to climate leadership, net-carbon neutrality by 2050, and actively engaging campus and surrounding communities in climate resilience and adaptation.

Suzie Huminski, Sustainability Coordinator huminskis1@southernct.edu

Trinity College

Type of Degree: Environmental Science and Urban Studies majors, sustainability courses Web: www.trincoll.edu/sustainability/sample-page-2/research-teaching-learning/ Faculty: Christopher Geiss, christoph.geiss@trincoll.edu University Address: 300 Summit Street, Hartford CT 06106 University Phone: 860-297-2000

UConn

Academic Programs: Dept. of Natural Resources and the Environment Department Head: Jason Vokoun Web: https://nre.uconn.edu/

Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA)

The mission of the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) is to increase the resilience and sustainability of communities vulnerable to the growing impacts of climate change on the natural, built, and human environments. CIRCA is a multi-disciplinary, center of excellence that brings together experts in the natural sciences, engineering, economics, political science, finance, and law to provide practical solutions to problems arising as a result of a changing climate. They host the Climate Change Vulnerability Index. Web: https://circa.uconn.edu/about/ Phone: 860-405-9214 Email: circa@uconn.edu Mail: University of Connecticut: Avery Point Campus, 1080 Shennecossett Rd, Groton, CT 06340

Connecticut State Climate Center: https://cscc.nre.uconn.edu/

Address: 1376 Storrs Rd, Unit 4087, Storrs, CT 06269-4087 Phone: 860-486-0135 Email: Xiusheng.Yang@uconn.edu or Richard.Anyah@uconn.edu

Global Environmental Change Minor:

https://catalog.uconn.edu/minors/global-environmental-change/

Student Organizations:

EcoHusky

Ecohusky is one of the oldest environmental groups at UConn. They work on a range of topics from decarbonizations, to fast fashion and food waste. They sometimes work with the UConn Office of Sustainability.

Email: <u>ecohusky@gmail.com</u>

Web: https://career.uconn.edu/organizations/ecohusky/

Environmental Justice Front

EJF (formerly Friday's For Future UConn) has been leading the work on divestment and is also intimately involved with the decarbonization work going on at UConn. They also work closely with mutual aid groups and on issues intersectional with climate change. Email: <u>uconnfridaysforfuture@gmail.com</u>

UConn Collaborative Organizing

UConn Collaborative Organizing works across issues, including climate change, and is deeply intersectional in the work that they do. They were founded by Kat Morris, who now runs Seaside Sounds for Environmental Justice and does a lot of incredible work in CT and beyond. **Email**: <u>contact.ucco@gmail.com</u>

Web: https://uconntact.uconn.edu/organization/collab

Wesleyan College of the Environment

The College of the Environment integrates the following components: a curricular component comprising the environmental studies linked major and the environmental studies minor; a think tank: a student research fellowship program; and community outreach.

Type of Degree: Undergraduate major or minor Faculty Contact: Barry Chernoff, Director Address: 284 High Street, Middletown, CT 06459 E-mail: bchernoff@wesleyan.edu Phone: 860/685-2452 Web: www.wesleyan.edu/coe Chair/Director: Barry Chernoff, bchernoff@wesleyan.edu

Sunrise Movement Wesleyan

Sunrise Movement Wesleyan is the Wesleyan chapter of the Sunrise Movement, which is a youth led movement working to stop climate change and create millions of good jobs in the process.

Web: https://www.instagram.com/sunrisemvmtwesleyan/

Yale

Yale has a number of programs and centers focusing on various aspects of the environment including climate change.

Yale School of the Environment

 Academic Programs: Academic programs including Doctoral, Masters of Environmental Management, and certificates in Financing and Deploying Clean Energy (Yale Center for Business and the Environment).
 Address: 195 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511
 Phone: 203-432-5100
 Web: environment.yale.edu Dean: Indy Burke, indy.burke@yale.edu

The Yale Center for Natural Carbon Capture

https://environment.yale.edu/research/centers/natural-carbon-capture), Yale Center on Climate Change and Health

https://ysph.yale.edu/yale-center-on-climate-change-and-health

Yale Center for Environmental Justice (https://ycej.yale.edu/en)

Planetary Solutions Project (https://planetarysolutions.yale.edu)

Yale Climate Connections: <u>https://yaleclimateconnections.org/</u>

Program on Climate Change Communication: <u>https://climatecommunication.yale.edu</u>