

DOUGLAS COUNTY

GLOBAL WARMING COALITION

SUMMER 2022



MISSION STATEMENT: DOUGLAS COUNTY GLOBAL WARMING COALITION

A catalyst for:

Promoting a healthy climate for our community and future generations.

Identifying and sharing solutions through awareness, advocacy and collaboration.



CLIMATE CHANGE AND SCHRODINGER'S CAT

"I wish to God I had never thought of it."

Physicist Erwin Schrodinger on his discovery of the connection of quantum theory and the existence of multiple universes.

Poor Erwin Schrodinger! Contemplating his cat one day, he realized the logical conclusion of quantum theory demanded the cat exists in an infinite number of universes. In one, the cat is dead. In another, he's chasing mice. A third, the poor kitty is sick. And so on. And then, to his disgust, he realized that what applied to his cat applied to all of us. Hence his deep regret of having ever thought of it.

But for me, it was an opportunity to travel to another universe where Biden's Build Back Better Bill actually passed. I (or was it my other self?) caught up with a scientist to find out how it played out in their universe.

Me: Nice cat you have there

Scientist: (*petting it*) Yes. It suddenly appeared. I have no idea where it came from.

Me: Well, where I come from, the Build Back Better Bill didn't pass and I wonder how it's working out in your universe.

Scientist: (*shudders*) I can't imagine what the consequences would be. For us, if it had not passed, it would have meant falling 5.5 billion tons short of a zero net emissions pathway by 2030. And an annual 1.3 billion tons thereafter.

Me: I'm not sure I want to go back to my universe.

CALENDAR

DOUGLAS COUNTY GLOBAL WARMING COALITION AND UMPQUA WATERSHEDS PRESENT: CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE IMPACT ON POLLINATORS — A ZOOM FORUM

Coming this Summer — Date and Time TBA

Information: 541-672-9819

(and, no, music will not be provided by Sting)

PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING ON THE UPDATED CLEAN FUELS RULES BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Scheduled for July — Date and Time TBA

Information: 541-672-9819

UMPQUA TRANSPORTATION ELECTRIFICATION TEAM MONTHLY MEETINGS BY ZOOM

Fourth Thursday of each month at 4 PM

Information 541-672-9819

UMPQUA WATERSHEDS JULY EVENTS

River Appreciation Day July 16th

Twin Lakes Youth Campout July 24 — 26

Information 541-672-7065 or

umpquawatersheds.org

Scientist: This Princeton University Study also showed it would have left 91% of Biden's climate pledge unfilled.

Me: Princeton? Isn't their mascot a Tiger? I wonder if their tiger exists elsewhere.

Scientist: (*cat hisses at the thought*) Not only that, it would have lost us two million American jobs and increased the cost of energy investments by 7%.

Me: Your cat looks rather emaciated.

Scientist: Maybe so. but I'm sure in your universe he looks just fine. But the real tragedy is this: Given the current political outlook, had this not passed, it would have delayed meaningful climate action by as much as a decade. And by then, some of our climate goals would have been permanently out of reach.

Me: To paraphrase Schrodinger: I wish to God I had never asked the question.

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PROMOTE GLOBAL COOLING

Scientist: Well, there's more. A University of Wisconsin study estimated 350,000 Americans would have died from fossil fuel pollution.

Me: That's quite a price to pay.

Scientist: Speaking of price, figures from economist Nicholas Stern showed not passing the bill would have inflicted \$500 billion worth of climate damage on the world. Try imagining American climate leadership after that.

Me: Well, I'm certainly going to take this message back to my universe. Perhaps there's time to solve this.

Scientist: Would you like to take this cat with you?

Me: Sure. But will it be with me when I arrive?

Scientist: Who knows?

Me: One final question: If people ask about why you were successful at passing the bill, what should I say is your secret?

Scientist: Don't Manchin it.

JUST WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO?

You Char What You Eat: That is the ideal presented at our Zoom forum extolling the virtues of enhancing gardens and farms with biochar (*see article inside*).

Russia Is Putin Its Place: In partnership with Umpqua Watersheds, the Coalition presented a Zoom panel discussion: 'The Future of Energy: Lessons From The War In Ukraine.' We discussed alternatives to using the war in Ukraine as an excuse for increasing our dependence on fossil fuels (*see article inside*).

So What Has The Coalition Done Lately?: Quite a bit, it turns out. Our Zoom forum presented speakers across the State detailing the successful implementation of the Governor's Climate Change program.

Biogas Is Just Plain Fuelish: That's the testimony offered to the Department of Environmental Quality at a public hearing considering the expansion of Oregon's Clean Fuels Program. We urged them to reject the polluting Renewable Natural Gas and promote electrifying our transportation system instead.

Asking Us What You Can Do For The Climate?

We're A Little Tipsy: The Coalition ran weekly climate tips in the News-Review suggesting personal ways to reduce your carbon footprint (*example inside*).

Ask Doctor Cool!* An advice column for the warm-weary.



Dear Dr. Cool,

I love motorboats. But knowing they emit carbon dioxide takes the wind out of my sails. I hate to make waves but I can't decide whether to stop boating or live with the climate pollution. It seems like it's either/or but not boat. I harbor no illusions about my carbon footprint but this Titanic problem makes me feel guilty. Dealing with this doesn't float my boat. Help me, Dr. Cool, get back on an even keel.

Signed,

Manny Motor

#16 Whitewater Way

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Dear Manny,

No need to send Manny overboard. Things are not as bad as they ap-pier. This is not a stern lecture because you can take a bow for electric boats. An offshore racing series known as E1 will be using battery powered boats in Miami next year. And don't feel like shouting 'Curses, foiled again!' when you find out these boats will be lifted up by hydrofoils greatly reducing resistance. Better yet, the company Flux Marine will begin selling electric outboard motors this summer. So no need to feel rudderless in your quest for a clean energy boat. Because we can all agree, when it comes to the climate, it's sink or swim.

JUST WHAT WILL YOU BE UP TO?

Yes, But Is It Age Appropriate?: In partnership with Umpqua Watersheds, the Coalition will present a Zoom forum on the impact of the climate on pollinators such as bees and other insects.

A Memorial Project To Last A Long Time: The Coalition will be exploring ways to develop a memorial project for Board member, the late Jim Long. Jim served on the Board for many years and was an inspiration not only because of his vast reservoir of knowledge but also his dedication to our community.

We Do This Because We Car: Electric cars, specifically. As part of our Transportation Electrification Team, we will be working with the Housing Authority of Douglas County to reach out to their tenants to bring the latest information on electric vehicles.

Tippling The Scale On Climate Change: The Coalition will be working with community groups to line up presentations on how people can individually make a difference on climate change. Our climate tips program will serve as the basis of our outreach.

CONFESSIONS OF AN EXTRATERRESTRIAL



When the House of Representatives held a hearing about UFO's, they did have an expert witness. Presenting for your consideration, the Climatemit, a visitor from across the galaxy. Holding in his hand the most recent UN report on the climate. His message? There hangs a tale.

"Let's call this hearing to order. I'm Representative McCarthy from the Great State of Denial. What is your purpose, Climatemit?"

Climatemit: "I come here to give the people of Earth a warning about climate change."

McCarthy: (*smirking*) "Well, this is a hearing about unexplained phenomena."

Climatemit: "On the contrary. The UN report I bring to you is endorsed by 195 countries, written by 278 experts from 65 countries. Its message is a simple one. Cut emissions by 43% by 2030 or keeping temperatures at an increase of no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius will be impossible."

McCarthy: "Aren't you confusing the temperature of your planet with ours?"

Climatemit: "The confusion is on your part for here is what will happen if you do not heed our warning — worsening floods, wildfires, droughts and the collapse of ecosystems. People of Earth: Do not ignore us. This is a climate emergency. Wealthy economies are not just turning a blind eye — you are adding fuel to the flames. You are choking the planet based on vested interests and investments in fossil fuels when cheaper renewable fuels are available. Every year you let pass without going for these urgent emission reductions makes it more and more difficult."

McCarthy: (*suspiciously*) "You aren't trying to colonize and replace us? Please, no more immigrants!"

Climatemit: "Our intentions are clear. To let you know the cost of inaction is substantial — in terms of death, displacement and damage.

But this report we give you offers a guide to address this crisis. First, shut down coal and natural gas plants and replace them with wind, solar and other carbon free power sources."

McCarthy: "Wait till Senator Manchin hears about this!"

Climatemit: "Next, power your cars with electricity, not gasoline."

McCarthy: "That's not the Chevron Way."

Climatemit: "Become more energy efficient, recycle, use public transit."

McCarthy: "Cutting back on our standard of living? Shades of Jimmy Carter."

Climatemit: "Address deforestation in an aggressive way."

McCarthy: "So what will we use to build our houses? Straw?"

Climatemit: "Finally, the world needs to spend two trillion dollars a year to make this happen."

McCarthy: "Just what we need — a recipe for more rampant inflation. Tell me, Climatemit, when you heard this was a hearing about UFO's, why did you stop by?"

Climatemit: "Because unless you heed this warning, your planet will become a UFO. An Uninhabitable Frying Object." (*Hands McCarthy the report*)

McCarthy: (*shaking his head*) "Most of this is in a language I can't understand. But I can figure out the title. 'To Serve Man' Say, this isn't a cookbook?"

Climatemit: "In a way, Congressman," smiles the Climatemit. "In a way, it is."

WHERE'S A COP



At COP 26, the climate meeting of the nations of the world late last year, pledges to curb climate emissions were restated. But if the previous decade is any indication of their commitment, they most likely had their fingers crossed.

A study by researchers at Yale and Columbia Universities showed that between 2010 and 2019, no country, with the exception of Denmark, was on track to reach net zero emissions by



WHEN YOU NEED ONE?

2050. As for the United States, they plummeted from 15th place to 101st place — behind every Western democracy except Canada. The reason: Trump's anti-climate policies.

As for the Danes, they already get 2/3 of their electricity from clean energy and Copenhagen aims to reach carbon neutrality by 2025. As for the rest of the world, they are well off the (Den)mark.

RIVER'S EDGE

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BEN FRANKLIN AND THE WAR IN UKRAINE

by Stuart Liebowitz



“Do not neglect or kneecap policies to cut fossil fuels. Investing in new fossil fuels infrastructure is moral and economic madness.”

UN Secretary-General Guterres warning about the Western response to the Ukraine war.

Around the time of the Russian Revolution, my Ukrainian grandparents decided they had enough of the barbaric Russian treatment of Jews. So they devised an escape plan which included leaving my grandmother’s brother behind to avoid suspicion.

As evening approached, they came to a swamp just shy of the border. And as they crossed, my cousin Rose lost her glasses. Virtually blind without them, she and the rest of the family stood hidden in the swamp waiting for daylight and a chance to look for them.

In the darkness, they could see Russian boots marching back and forth, nearly within arm’s reach. When daylight broke and the guards left, they found the glasses and continued on their journey.

I tell this story, reflecting how my family’s heroism is now matched, and then some, by today’s millions of Ukrainian refugees. But what does this have to do with climate change? I will let Svetlana Kraskova, Ukrainian climate scientist and a member of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, provide the answer:

“I started to think about the parallels between climate change and the war. And it’s clear the roots to both these threats are found in fossil fuels. Burning coal, oil and gas is causing warming. And Russia sells these resources and uses the money to buy weapons. This is a fossil fuel war. It’s clear we cannot live this way. It will destroy civilization.”

How The West Became Undone

It is chilling to watch climate heroes like John Kerry and, yes, climate activists I know and respect, let the Ukrainian war persuade them to promote fossil fuels as a response to the West’s dependency on Russian gas and oil. And dependent we are: Today, the European Union accounts for 63% of Russian fossil fuel exports and 45% of Europe’s imported gas comes from Russia. But make no mistake: Climate change has not taken a time out for the war. The death knell of the planet, once so distant, is now raging in the wildfires from New Mexico to Siberia, in the floods from Florida to Asia, choking us in droughts from the American West to Africa. We cannot forget this a two front war. John Kerry warned: “No one should make it easy to build a 30-40

year fossil fuel infrastructure.” Yet he and Joe Biden have turned a deaf ear and a blind eye to the coming storm. Here is their response to the war:

- ☞ Four LNG permits issued through 2050.
- ☞ Fourteen LNG terminals already permitted.
- ☞ The U.S. Export-Import Bank has created a program for large loans for LNG export projects.
- ☞ Biden has urged fossil fuel companies to begin drilling on public lands.
- ☞ He has gone begging to some of the biggest petrodictators — Iran, Venezuela and Saudi Arabia.

And the European response:

- ☞ Germany is building LNG terminals and once again holds coal in reserve.
- ☞ All of Europe now embraces LNG.
- ☞ Poland asserts shutting coal mines is now a mistake.

With the best of intentions, we delay fighting the climate war. For thirty years it has been this way:

- ☠ The economy is too weak.
- ☠ The economy is too strong (*Don’t rock the boat*).
- ☠ It will lose us an election.
- ☠ There are more important priorities (*choose your issue*).
- ☠ We are too polarized.
- ☠ We are in the middle of a war.

But there is always another recession, another war around the corner.

There is another way. And history has shown us.

How The West Was One

There was a time when I was skeptical of the World War II designation as the ‘The Greatest Generation.’ Now I’m not so sure.

No one debated whether the war was worth higher prices, less goods available or a lowered standard of living.

No one dreamed of continuing trade with Hitler since Germany might have some essentials we need.

No one declared, as Biden did about Ukraine, that we would sanction Germany but only to the extent it had a minimal economic impact on us. No! The country pulled together, sacrificed, reused, mend without end. In a country reeling from a pandemic and strewn with ideologically bound climate deniers, is it naïve to issue such a clarion call?

Perhaps so. But when we are fighting for a planet and to stop a genocidal maniac, we are morally compelled to do so. and what better way than to hold up

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The Greatest Generation as a shining example? Sacrifice it must be. For a 60% reduction in fossil fuels by the European Union by the end of the year would reduce income by 0.6% and increase energy prices further by 6-8%. Is there a short term strategy to lessen the severity of the impact?

Energy: How The West Can Save Some

In light of the World War II example, here is what the clarion call could ask:

- ♻ Reduce American consumption of natural gas, freeing it up for Europe.
- ♻ Any new permits to fossil fuel companies require they align their business model with the Paris Climate goals.
- ♻ Issue shorter permit time so we are not locked in to long term infrastructure — even if it scares away investors.
- ♻ Reduce the speed limit to 60 miles per hour.
- ♻ Let employees work from home when feasible.
- ♻ Double our commitment to renewables rather than doubling down on fossil fuels.
- ♻ Rapidly build wind turbines using robotics as reported by Bloomberg News.

Neither the transition to clean energy or fossil fuel build up can happen overnight. But only one invests in our future. Let this be our guiding economic principle: It costs more to ruin the Earth than to save it. Or to paraphrase what Benjamin Franklin said about liberty: “Those who sacrifice the planet for security will have neither the planet nor security.”

What The West Can Become

After the Second World War, The United States came up with the Marshall Plan which successfully rebuilt Europe from its ashes. In my wildest fantasies, I see Ukraine triumphant over the barbaric invasion by Russia — only to look around at the ruins resulting from the savagery of the war.



If you would like to hear a recording of our Zoom forum “The Future of Energy: Lessons From The War On Ukraine”, go to our website:
douglascountyglobalwarmingcoalition.com

As the West united to provide weapons to Ukraine, so could they come together to rebuild Ukraine with a Green Marshall Plan. Decimated structures and homes reborn with the highest level of efficiency, lit and heated with clean renewable energy. Dangerous nuclear power plants and dirty fossil fuels replaced by wind and solar. Transportation networks consisting of public transit for all. And when biking and walking is not possible, electric vehicles will ensure a carbon free society. Such a new Ukraine could serve as a model for a world-wide Green Marshall Plan so we can once and for all put the climate crisis behind us.

Today's Ukrainian Family

As I watch the horror of the unforgivable brutality visited on Ukraine, I feel so helpless. The money we give to organizations to help Ukrainian refugees seems so insignificant compared to what needs to be done. My sister has taken this one step further. She has opened up her home to a Ukrainian refugee family. A hundred years after my grandparents crossed that swamp to freedom, my family has come full circle I harbor no illusions. It is possible — no — highly probable we will lose both the climate war and the one in Ukraine. I can only imagine the darkness of the future that awaits us.

Still, I proudly display the Ukrainian flag in my window. And I will forever carry the banner of climate change in my heart.

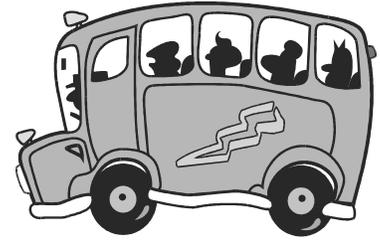
I know no other way.



Our partnership with Umpqua Watersheds on Zoom forums has opened up opportunities to present new and exciting perspectives on climate. More than anyone, Kasey Hovik has made this happen. His enthusiasm, dedication, insight and generous time commitment have lifted up both organizations. Thank you, Kasey. To paraphrase Humphrey Bogart from ‘Casablanca,’ I think this is the beginning of a beautiful partnership.



NO PLANES, TRAINS — BUT BUSES AND AUTOMOBILES



The Coalition's Umpqua Transportation Electrification Team continues to successfully bring electrification to our County. Such as:

VAN HAILING

The Umpqua Public Transit District was awarded \$809,000 to replace four demand response vans and two 16 passenger buses with electric ones. They also received a State grant of \$2,880,000 for a building to include charging stations for electric buses and a solar inverter to keep the carbon footprint down.

WHAT THIS LOVELY METER MADE

Courtesy of Pacific Power and in line with a bill passed this last legislative session, Pacific Power has instituted a meter charge to their billing equal to .025% of usage. It is anticipated it will raise three million dollars to assist low income and underserved communities (such as ours) with charging stations and the pur-

THERE'S NO DeJOY IN GOING POSTAL

Postmaster-General Louis DeJoy has ordered mostly gas powered mail delivery trucks to replace the existing fleet. Ignoring Biden's Executive Order to electrify the Federal fleet, DeJoy has committed six billion dollars for 165,000 vehicles. Only 10% of this order is electric. An EPA analysis showed that with the air conditioner running, these vehicles would get only 8.6 miles per gallon. Even without the air conditioner on, they would average but 14.7 miles per gallon.

As a result, sixteen states, including Oregon, filed suit arguing the purchase is illegal because it violated the National Environmental Policy Act which requires consideration of the environmental impact of these purchases. Mr. DeJoy deserves our stamp of disapproval.



chase of electric vehicles.

PLEASE ASK WE'LL TELL

The Housing Authority of Douglas County (HADCO) surveyed its tenants on what they needed to know about electric vehicles. Our Team will follow up with an educational strategy to bring information to this important demographic.

WANT ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS HERE?

NEVI MY LOVE

The Oregon Department of Transportation will be spending \$100 million on charging stations throughout Oregon over the next five years. They are seeking your input on where to place them. Go to their NEVI web-page. You can view a map seeking your input on where you think these charging stations should go and make Douglas County's voice heard.

JUST THE FACTS MA'AM

Ever feel you miss information because of climate deniers' misinformation?

Myth: Electric vehicles (EV's) are dangerous because they are more likely to catch fire.

Fact: When you are thinking of firing up your engine, you will be much more likely to do so with an internal combustion engine (ICE) than an EV. A study by Auto Insurance EZ used data from the National Transportation Safety Board and the Bureau of Transportation Statistics. The result: From all causes, the number of fires from internal combustion engines in 2021 — 1,530 per 100,000 vehicles. For EV's — 25 per 100,000 vehicles.

It's clear that fires melt ICE far more than EV's.

And for good measure, EV's are safer for pedestrians because they don't have a high hard front engine block.

When it comes to the internal combustion engine, they are not only more likely to be set on fire, but they are setting the planet on fire as well. No need to fear EV's. There's less to fear from spontaneous combustion than internal combustion.

SO WHAT ELSE IS NEWS?

AROUND THE NATION

THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

TRUMPS LOGIC

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), which provides electricity to ten million homes in the Southeast, is replacing its aging coal plants with dirty gas plants rather than wind and solar. Its Board, dominated by Trump appointees, oversees an electricity mix which includes just 3% from solar and wind.

IT'S TIME FOR CLIMATE SHOW AND TELL

The Securities and Exchange Commission will now require public companies to tell shareholders and the Federal government how they affect the climate. The ranking Republican of the House Financial Services Committee, Patrick McHenry, protested saying: "Climate risks were not a material issue for most businesses." To put it another way for Mr. McHenry: "Give me climate change or give me death — or both."

BIDEN BORROWS THAT OLD FRENCH SAYING

At first glance, the Biden administration proposal to increase mileage standards for vehicles to 40 miles per gallon by 2026 is a major improvement over Trump's 28 mpg rule. After all, it will reduce gasoline consumption by 220 billion gallons over the life of these vehicles. But as Dan Becker of the Center for Biological Diversity pointed out — this is just a little more than what automakers agreed to nine years ago. As for that French saying: "The more things change, the more they remain the same."

THE DEFINITION OF CORNOGRAPHY:

I KNOW IT WHEN I SEE IT

President Biden lifted the ban on summer use of corn based ethanol mixed with gasoline to reduce prices at the pump. This, in spite of the fact it will increase warm weather pollution, and the National Academy of Sciences stated that this mixture is more carbon intensive than pure gasoline. Perhaps he should be less concerned about the price at the pump than the price from the pump.

WE SHOULD HAVE PAID ATTENTION

TO THE PUNCTUATION

Biden has decided to allow oil and gas drilling on 145,000 acres of public lands, violating a campaign promise. Here is what he said in February, 2020: "No more drilling on public lands. Period." How could we have missed the subtle punctuation: "No!! Public drilling on public lands. Period."

YOU CAN'T TELL THE FOREST WITHOUT TREES

To this end, Biden signed an Executive Order to:

- 🌲 Safeguard old growth forests on Federal lands.
- 🌲 Reduce wildfire risk by prioritizing protection of old growth forests and climate smart stewardship.
- 🌲 Establish goals for reforestation with climate resilience in mind.

🌲 Establish policies to combat global deforestation.

EMISSION NOT POSSIBLE

So proposes the California Air Resources Board which would require all car sales to be zero emission by 2035. They have targeted 35% by 2026 as an interim goal. Currently 12.4% of new car sales are electric.

NO PROBLEM IF CLIMATE CHANGE IS NOT REAL

The Biden Administration is restoring a rule requiring that climate impacts be considered on all highway and pipeline projects. The rule had been removed by Trump.

NO LONGER GETTING THE LED OUT

The Biden Administration reinstated a rule which will phase out incandescent light bulbs in favor of LED's. An LED lasts 50 times longer and is far more efficient. The new rule will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 222 million metric tons over the next 30 years and save consumers three billion dollars annually. It was Trump who blocked the rule and embraced incandescents. But, then again, he never was the brightest bulb in the universe.

AROUND THE GLOBE

TOYOTA HAS NO TRUE BRIT

Particularly in Great Britain which is requiring all vehicle sales be electric by 2030. So Toyota announced they are leaving the country. Apparently when Toyota was asked to do their share to save the planet, they would rather go to other places.

PERHAPS THEY SHOULD NOT

BE CALLED 'MAN' GROVES

That's because it's the women in Lakshmiapur, India who have planted over 2,000 acres of Mangrove trees to mitigate the effects of climate change caused cyclones. Not only do they reduce the height and speed of storm surges but they also have a high rate of carbon capture. And when some men were found uprooting the trees, they were summarily whisked away by the police. For they are indeed "Woman" groves.

WILL COUNTRIES COAL-LESS

AROUND THIS CAMPAIGN?

Michael Bloomberg announced he will spend \$242 million in ten developing countries to help them close down their coal plants and shift to clean energy. His ultimate goal is to help shut down coal plants in 25 countries including, of course, the United States.

AUSTRALIA'S CLIMATE DENIERS ROO THE DAY

After a decade of climate denying rule, Australians looked around and saw unprecedented wildfires, droughts, heat waves and coral reef bleaching, Australians cried "Enough, Matey!" A combination of Labor, Greens and Independents elected Prime Minister Albanese. His pledge — to make Australia a model of clean energy.

AROUND THE REGION

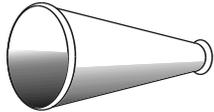
WANT TO STORE CARBON?

MAKE A RESERVATION

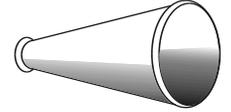
The State of Washington has. A new program will set aside 10,000 acres of forest land as a carbon reserve. The intent is to lease the trees as carbon credits to major carbon entities.

WE HAVE THE CAPACITY TO EMAIL THE NEWSLETTER TO PEOPLE WHO PREFER IT PLEASE CONTACT: dglobalwarming-coalition@gmail.com

DO YOU THINK YOU CAN KEEP UP WITH THE COALITION? Check out our website: douglascountyglobalwarmingcoalition.com or our Facebook Page



LEGISLATIVE AND ADVOCACY UPDATE



EVERYONE WANTS SOMEBODY'S FUEL

But when it comes to the Department of Environmental Quality's update of its Clean Fuels Program for transportation, the Coalition and its State allies have lobbied for these fuels to have the highest percentage of clean fuels as possible. Currently, the rules that are proposed would mandate that transportation fuels contain 37% clean fuels by 2035. We would like it higher than that. One drawback is that DEQ would consider dirty fuels such as renewable natural gas as acceptable alternatives. The Coalition is pushing for electrification as the way to go. The final proposed rule will be available for public comment in July with September as the target date for final determination.

SOME DON'T LIKE IT HOT

That's what Oregon's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) concluded in their final rule for worker protection from excess heat. Recognizing climate change will only further endanger workers' well-being, they crafted rules that are currently the strongest in the nation. Requirements during extreme heat include:

- ☺ Access to shade, cool drinking water and paid

breaks.

- ☺ Employers must have available emergency medical plans.
- ☺ Employers must develop a heat illness prevention plan.

WARNING: SMOKE IS HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH

As climate change brings more wildfires in Oregon and the resulting health hazards, OSHA also formulated strong protection rules from wildfire smoke. They include:

- ☺ Mandatory respirators at certain levels of smoke pollution.
- ☺ A change of workplace location as needed for protection.

SINS OF COMMISSION

The Oregon Transportation Commission had 1.2 billion dollars to disburse from the Federal Infrastructure Bill — most mandatory, some not. The largest allocation went to — you guessed it — highways and bridges at 40%. Sustainable and equitable transportation came in second at 34%.

A PLOY NAMED SUE

That's what the fossil fuel polluters of Oregon are up to as they file a lawsuit trying to stop DEQ's Climate Protection Program. This order will reduce Oregon's climate pollution 90% by 2050. But this lawsuit filed by these polluters will have none of it. The lawsuit doesn't specify why it is illegal, but merely trusts the Courts to find it so. And who are the villains who have masterminded this effort of obstruction? Avista, Northwest Natural Gas and Cascade Natural Gas. So the next time you see an ad claiming how these companies care

about climate change with their sham Renewable Natural Gas, remember the lawsuit, particularly as we approach the wildfire season.

Other parties to the lawsuit include Oregon Business and Industry, Associated Oregon Loggers, the Oregon Farm Bureau, among others.

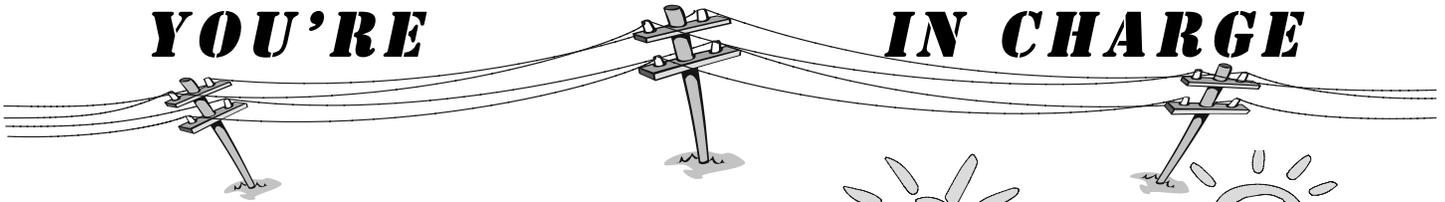
Nora Apter of the Oregon Environmental Council summarized the lawsuit quite well: "This frivolous, cynical legal action is a slap in the face to the majority of Oregon residents who support this Climate Protection Program."



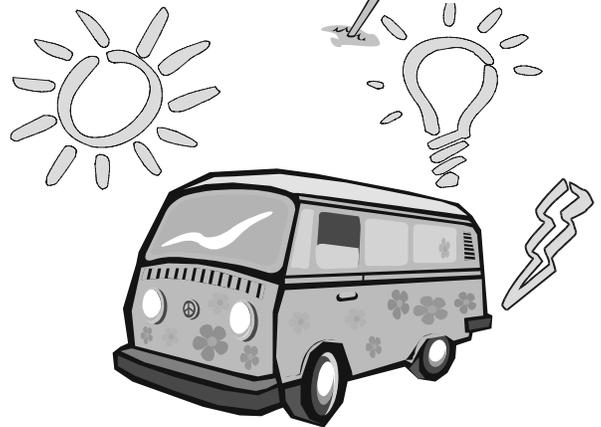
W O T S P O T S

- ☀ **At Least L.A.'s Baseball Slugger Is Not Endangered:** Of the 25 trout species and subspecies in the contiguous United States, 23 have moderate to high vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. Warming waters are forcing many to retreat to colder waters. Flooding is degrading their habitat and disrupting their spawning nests. Declining snowpacks and extreme drought in the West are allowing invasive species to spread. And wildfires and low water levels are also posing a threat. (*National Geographic, June, 2022*)
- ☀ **Please Don't Blame Martha And The Vandellias:** Rather, it's climate change that made the devastating heat wave in India and Pakistan 30 times more likely than it would have been in pre-industrial times. With temperatures hovering at 120 degrees, India's wheat crop has been damaged, resulting in the country banning its export. The study by World Weather Attribution, also noted if we reach an increase of two degrees Celsius, the frequency of such a heat wave will increase 20 fold. (*N.Y. Times, 5/24/22*)
- ☀ **Not Exactly What We Meant By The Term 'Seventh Generation':** The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is expecting an above normal hurricane season in the Atlantic this year. If the prognostication proves accurate, it will mark the seventh straight year of above normal hurricane frequency. If this continues, we might as well strike out the word 'above.' (*N.Y. Times, 5/24/22*)
- ☀ **The Davos Made Us Do It:** And we're glad it did. At the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, more than 50 corporations pledged to purchase aluminum, steel and other commodities made from processes that emit little or no carbon. This 'Global Buyer's Club' includes Ford Motor Company and Volvo. Unfortunately, Senator Joe Manchin stopped by to tell everyone that fossil fuels must be part of the solution. Perhaps he inadvertently substituted the letter 'S' for the letter 'P'. (*N.Y. Times, 5/26/22*)
- ☀ **Concerned About The Climate? Go To Amazon Not Calm:** A new study of the Amazon Rainforest showed it was less resilient to drought and logging and was approaching a critical threshold beyond which it will turn to grassland. Doing so would release up to nine billion tons of heat trapping carbon dioxide. Dr. Carlos Nobre, senior scientist at the Natural Institute of Amazon Research in Brazil, found the study very compelling. Stated Dr. Nobre "It raised my level of anxiety." (*N.Y. Times, 3/8/22*)
- ☀ **Evidence For The Climate Crisis: The Corpus DeCacti:** A study appearing in the journal Nature Climate found that by 2050, 60% of cactus species will be in greater danger of extinction. We have rounded up the usual suspects and the criminal is climate change. (*N.Y. Times, 4/15/22*)
- ☀ **Even Putting Masks On The Mammals Won't Help:** A study in the journal Nature showed climate change will increase the risk of diseases jumping from animals to humans. Over the next fifty years, more than 3,000 species of mammals might migrate and share viruses. The study projects cross-species spread will occur over 4,000 times among mammals. (*N.Y. Times, 5/3/22*)
- ☀ **The Block Island Line Is A Mighty Good Line:** And their line is wind power. This Rhode Island community made a commitment five years ago to get rid of their diesel generators and become the first community totally powered by wind. Extensive studies showed no ill effect on birds or fish and electricity was 44% cheaper. (*Smithsonian, May, 2022*)
- ☀ **You Can Party Like It's 1955:** The DeLorean, that famous car used in the movie 'Back To The Future' is coming out with an electric car. It will make its debut in August. With a range of 300 miles, it can go from zero to sixty in three seconds. And yes, it can reach that magical 88 miles per hour to take you back to 1955 in 4.35 seconds. It will cost a mere \$175,000, but isn't a trip to the past worth it? (*NPR, 5/31/22*)
- ☀ **This Is Not The Guy From 'Blazing Saddles':** But blazing it is. The climate induced heat wave in India has severely impacted the mango crop. Responsible for nearly half the world's crop, India has also been hit by untimely heavy rains in the North. As a result, the Mango Grower's Association estimated the yield in this area would fall 70%. A heavy price to pay for those who like their mango straight. (*N.Y. Times, 5/26/22*)
- ☀ **To Lessen Wildfires, Just Remove All Drought:** With 85% of New Mexico in extreme drought, it comes as no surprise that this year has seen the largest wildfire in its history. The Calf Creek/Hermits Peak fire had burned over 300,000 acres as of June 3 and was still going strong. (*N.Y. Times, 6/3/22*)

WHY NOT SHOW YOUR NEIGHBORS YOU'RE IN CHARGE



If you're thinking of putting in a level 2 charger for your electric vehicle, Pacific Power has got a deal for you. For your residence, they are offering a rebate of up to \$500, capped at 75% of the total project cost. And for income qualifying customers, the rebate maximum goes up to \$1000. For businesses, the maximum rebate is \$1000 per port and multifamily housing property owners \$3000 per port, all subject to the 75% cap. When it comes to electric vehicles, it's time to level with each other. In this case, level 2.



HOT SPOTS PART DEUX

- ☀ **With Oil And Gas, We've Been Leak-Adasical:** Particularly in the Permian Basin of New Mexico. A Stanford University study found methane leaks six times higher than the estimates by the Environmental Protection Agency. At a methane emissions rate of 9.4% of gross gas production, this is more than three times greater than the amount at which gas becomes more lethal to the climate than coal. *(N.Y. Times, 3/5/22)*
- ☀ **What Happens In New Mexico Doesn't Stay In New Mexico:** Levels of methane emissions increased last year by the largest amount since measurements began four decades ago. Methane is the main component of natural gas and also contributes to ground level ozone pollution. *(N.Y. Times, 4/8/22)*
- ☀ **East Antarctica No Longer Forms A Conga Line:** An ice shelf the size of New York City has collapsed in East Antarctica. The ice shelf, which holds in the Conga and Gerzer Glaciers, is gone — something which scientists had never seen in East Antarctica before. The region, once thought to be stable, holds enough ice to raise sea levels 160 feet. *(N.Y. Times, 5/16/22)*
- ☀ **Hopefully, There Will Be Snow Packs We Can Use Them On:** And if others emulate the Canadian company, Taiga, there will be. They have become the first major sellers of electric snowmobiles. Although nearly twice as expensive as gas powered ones, maintenance costs make this a break-even proposition which will give the climate a break. As a result, Taos Ski Valley snapped it up. *(N.Y. Times, 5/16/22)*
- ☀ **All Wells That Doesn't End Wells:** It turns out that oil and gas companies are meeting their goal of lower emissions with slightly sleight of hand. They are selling their dirty wells to get their emissions off their books. But who do they sell them to? Companies that have no commitment to reducing emissions. Of 3,000 oil and gas deals made between 2017 and 2021, more than twice as many involved wells moving from net zero commitments to those that didn't than the reverse. *(N.Y. Times, 5/10/22)*

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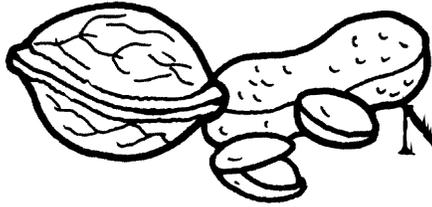
THE HISTORY OF BIOCHAR

BUILDING SOIL HUMUS

by Scott McKain

“You can observe a lot by just watching”

Yogi Berra



IN A NUTSHELL

by Scott McKain

Originally all people were hunter-gatherers. It took a large amount of land to support this existence. They lived in small bands moving when the land could no longer support them. As people came to occupy much of the planet the future of their societies was determined by their ability to develop agriculture or to remain mostly hunter-gatherers. The soil's ability to grow a large amount of calories that people could digest was a major factor.

The first people of western Oregon were hunter-gatherers. Hunting and fishing was more effective at keeping people fed than trying to grow poor crops on the leached, acidic soil. They were not aware that their cousins along the Amazon River in South America had discovered a method to transform similar leached soil into productive agriculture. They would use charcoal, a waste product of pit firing pottery, as a soil amendment.

When combined with other wastes it would resist nutrient leaching and allow fertility to build. The charcoal, now known as biochar, is sequestered carbon after thousands of years.

Today there is agriculture west of the Cascades. It depends on mineral imports from somewhere else. They are applied as they are leached. Biochar is key in breaking that cycle and improving food sufficiency in western Oregon.

My garden is my laboratory. I test practices and accept or reject accordingly. Twelve years ago I began making and using biochar, stopped tillage and began getting an annual detailed soil test. Mineral nutrients are adjusted as needed. More nutrition with less work is a successful result.

It should be noted that pyrolyzed nutshells make an excellent biochar.

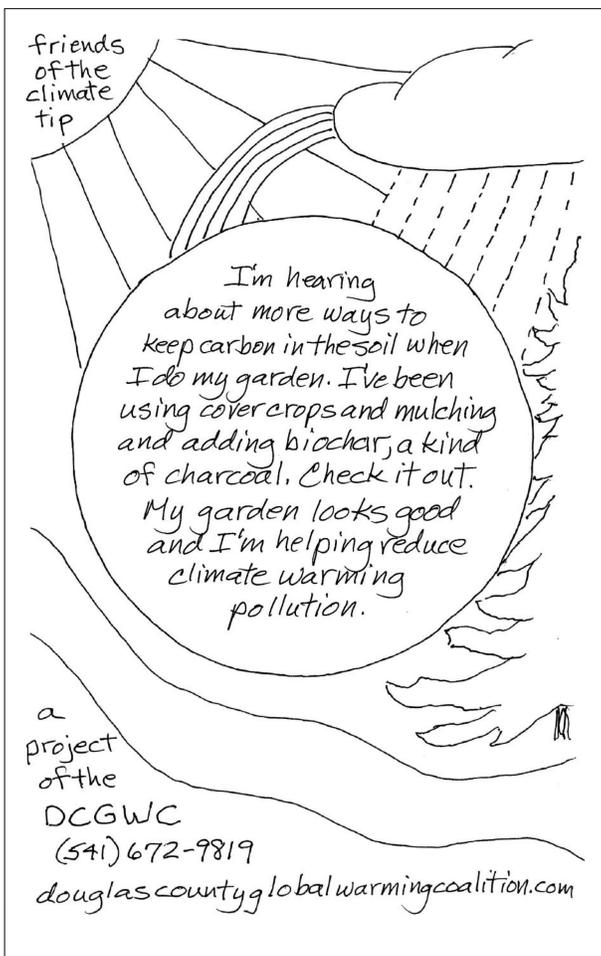
The plow is the most destructive technology ever invented. Civilizations have risen and fallen behind the plow. In the short term plowing, disking and tilling will quickly release mineral nutrients by decomposing organic matter. The soil organic matter is emitted as CO₂ and a crop is removed. Each season soil is degraded until farming is no longer worth the effort. History is replete with the consequences.

Green plants are the foundation of soil life. Plants feed fungi and bacteria with sugars exuded from their roots. The fungi and bacteria then provide the plants with minerals, water and protection from pathogens. It is an incredibly complicated system. Disturbing the soil is like dropping a goldfish into a running blender. The functioning system is greatly compromised.

Nature applies dead plants and animals to the soil surface to provide fuel for soil life. A cover crop terminated on the surface will be consumed by microbes within four weeks. When microbe populations expand and then die they leave behind a glycoprotein commonly known as humus. It is stable, with a half-life of 50

years. It has a high exchange capacity, meaning it holds mineral nutrients by ionic attraction. This resists leaching from rain and irrigation.

The accumulation of humus begins within two years of stopping tillage. It is time to close the old ways and open our eyes to how soil systems actually function.



WANT TO HEAR MORE ABOUT SCOTT'S PERSPECTIVE ON BIOCHAR? LISTEN TO HIS ZOOM FORUM RECORDING ON OUR WEBSITE: DOUGLAS-COUNTYGLOBAL-WARMINGCOALITION.COM.

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CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACT ON POLLINATORS

A ZOOM FORUM COMING THIS SUMMER: DATE AND TIME TBA

ONE OF THE STARTLING FINDINGS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON UFO'S WAS HOW OUR INTERGALACTIC VISITORS ARE BEING IMPACTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE. THEIR NAVIGATION SYSTEMS ARE BEING THROWN OFF BY MORE SEVERE HURRICANES. RISING SEAS ARE REDUCING THEIR LANDING SPACES. AND THEIR HOME BASE IN ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO IS BEING RAVAGED BY WILDFIRES AND HEAT WAVES. WE IN THE COALITION WILL NOT TURN A BLIND EYE TO THEIR SITUATION. PLEASE BE GENEROUS. WE'RE AN ALL-VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION THAT HAS NOW EXPANDED OUR MISSION TO COVER TWO PLANETS.

Yes, I'll help as long as they are not here 'To Serve Man.' Here's my contribution of:

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