

The Results are in So what now?

Energy Conservation is something we can all do right now: **measure and reduce your carbon footprint**. Help and encourage others to do the same.

Letting our legislators know that we want a smart and sustainable energy system is something we can do: **join advocacy and lobbying groups**.

We can invest in Carbon Offsets that effectively protect and expand carbon sinks such as rainforests, wetlands, peat bogs and clean oceans and that encourage carbon sequestration at landfills and on farms. **Use offsets** only to reach a goal of carbon neutrality after conserving and reducing as much as possible. Ideally, our conserving and reducing should increase and our use of offsets should decrease.

Look for and encourage Leadership.

The Resource sheet of Websites can help you in these efforts. Let us know when you find a highly useful site and we will spread the word!

An article was written and sent to our legislators, published in the local newspapers and is included at the end of this document.

A video tape of the 2009 Concord Carlisle Teach-In event was made and broadcast on local CCTV.

Thank you for participating in the 2009 National Teach-In.

Bob Andrews

Cindy Nock

Lori Pazaras

Launa Zimmaro

And now the Results....

Task #1: Quickly brainstorm up to 6 areas of importance for the new administration and congress to focus on re: climate action. Then discuss and choose by consensus the top three to present to the larger group.

Note: 49 people attended the Teach-In and there were five brainstorming groups.

Responses to Six areas of Importance at the National Level

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5
Renewable Energy.	Educate public about perils of over population & growth economy.	New energy ideas – geothermal, innovation.	Appropriation for Office of Sciences in Dept of Energy (get it back).	Leadership call to action to citizens to conserve energy & take personal responsibility.
Energy Conservation.	Manhattan project on alternative energy.	Farm subsidies for sustainable agriculture.	Govern by example – make federal buildings energy efficient & change energy use policy.	Show leadership at Copenhagen.
Some form of Carbon Tax	International agreement on carbon tax.	Education= Engagement : Teach environmental friendliness and social justice classes in schools.	Promote smart grid & national program to get LED lights.	Set emissions targets, Invest in clean development, Darpa model.
-blank-	Combine climate & energy legislation.	Energy efficiency & Raise demand for renewables.	Stay fully engaged in global energy discussion.	Electric cars.
-blank-	Promote high speed rail.	Mandate change, e.g. CFLs.	Economics – alternative energy too expensive – fund nuclear fusion.	Focus on linking grass roots groups that are concerned with climate change.
-blank-	Copenhagen agreement.	Long term investment & planning.	Create new jobs to build energy infrastructure.	Energy conservation-standards for buildings.

Summary of Notes taken by groups at Teach-In
--

-- National Areas of Importance --

The areas of importance mentioned most frequently were Energy Conservation and New Ideas/Technologies.

The next three areas of importance mentioned most frequently were International Effort, Renewable Energy and Leadership.

Other areas of importance were Emission standards and targets, Farm subsidies for sustainable farming, Green jobs for building smart energy infrastructure, Electric cars, High speed rail, and a Carbon Tax.

NATIONAL AREA of IMPORTANCE	Number of groups that noted area as important
Energy Conservation	XXXXXX
Promote new ideas & technology; geothermal, nuclear fusion,...	XXXXXX
Renewable Energy	XXXX
Leadership	XXXX
International Effort	XXXX
Emissions & conservation standards and targets	XX
Education re: conservation, environmental sustainability, social justice, perils of growth economy/overpopulation	XX
Farm subsidies for sustainable agriculture	X
Green jobs building energy infrastructure	X
Electric cars	X
High speed rail	X
Carbon tax	X

Task #2: [10 MINUTES] Reducing emissions is critical.....

- What can individuals do on a personal level to reduce emissions?

Group 1: Stop eating meat & dairy
 Replace old appliances with High Efficiency
 Use bicycle when possible
 Switch from heating oil to natural gas
 Use clothesline

 Group 2: Energy efficiency at home

Group 3: Peer pressure & Lead by example to involve more friends
 Calculate carbon footprint
 Drive less by planning fewer trips

 Group 4: CFLs
 Insulation
 Turn off lights

Group 5: CFLs
 Limit use of dryer
 Shorter showers
 Drive hybrids/ Ride a bike/ Walk
 Handwash dishes or wait for full dishwasher
 Buy energy efficient appliances

Summary of Notes taken by groups at Teach-In

-- Areas of Importance for our Households --

Personal Action Items	Number of groups that noted area as a personal action item
Things that can be done immediately:	
CFLs	XX
Drive less by planning fewer trips (& bike & walk)	XX
Use clothesline / Limit use of dryer	XX
Turn off lights	X
Shorter showers	X
Handwash dishes or wait for full dishwasher	X
Stop eating meat & dairy	X
Things that require significant money:	
Buy/replace energy efficient appliances	XX
Drive hybrids/ Ride a bike/ Walk	XX
Insulation	X
Switch from heating oil to natural gas	X
Things that can lead to lower emissions:	
Peer pressure & Lead by example to involve more friends	X
Calculate carbon footprint	X

Task #3: [10 MINUTES] What could be done in your town to reduce emissions?

- Group 1: Smart grid bylaw
 Insulate homes
 Smart meter
 Insulate and increase energy efficiency of town buildings
 Tax plastic & bottles
 Electric shuttle buses
 Tiered taxing of energy user
 Reduce packaging
 Car-free day
 Hire 6 energy-efficiency officers (1 per 1000 households and paid by townenergy tax)
 Take advantage of Green Communities Act

- Group 2: Town energy ombudsman
 Town building codes

- Group 3: Recycling – involve students
 Work on logistics to make recycling easier
 Focus group to problem solve
 Community service

- Group 4 and 5: --blank--

Summary of Notes taken by groups at Teach-In

-- Areas of Importance for our Towns --

Town Action Items	Number of groups that noted area as a Town action item
Items that involve transportation:	
Car-free day	X
Electric shuttle buses	X
Tiered taxing of energy user	X
Items that involve weatherization:	
Insulate homes	X
Insulate and increase energy efficiency of town buildings	X
Items that raise revenues & encourage reducing:	
Tax plastic & bottles	X
Tiered taxing of energy user	X
Make recycling easier	X
Reduce packaging (tax plastic bags?)	X
Hire energy-eff. officers (1/1000 hsehlds pd by energy tax)	X
Take advantage of Green Communities Act	X
Other Things:	
Smart grid bylaw	X
Smart meter	X
Town energy ombudsman	X
Town building codes	X
Focus group to problem solve/ Community service/Involve Students	X