

# Climate Rescue Toolkit



## Global Warming Is Our Generations' Greatest Challenge

### The science is clear

If we don't act soon, the impacts of global warming will be irreversible. Already, communities on the Gulf Coast are facing more intense storms and hurricanes. Firefighters in Western states are battling historic wildfires. And farmers all over the world are watching weather patterns shift unpredictably. Future generations could inherit a very different planet.

### Americans Always Find Courage in the Face of Adversity

The good news is, Americans have always found the courage to face down huge obstacles. From the civil rights movement to the second World War, history is made by citizens who are willing to stand up for what's right. We could stand idly by while big industry polluters destroy our planet, or, we can pass on a world with cheap, limitless renewable energy and a safe climate. Like the generations that came before us, we have a choice to make.

### Stand With Greenpeace: Rescue the Climate

For decades, Greenpeace has stood up to the world's worst polluters, no matter how powerful. Now, we're calling on you to stand up too, to help us to meet the greatest environmental challenge in the world's history. We can rescue the climate, but it's going to take all of us.



## We Need Leaders, Not Politicians

**While we struggle** to recover from the worst economic recession in decades, it's become clear that we can't afford to return to the policies of the past— letting industry do as it pleases, with no regard for the impact on people or the planet. The days of coal and oil barons writing our country's energy policy are over.

In order to implement climate solutions successfully, we need our elected officials in Washington D.C. to act like leaders and not politicians. Join us in continuing to build a movement that demands President Obama and Congress do the following:

- Respond to climate science and not to polluters. Enact science based emissions reductions targets in order to prevent a 2-degree Centigrade global temperature increase.
- Negotiate at the United Nations Climate Conference in December on the basis of the science-based UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change emission reduction targets.
- Invest in renewable and clean energy and away from coal, oil and gas (the prime sources of global warming emissions).



## Student power

Students have always been at the forefront of social movements. To defend our future against unparalleled environmental challenges we must get organized. Elected officials need to hear loud and clear that we will not stand for anything less than science based solutions to climate change.

### Take Action on campus and in your community:

#### 1. Turn Politicians into Leaders

President Obama promised us to work with Congress to implement science based climate solutions, yet he has not lived up to what he said on the campaign trail. Let's hold our politicians accountable. Grab their attention by lobbying, organizing creative actions and telling the media. Check out the tipsheet\* for more ideas on how to turn politicians into leaders.

#### 2. Make Your School a Coal Free Campus

Fifty Percent of the United States' electricity is provided by coal, the leading global warming polluter. Right now, the coal barons are hard at work protecting their business by weakening US climate legislation. Tell the coal industry to get off your campus—whether there is a coal plant on your campus, an administrator is on the board of a coal company, or there is a coal plant in the nearby community. See the tipsheet\* to learn more about how you can join the coal fight.

#### 3. Use the Media to Insert the Youth Voice into the Climate Debate

Leading up to the UN Climate Conference in December, it will be vitally important to make sure that the general public and politicians hear from youth. Afterall, it is our future that politicians are deciding. See the tipsheet\* for more ideas and best practices on how to generate media around your work.

#### 4. Join the Climate Connections Project

The USA and China (the two largest producers of global warming pollution) have stood in the way of all nations coming to the table and agreeing to a global treaty. Therefore, we have teamed up with Greenpeace China to launch "Climate Connections." Join this project and you will be paired with a Chinese youth to share stories about why you care and how you are acting to fight climate change. These stories will be used to send a united, global message to American and Chinese leaders that they must act and stop fooling around with our future. Sign up to be a part of the project by September 1st at

[www.greenpeace.org/climateconnections](http://www.greenpeace.org/climateconnections).



## Student power

### 5. Host an “Age of Stupid” moving screening and “Stupid Action”

Recruit new activists and raise funds for your group by hosting an “Age of Stupid” movie screening. It’s a film about a man “living alone in the devastated world of 2055, looking at old footage from 2009 and asking: why didn’t we stop climate change when we had the chance?” Think about it as “Inconvenient Truth,” but with more of an edge. Its got an activist bent too, so it will encourage folks to go out after the film and stage events to highlight things that are “stupid” and contribute to climate change. Screenings are in early October. Contact [students@sfo.greenpeace.org](mailto:students@sfo.greenpeace.org) if you would like to host a screening on your campus.

### 6. Attend a Regional Power Shift

It is important to come together as a community, share ideas, learn, strategize, and mobilize to show the overwhelming support for climate solutions. This October, the Energy Action Coalition (which we are a part of) will be hosting dozens of regional summits across the country. Contact us at [students@sfo.greenpeace.org](mailto:students@sfo.greenpeace.org) for a list of locations and for more information about how you can get involved.

### 7. Participate in the October 24th Global Day of Climate Action

On October 24, activists around the world will be mobilizing to demand that world governments act to put a cap on global warming pollution. This day of climate action is going global: events are already planned from Bangladesh to the Barrier Reef. Mark the day by organizing an attention-grabbing event in your community. Contact us at [students@sfo.greenpeace.org](mailto:students@sfo.greenpeace.org) for support pulling of your event.



## What now?

### 1. Plan your campaign.

Contact Carling at [students@sfo.greenpeace.org](mailto:students@sfo.greenpeace.org) for advice and for organizing tips check out the tipsheets at <http://www.greenpeace.org/usa/getinvolved/student-network/resources>.

### 2. Sign up for Greenpeace student campaign trainings.

Join our Conference Call Trainings throughout the semester. See <http://www.greenpeace.org/usa/getinvolved/student-network/trainings> for the schedule of trainings and contact [students@sfo.greenpeace.org](mailto:students@sfo.greenpeace.org) to sign up.

Be a part of the Greenpeace Organizing Term. Every semester and summer, 25-30 passionate students take a semester away from campus to train with Greenpeace. Organizing Term students take part in classroom trainings with some of the best trainers available and then get a chance to put that training into action in the field. Students get a chance to work on a real Greenpeace campaign where they use their new organizing skills. Think about it as a semester abroad. Only cooler. You can learn more and apply at [www.greenpeace.org/usa/getinvolved/greenpeace-organizing-term](http://www.greenpeace.org/usa/getinvolved/greenpeace-organizing-term)

### 3. Find out more & sign up for news and action alerts at [www.greenpeacestudents.org](http://www.greenpeacestudents.org)

About the Greenpeace Student Network

The Greenpeace Student Network is an alliance of passionate leaders fighting environmental crimes with grassroots power. Armed with top organizing tools, expert guidance, and the best training, our network gives you the opportunity to be a real force in a global movement for change.

Any student with a desire to make a difference has a role in our network. Whether you've never worked on a campaign before or you're a seasoned activist, take the next step.

**Join us online:** [www.greenpeacestudents.org](http://www.greenpeacestudents.org)

**Contact us via email:** [students@sfo.greenpeace.org](mailto:students@sfo.greenpeace.org)

**Call us:** 415.255.9221 x330

## Calendar

### August

Kick off the semester by bird-dogging your politicians during their August recess.

### September

Join the Climate Correspondence by September 1st: <http://usactions.greenpeace.org/action/launch/254/>. Sign up to host An Age of Stupid screening by September 7th

### October

Attend a Regional Power Shift Summit  
Participate in the Global Day of Climate Action on October 24th

### December

#### 7-18th

Stay tuned to the United Nations Climate Change Conference.

