

Tacoma Citizens' Climate Lobby



Creating political will for a livable planet

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

CCL NEWS

“Dismal” news: the budget reconciliation bill was passed with *big* rollbacks of IRA clean energy tax credits. At least it was not an outright repeal—and there is some Republican defense of the credits, which we hope will grow! See the [CCL weekly briefing](#).

Brighter news: CCL national has a [Youth Action Team](#)! It “supports youth under 18 to be active, engaged, and empowered in building political will for climate solutions.” They recently had a [“Great School Electrification Challenge.”](#) Know a young person who might be interested?

STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Recycling reform, clean trucks and fuel...CCL Tacoma lobbied for this year’s best climate bills and the session ended with impressive victories despite the **\$16B** budget shortfall! See [p.2](#) for [Washington Conservation Action’s](#) wrap-up and their **May 19** celebration on Zoom!

PREVIOUS MEETING

In **April** we viewed and discussed [Katharine Hayhoe’s talk](#) about how to help people who are concerned about climate change yet not active find a personal way to engage. We went a step further to devise some guides on that for tabling. [Minutes here.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Tuesdays & Wednesdays
from 12:30-2:30,
1st & 2nd Sundays from 1-3,
Postcard Writing group
[location](#)

Wednesday, May 21, 7pm
CCL Chapter meeting
On Zoom. [get link](#)

Saturday, May 31, 5:30-7:30 pm, “[Take Root](#)”
[Tacoma Tree Foundation](#)
[fundraiser event](#)
Eastside Community Center
1721 E 56th St.

Wednesday, June 4, noon
CCL Study Group on Zoom.
Contact [Sue Lepore](#)

Thursday, June 5, 6-8 pm
[Tacoma Green Drinks](#) with
Heartwood Haven

Save the Date!
Wednesday, July 16, 5:30
CCL Tacoma Annual Potluck
Picnic! Location TBD

[CCL Summer Conference](#)
[and Lobby Day](#)
Washington DC, July 19-22
Register by July 3rd

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

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

April 26—Tabling at the [South Sound Sustainability Expo](#) We had conversations about clean energy, electrification, lobbying, and how to go from concerned about climate to actively engaged. We are looking for some more tabling venues for this summer. If you have suggestions or want to join in, contact [Linda Cohan](#).

The postcard-writing group is at it again, helping good causes and having fun! We’ve been meeting **Tuesdays & Wednesdays 12:30-2:30** and **1st & 2nd Sundays 1-3**. Just contact [Cathy Carruthers](#) for location and project details.

Several members are involved with TUFF (Tacoma Urban Forest Friends) led by Tom Giske. His update letter (on [p.3](#)) describes the “significant progress made with the city council,” how we can help reach the goal of **30%** city tree canopy, and their upcoming website, [ReforestTacoma.com](#).

Please post, like, and comment on our [Facebook](#) page, managed by Nancy Atwood.

John Doherty’s “Climate 360” has a broad reach, airing on KTAH Radio Tacoma, KVSH Voice of Vashon, & KBCS Bellevue.

See [past newsletters](#)

Legislative Session Wrap up (excerpts from Washington Conservation Action email May 1)

“At the start of **2025**, state lawmakers faced roughly a **\$16 billion** budget shortfall. So, we knew this would be a difficult legislative session. The four months of advocating in **Olympia** were not without some nail-biting moments. But, in the end, the results for people and nature were full of positive victories, such as:

*The legislature is listening to voters and spent **CCA** dollars to reduce dangerous climate pollution, invest in clean energy solutions, and support communities grappling with climate impacts.

***We’re modernizing recycling systems (SB 5284)**: After six years, the [Environmental Priorities Coalition](#) finally helped push statewide recycling reform into law. (not yet signed by Governor)

***We’re making it easier for the public to know about sewage spills (HB 1670)**: Most sewage spill information is not easily accessible to the public. Now the **Department of Ecology** must create a public website with this information by 2026. (passed but not yet signed by Governor).

***We’re funding cleaner trucks on the road**: The final budget included new funding for a grant program to improve access and affordability of cleaner medium and heavy-duty trucks.

***We strengthened the Clean Fuels standard (HB 1409)** this bill reduces the pollution intensity of fuels through cleaner options at the pump and electric vehicles.

***We created a state insurance fund to cover prescribed and cultural burns, in the rare event that one of those fires gets out of control (HB 1563)** These burns are key to restoring forest health after a century of fire suppression has left forestlands crowded and prone to catastrophic wildfire.

None of this progress would have been possible without supporters like you who help to fund our work, who sign in during comment periods, who contact your legislators at key times, and who show up in person to lobby. Thanks for all that you did to make the 2025 legislative session a success.”

PLEASE JOIN US ON ZOOM FOR...

350 WA'S 2025 CAMPAIGN WRAP UP

RSVP HERE!

CELEBRATE!

MONDAY, MAY 19TH AT 6PM

An update from Tom Giske, Reforest Tacoma

Hello Tree Canopy Partners,

Last night the **City Council** unanimously passed a resolution to begin a comprehensive process that will review all aspects of **Tacoma's** tree canopy with the purpose to find the best possible solution for reforesting the streets of **Tacoma**. This process, reviewed and approved by all departments within the city, including **Urban Forestry, Environmental Services, Public Works**, the **City Manager** and the **City Attorney**, includes an agreed timeline that ensures the **Planning Commission** completes its necessary work, that funding alternatives are assessed, and a budget for executing the result is ready for the 2027/2028 schedule. See resolution [here](#).

I have spoken to **CM Kristina Walker**, the primary sponsor of the resolution, and she is encouraging us to remain involved and to look for ways to support this 2 ½ year process. As a result, we have obtained ReforestTacoma.com as a domain and are creating a web site to offer support and track the process from beginning to end. We are also establishing an **Instagram** link to extend support and to drive activity to the website. The **Tacoma Tree Foundation (TTF)** and **Tacoma Urban Forest Friends (TUFF)** have agreed to participate, and we hope your organization will also do so.

Participation could include informational contributions to the site, distribution of updates to your members, links to appropriate sections of your own website, and any other creative ideas you may have.

Thank you for considering this request to help in our efforts to ensure the city's process culminates in a funded project to reach the city's goal of a 30% canopy within a reasonable timeframe.

Of further interest

Some good news articles and a website for you!

["16 Blue Economy Startups Powering Ocean Innovation"](#) Causeartist April 14

["The coolest new energy storage technologies"](#) Yale climate connections May 5

["The bright future of the all-electric neighborhood"](#) Reasonstobecheerful April 14

Recoverbrands.com (turning waste to wear, total closed loop)