**Greening Your Personal Life and Environment: Resources & Advocacy**

**We have a God given mandate to care for all people and all creatures and all plants. This is stewardship. This is love.**

**VOTE and VOTE and VOTE again**

1. **Advocate** locally, in Wisconsin, the region, and the nation. This can be political or through one of many organizations of interest.
2. **Communicate** with family, neighbors, and friends. Share stories. Making changes inspires and changes you and others. How can you help each other. Complacency and fear inhibit actions.

**Book**: Saving Us – A climate scientist case for hope and healing in a divided world by Katherine Hayhoe. Available at public library

**Local Organizations**

1. Milwaukee Environmental Collaborative Office <https://city.milwaukee.gov/eco>
	1. ME2 Program: low interest loans for energy saving improvements
	2. Milwaukee Shines: Solar energy program for homes and business
2. Plastic Free MKE. <https://www.plasticfreemke.org/who-we-are>
3. Milwaukee River Keepers: <https://milwaukeeriverkeeper.org/>

**State and Regional Organizations**

1. WI Depart of Natural Resources <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/climatechange>
2. Conservation Voters of Wisconsin: <https://conservationvoters.org/>
3. Clean Wisconsin <https://www.cleanwisconsin.org/>
4. Wisconsinites for Environmental Justice <https://www.w4ej.org/>
5. Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change <https://wicci.wisc.edu/climate-change-solutions-strategies/>

**National Organizations**

1. Drawdown: **The best single web site.** <https://drawdown.org/>
2. Episcopal Church. <https://www.sustainislandhome.org/>
3. Episcopal Diocese of California. <https://www.diocal.org/resource/eco-justice/creation-care-resources/>
4. Citizens Climate Change Lobby <https://www.w4ej.org>
5. EPA <https://www.epa.gov/climate-change/>
6. Religious response to environmental/justice concerns [www.greenfaith.org](http://www.greenfaith.org) /
7. Harnessing economic power to green America. <https://www.greenamerica.org/>

**Other Resources**

**Local Organizations**

1. Urban Ecology Center: <https://urbanecologycenter.org/>
2. Milwaukee County Parks. <https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Parks>
3. Schlitz Audubon Nature Center. <https://www.schlitzaudubon.org/>

**State and Regional Organizations**

1. Sierra Club of Wisconsin <https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin>
2. Wisconsin State Parks. <https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin>
3. Governor’s Task Force Report <https://climatechange.wi.gov/Documents/Final%20Report/GovernorsTaskForceonClimateChangeReport-HighRes.pdf>

See pages 12-13 for summary of solutions

**National Organizations**

1. The Nature Conservancy. <https://www.climate.columbia.edu/>
2. Physicians for Social Responsibility – has section on environment and health which among many other things looks at the effect of climate i.e. heat, toxins, pollution and more on health and healthcare costs <https://www.psr.org/>
3. Columbia (University) Climate School <https://www.climate.columbia.edu/>
4. UN perspective: <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/>
5. Religious response to global warming: Interfaith Power and Light

[Https://www.interfaithpowerandlight](https://www.interfaithpowerandlight)

**Great Lakes**

1. EPA. <https://www.epa.gov/greatlakes>
2. Environmental Law & Policy Center <https://elpc.org/projects/protecting-the-great-lakes/>
3. Great Lakes Conservation Coalition <https://greatlakesconservation.com/>

**PFAS**  PFAS (per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances) known as “forever chemicals.” They cannot be destroyed and remain in the body “forever.” They are associated with kidney and testicular cancer, lower birth weights, harm to the immune, reproductive and hormonal systems. They repel both water and oil and are used in firefighting foam and stain resistance in carpet etc, cookware, packing etc. The EPA has set Health Action Limits of 0.004 and 0.02 parts per trillion for PFOA and PFOS. This means they are no safe level for these chemicals. They are found widely throughout Wisconsin, including Milwaukee, in drinking, ground and surface water, fish and more. Some towns must use bottled water. There are fish consumption warnings on multiple lakes.

 PFAS Free Wisconsin <https://www.pfasfree.org/>