

# Climate Change – It Is Time To Act

## Vote on November 6<sup>th</sup>

October 2018

The evidence is mounting that climate change is a major threat to the health and well-being of humanity. It is also clear that the effects will hit the most vulnerable Vermonters first and hardest – children, the elderly, the chronically ill, and those living in poverty. We believe that every Vermonter should be asking her or his candidate for state office what specific measures they will fight for to drive the emission of carbon pollution down.

Vermonters have a deep and abiding attachment to nature. Farmers make their living off the land (and the rest of us enjoy the local food they bring us). Hunters and fishermen are able to hunt and fish because of the abundant wildlife. Many of us spend time outdoors all year long - hiking, biking, skiing, snowmobiling, and camping. Climate change threatens all of this in ways too few people understand.

As stewards of the health of Vermonters, we are especially concerned about the growing direct threat to the health and well-being of all of us. Predicted worldwide health impacts are already happening here in Vermont. These include the spread of insect-borne diseases such as Lyme disease; the increased incidence of asthma and respiratory ailments; increased discharges of untreated waste into rivers and lakes from heavy rainfalls; increased emergency room visits for summer heat-related illness, and more incidents of algal blooms which are leaving lakes unsafe for people and pets. These are all signals of the declining health of the environment. Yet, as reported recently by Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, the emission of greenhouse gases in Vermont is rising.

We believe it is time for Vermont to step up and pass innovative legislation that will put us on a track to meet the emission targets that have already been agreed to (which will also create new businesses and jobs).

**We ask that you contact your state candidates for public office and ask them what they are going to do about protecting the health and well-being of all Vermonters.**  
**And then vote on November 6th!**

**The time has come to act.**

For more information, visit [www.vtcha.org/vote](http://www.vtcha.org/vote)

For more information on climate change and your health, see <http://www.cdc.gov/climateandhealth/> and <http://www.healthvermont.gov/environment/climate>.



**Vermont Climate and Health Alliance**  
*Medical and Health Professionals Calling for Change*

