

U Social/Climate Justice Newsletter 2021

Voices and Victories



Flooding

In our community 33143, there is an increased 52% of flooding. My voice speaks about floods and to help you understand that flooding is a repeated climate change issue. Where is Justice in trying to live economically and committing our lives to the Global Climate Crisis? It's more than the CO2 reduction by the year 2030. In the US, the cost annually of flood disasters at about \$8 billion per year. Globally flooding leads most of the four disaster categories of events at 181%, followed by Wildfires, Earthquakes, and Drought.

When FEMA assists disaster victims, they base their assistance on the restored value of the home. Identical homes with identical damage are paid out according to their neighborhood, so rich white people are made whole and poor people are left hurting--getting 50% what wealthier people get.

Victory! Terry L.

Rising Sea Levels

Rising Sea levels have an effect on our community. We are 17 miles from Miami Beaches and 4 miles from the Bay at Coconut grove. Our area of 8 square miles is 3-7 feet elevation to the rise of a storm surge is of concern by 2030. To date, 33143 has 2,609 properties already at risk of flooding from heavy rains. Projected to be at an increased risk of 52%. How and why could this change for UU Miami's community? I have included a video link for rising sea levels? I think you will like viewing it.

<https://youtu.be/Ooy4dEv8RTY>

(90) A Slowing Gulf Stream Increases Sea Level Rise - YouTube

Carbon Sequestration

Carbon sequestration involves capturing CO₂ in the atmosphere. I discovered two plants that can assist us with our efforts to help reduce rising temperatures. Sunset Jade indoor potted plant and Peace Lily outdoor plant.

Victory! James S.

Caring for Creation

Caring for Creation is part of our social/climate Justice initiative to collaborate with others over our socioeconomic health. This ~4minute video shown at a PACT meeting that really captures climate justice.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDjuPSOVFk>

Sharing our Care for Creation Stories

Listening Process 2021, Care for Creation, DART

Victory! Carol K.

Carbon Tax

While it is clearly important that each of us as individuals do all we can to reuse, recycle, and reduce our usage of the Earth's resources, the biggest changes must take place at the national and global policy level. We can't expect that governments just do "the right thing" and, because these decisions are driven by economics, we must generate solutions that are financially viable, i.e. that they pay for themselves and generate revenues.

One of these ideas is the notion of a "carbon import tariff" or "carbon tax" that aims to reduce carbon emissions globally (a reduction that will lessen the impact on climate change, help to reduce global warming, which will in turn stem extreme weather, etc.). The European Union is considering a proposal, and a range of carbon tax proposals are under consideration in Congress. See this article I wrote for News@TheU (University of Miami) that explores some of the complications raised by David Kelley, who heads the Sustainability Business Masters program.

<https://news.miami.edu/stories/2021/07/carbon-border-tariff-takes-aim-at-worst-pollution-perpetrators.html>

Victory! Michael M.

Compiled by James S. 09/2021