DELWARE’S
Climate Action Plan
Public Workshop
Over the course of 2020, Delawareans will help shape a Climate Action Plan to minimize the greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change and maximize our resilience to the impacts we’re already experiencing.

As climate change threatens our daily lives and economy in Delaware’s coastal towns, urban areas, and vibrant farms, it’s time for us to act together.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:30 - 5:30 pm</td>
<td>Open House and Networking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 - 5:45 pm</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:45 - 5:50 pm</td>
<td>Opening Polling</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:50 - 6:00 pm</td>
<td>Overview Presentation</td>
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<td>6:00 - 7:10 pm</td>
<td>Small Breakout Groups</td>
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<td>7:10 - 7:15 pm</td>
<td>Closing Polling</td>
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<td>7:15 - 7:30 pm</td>
<td>Wrap-Up</td>
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Welcome and Introduction

• Purpose of this public workshop
• What you can expect from tonight
• How your input will be used in the climate planning process
• How to continue providing your input throughout the year

Blackbird Creek Reserve, Smyrna, DE
Source: DNREC
Keypad Polling
How important is the issue of climate change to you personally? Choose 1.

A. Very Important
B. Quite Important
C. Not Very Important
D. Not at All Important
How well do you think you understand the causes of climate change? *Choose 1.*

A. Understand completely and minimizing my impact

B. Somewhat understand but not sure what we can do about it

C. I don’t understand but want to learn more

D. No need to understand

![Bar chart showing the percentage of responses]

- Understand completely: 49%
- Somewhat understand: 48%
- I don’t understand: 2%
- No need to understand: 0%
Which of the following do you think contributes most to GHG emissions and climate change?

A. Driving vehicles
B. Using energy in our homes
C. Using energy in our businesses
D. Farming practices
E. Power plants
F. Industrial processes
G. Other

[Diagram showing bar graph with percentages: Driving vehicles 52%, Using energy in our homes 1%, Using energy in our businesses 4%, Farming practices 17%, Power plants 12%, Industrial processes 9%, Other 4%]
What issues are of most concern to you related to impacts of climate change? *Choose 2.*

A. Disease & illness (Lyme disease, EEE, etc.)
B. Natural disasters
C. Economic security
D. Resources shortages
E. Air and water quality
F. Loss of biodiversity
G. Other
How prepared do you feel that you and/or your family are for the impacts of climate change? Choose 1

A. Very prepared
B. Somewhat prepared
C. Not prepared
D. No need to prepare
Greenhouse gases (GHG) are vapors in the atmosphere that trap heat around the earth (like carbon dioxide).

Since the mid-1800s, humans have released a significant amount of GHGs into the atmosphere.

In the U.S., most GHGs come from burning fossil fuels for electricity, heat, and transportation.

An increased amount of GHGs in the atmosphere has led to rising temperatures and other long-term changes in the climate.

Source: Delaware 2016 Greenhouse Gas Inventory
Greenhouse Gases in Delaware

- Delaware’s primary sources of GHGs are from transportation (35%), electric power generation (21%), and industrial (27%)
- Delaware has made a commitment to reduce GHG emissions by 26% below 2005 levels by 2025
- So far, Delaware has reduced GHG emissions by about 18%, the state is looking for solutions to ensure it meets its goal

Source: Delaware 2016 GHG Inventory
INCREASED TEMPERATURE

• Number of extremely hot days (over 95°F) are expected to increase

• Annual and seasonal temperatures in Delaware have already increased by 2°F since 1900

• Will threaten public health by worsening air quality and increasing risk of illnesses caused by heat and air pollution

A section of Delaware Route 1 near Milford was damaged by a “road heaving” incident that caused the roadway to buckle. Asphalt surfaces and other materials can be damaged during heat waves.

Source: DelDOT
SEA-LEVEL RISE

• By 2050, sea levels could rise by almost 2 feet
• Will harm soil and groundwater quality in coastal regions
• Will result in more erosion of beaches, roads, and other infrastructure in low-lying areas

Coastal Route 9 has experienced flooding from higher tide elevations from sea-level rise.

Source: DNREC
EXTREME PRECIPITATION

• Average precipitation is expected to increase by about 10% by 2100

• Heavy rainstorms are expected to become more frequent and more intense

• Extreme rainfall events affect agriculture by destroying crops, damaging farm facilities, and increasing crop disease pressure

In April and May 2018, rain destroyed several high dollar crops and threatened the yield of many others. The Secretary of Agriculture Michael T. Scuse made a request for an emergency disaster declaration to USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Service Center.

Source: Delaware.gov
Delaware’s Climate Action Plan will protect and strengthen:

- Our agricultural and tourism economies
- The natural places we enjoy for recreation
- Our infrastructure
- The health of our residents and visitors
- Access to clean energy and transportation for all Delawareans
The plan will consider solutions in a variety of areas, including:

- Renewable Energy (wind and solar)
- Agriculture and Conservation
- Energy Efficiency and Industrial Refrigerants
- Support for local communities (technical assistance, grant funding)
- Clean Transportation (public transit, electric vehicles)
- Partnerships with other states
PROJECT TIMELINE

- **Spring 2020**: Round 1 of public workshops and technical advisory workshops
- **Fall 2020**: Round 2 of public workshops and technical advisory workshops
- **Summer 2020**: Release analysis of greenhouse gas reduction strategies
- **December 2020**: Release Delaware’s Climate Action Plan
- **Summer 2020**: Additional public workshops on adaptation strategies
MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

› The success of this plan depends on public involvement.

In person
Attend a public meeting.

Online
Visit declimateplan.org.
Engage online.

Word of Mouth
Tell your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers.
Small Group Breakouts
Meeting Ground Rules

- Have One Conversation at a Time (at each table)
- Share Air Time so All Can Participate
- Be Purposeful and to the Point
- Stay Curious and Open to the Perspectives of Others
- Share Reasons Behind Questions and Statements
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