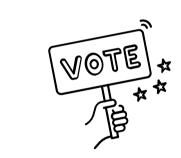
It's simple: when more people who care about climate change vote in an election, politicians will shift to appeal to get their votes, and legislation on climate will follow. Your vote is one of the most powerful tools to combat the climate crisis, and it is needed in every election from the local to national scale. But don't stay quiet between election cycles: make sure the people we elect advocate for change.



Simply put, the	best things you o	can do to help	shape clim	ate
policy are:				

- ☐ Register to vote and keep your address updated
- Educate yourself on the ballot and issues
- Learn about candidates who prioritize climate justice solutions
- ☐ Vote in every election and recruit others to join you
- ☐ Talk about climate issues with your elected officials

## Get Climate Issues on the Next Ballot

When it comes to policies, get your voice heard in any way you can and try to reach beyond your immediate network. Make calls or write letters to your representative. Write to your local paper with a letter to the editor. Collect signatures on petitions for local climate policies. Attend a rally. Amplify existing causes through fundraising, helping out at an event, or holding one of your own. Pace yourself, but stay consistent when possible.

When it comes to politicians, make sure they understand that your vote comes with an expectation of action on climate. And support their campaign with time or funds if you know they will rise to the occasion.

The ClimateMusic Project connects people to climate science and action through the emotional power of music. We create music to inspire you and share resources like this Take Action Kit so you can shape our collective future. Learn more and listen to our music at <a href="https://www.climatemusic.org">www.climatemusic.org</a>.

## **Encourage Others to Vote**

There are millions of people in the United States who care about the environment but do not vote. Meanwhile, climate change is an issue that outlasts election cycles, so politicians may not prioritize solutions on the campaign trail or once they're in office. One way to change this dynamic is to make sure people who care about the environment are heard and represented. You can help out by talking to friends and family or volunteering with an organization to canvass, phone bank, or write letters to others in your community.

## Appeal to Officials on Climate Solutions



Think how your community could take inspiration from the five most globally popular climate policies:

- 1. Conservation of forests and land
- 2. Solar, wind and renewable power
- 3. Climate-friendly farming techniques
- 4. Investing more in green businesses or iobs
- 5. Use more clean electric cars and buses, or bicycles

You have more say on policies in the community and state where you live. So seek out your representatives, as well as local boards and commissions, and plan to meet them. Prepare what to say ahead of time: focus on what is relevant in your community and aligns with your interests (hint: listen to voices from marginalized communities and bring their climate justice concerns and solutions to light). If you can back up your idea with a petition of signatures from fellow residents, even better!

Even if your community is already putting climate solutions into action, likely more can be done to expand or promote the effort. Also, look out for options to share your public comment on important proposals that impact the climate.

## For more information on this topic:

Politics and Global Warming, Yale Climate Connections, April 2022 **Environmental Voter** 

The Peoples' Climate Vote, United Nations Development Project, January 2021

Action Hub, Climate Changemakers