

Discussion Summary Report of the LWV Climate Crises Workshop #2 - November 7th, 2019

Below you will find a compilation of each discussion table's recorder notes from the Nov. 7, 2019 **LWV Hudson Climate Change** workshop at Laurel Lake. If you see a bracketed number after the comment it means that this was raised at that many tables. Please note that the bracketed numbers refer to the number of tables at which people raised that response to the given question. We will be organizing the findings from this workshop, along with those from Workshop I on changes that people have observed as well as key climate change threats. We will be working with the speakers from the City of Hudson to prepare for our February workshop where we will focus on how Hudson is already addressing climate threats as well as what issues and sustainability challenges related to the climate crisis as it affects or is likely to affect Hudson have yet to be addressed. We will be contacting you prior to the February workshop with additional information. Thanks for your time, talent and commitment as a citizen. Dr. Mimi Larsen Becker, VP Hudson, LWV

Summary of discussions following HLWV climate change workshop Nov. 7, 2019

Topic 1 – What are you doing in your own life to reduce or adapt to impacts of Climate Change and to protect and support our fragile life support ecosystems?

- ✓ Put in windmill and water irrigation system; this also remedied drainage problems on property
- ✓ Composting {x5}.
- ✓ Reuse water
- ✓ Rain barrel
- ✓ Installed solar panels {x2}
- ✓ Eat organic foods
- ✓ Driving less, combining errand trips. Car- pool. Use motorcycle instead of car.
- ✓ Hybrid car {x2}
- ✓ New windows
- ✓ No inorganic chemicals
- ✓ Be aware of and turn off electrical devices in home {x4}
- ✓ Less lawn mowing, return to natural vegetation {x3}
- ✓ Energy efficient appliances used when replacing old appliances. Weighing costs of changes for the savings
- ✓ Shorter showers
- ✓ Open dishwasher to dry items instead of heating
- ✓ Hang clothes on clothes line instead of using dryer {x3}
- ✓ Recycle newspaper plastic bags by returning to carrier for reuse
- ✓ Reset thermostat lower in winter and higher in summer {x2}
- ✓ Becoming more aware of plastics use and buying less, trying to eliminate plastics from home
- ✓ Use reusable water bottles, not plastic {x2}
- ✓ Using cloth napkins
- ✓ Recycle {x3}

- ✓ Share clothes with adult daughters, reuse clothes you have
- ✓ Planting foliage and trees
- ✓ Gardening
- ✓ Don't take car to car wash
- ✓ Reusable bags for produce
- ✓ Nature conservatory (sic)
- ✓ Waste from changes in TVs, computers, etc.
- ✓ More insulation, replacing it as regular maintenance
- ✓ Provide education to best resources
- ✓ LED bulbs {x3}
- ✓ Involved in Climate Reality project
- ✓ Go Green Go! environmental awareness committee
- ✓ Going to a more vegetarian diet, and need more information on how to do.
- ✓ Active Laurel Lake Green Team, reusable bags, switch to LEDs

Topic 2 – What policies and practices does your workplace, school, church or organization foster to deal with climate change and the sustainability of our living systems?

- ✓ Hudson Montessori school emphasizes recycling; recycle everything, student gardens. Also parents recycle clothing among themselves.
- ✓ Garden for fresh vegetables
- ✓ Replacing light bulbs with LEDs in Hudson schools, aim to make schools as efficient as possible
- ✓ Goodyear researching and using soybean oil in tires
- ✓ My church recycles {x4}
- ✓ Small businesses can get financing for LEDs
- ✓ Recycle/reuse programs in place at Laurel Lake {x3}. Active Green Team.
- ✓ School cafeteria getting rid of plastics for lunches
- ✓ Avoid gas with 10% ethanol – damages engines
- ✓ Energy committee in school encourages turning off lights and conserving energy
- ✓ Hudson composts leaves and plants trees
- ✓ Town record publishes sustainable activities
- ✓ At Progressive everything is composted, and we are constantly being educated.
- ✓ Boarding school in New Jersey has LEED certified buildings; electric cars; huge solar array built; sustainable school farm
- ✓ Worked in chemical industry-LEED certified building/headquarters. Recycling, etc.
- ✓ Companies like Walmart, Nike and over 200 others have signed on to RE100-commitment to going with 100%
- ✓ Laurel Lake replaced all hallways lamps with LED lights, also recycle glass, paper, etc.
- ✓ Recycling at Firestone High

Topic 3 – What would you like to ask our local government bodies to do to incorporate climate change realities as well as sustainability efforts into our community’s goals, policies, and practices?

- ✓ Need charging stations for electric cars
- ✓ Increase availability of renewable energy coming from Hudson
- ✓ Determine whether our recycling all goes into 1 pile, even after we separate it {x2}
- ✓ Purchase green energy
- ✓ Consider nuclear energy
- ✓ Establish an office of sustainability and climate action plan.
- ✓ Would like to see a citizen climate lobby
- ✓ Don’t bail out coal mines
- ✓ Why did Hudson city council vote against solar project?
- ✓ Collect clothing, how to get Hudson to support this. “Market for reusable clothing, need more access to drop off clothes”
- ✓ Why do people not use recycle bins?
- ✓ Want Hudson leaders to get serious about environmental problems
- ✓ Get citizens involved {x2}
- ✓ Ban plastic bags {x2}
- ✓ Encourage sustainable energy {2}, discourage unsustainable energy
- ✓ Consult with county landfill expert
- ✓ City needs community sponsored recycling areas {x3}, including for downtown businesses
- ✓ Recruit volunteers to teach recycling
- ✓ Change policies that say you can’t have a clothesline.
- ✓ Overhangs on buildings
- ✓ More tree lawns and use more permeable surfaces
- ✓ Seriously look at solar; change building standards to 6 inches from 4 inches [of what?]
- ✓ Mobilize community or city council to recognize issues
- ✓ Deals for electricity
- ✓ Mobilize schools with respect to energy use. Plans are already there.
- ✓ Consider energy use in government buildings
- ✓ Climate change not on the radar really in Hudson. Need a lot of learning to get far! We all need to be educated.
- ✓ Address traffic flow to make walking easier {x2}
- ✓ “complete streets” policy - All streets should have bike lanes
- ✓ Create space that is less traffic heavy

Fears in a Hat – Comments submitted in writing and placed in the “Goofy Hats” on the tables

- ✓ With respect to discussion topic #3:have City make a Ready for 100 commitment; charging stations at schools; wind and solar for schools and city buildings. Encourage towns to place solar panels on all government buildings.
- ✓ Has the new town hall incorporated any solar panels, increased insulation, triple pane windows to save energy?
- ✓ We all need to do dozens of “little bits” as suggested by our friends and neighbors, BUT ALSO learn to recognize lies and half-truths from corporations like First Energy to hide their purposeful “mistakes”.
- ✓ I encourage the community to look for ways to reduce consumption, such as starting a chapter of the Buy Nothing Project.
- ✓ NPR.org Oct 4, 2019. How Penn State is cutting greenhouse emission in half and saving money. Interesting story – title sort of says it all – but a way to lead while saving money!
- ✓ If people are interested in solar, look into: Google Project Sunroof and Solar United Neighbors (councilman Rader mentioned).
- ✓ Thanks!
- ✓ Also, one “good” local entity is 5/3 Bank – now 100% renewable (solar) for all their facilities/company power!
- ✓ Finally, local leadership/government just had election – let’s all go after new leaders and make sure climate is
- ✓ Connectivity and communication in Hudson are two concerns.
- ✓ Stress natural lawns and gardens (grass grows more slowly if not constantly fertilized). Use rock gardens, perhaps, but less mowing means less power used!
- ✓ The League should consider and endorse the citizens climate lobby (CCL) proposal as below:
 - 1-nationally charge a fee to energy producers based on their carbon and methane output
 - 2-rebate those fees to the population based on family size.
- ✓ No tax on carbon, fee and rebate. With respect to discussion topic #3:have City make a Ready for 100 commitment; charging stations at schools; wind and solar for schools and city buildings. Encourage towns to place solar panels on all government buildings.
- ✓ the priority!
- ✓ Let’s put together a list of all the groups/programs that are represented by participants.
- ✓ Decreasing meat use is important, but some artificial “burgers” etc. have a high sodium content (a problem for many seniors especially).
- ✓ Save water – keep it cold in refrigerator so no need to run it a long time. No need to flush away every time. Revive “if it’s yellow, let it mellow; if it’s brown, flush it down”.
- ✓ We need a community recycling spot!
- ✓ Educate businesses, i.e. country clubs, who have recycling bins, but don’t break down boxes and throw garbage among the papers – which ruins the recycling.
- ✓ Don’t get too hung up on reducing carbon in the air as THE ONLY way to reverse global warming. I’m concerned about other by-products of nuclear power, such as the gross amount of heat they produce and put into the local rivers and airshed. That’s not ‘clean’ power! That’s environmental warming of Lake Erie, the Mississippi River, and every watershed and airshed used to help cool nuclear reactors.