



Rhode Island
Department of
Environmental
Management

OFFICE OF AIR RESOURCES

Climate Change and Rhode Island

Climate Actions You Can Take

The Future Lies in Renewable Energy

Renewable resources are endless in supply. The sun, wind, and tides are ancient examples of renewable resources, and they generate 100% carbon-emissions free energy. Renewable energy is replenishable on very short time scales, and 21st century engineers have developed technology to harness them. Modern examples include:

- Photovoltaic (PV) solar panels
- Solar-to-thermal power plants
- Wind turbines
- Tidal power generating systems
- Geothermal power plants



Climate Solutions for You

Climate change is a global problem that requires local solutions.

Change starts with you! Here are some actions you can take in your everyday life to fight climate change:

- Reduce home heating and electricity use. Local electric companies offers incentives for free energy audits (www.riseengineering.com/residential) where they make recommendations about energy efficiency in your home.
- Use Energy-Star rated LED (light-emitting diode) lightbulbs, which can be ~75% more efficient than traditional incandescent lightbulbs.
- Replace old and leaky windows, weatherproof your home, and ensure your insulation is modern and up-to-code.
- Plant native trees in your yard for shade. Not only will this help your home stay cool in the summertime, it will also encourage native species to thrive in your backyard.

- Consider installing photovoltaic (solar) panels on your home. Often, the upfront cost of solar panels can be expensive. Explore government-incentives to reduce initial costs and aid in installation.
- Choose an electric-vehicle (EV) for your next car! EV's are becoming more affordable every year. The growing nationwide-network of charging stations promises to make EV's practical if you live in an urban, suburban, or rural location.
- Purchase locally-produced goods. New England is one of America's most prosperous areas for local agriculture. Visit DEM's Division of Agriculture website to find local farmer's markets: www.dem.ri.gov/programs/agriculture/
- Consider walking, biking, or riding public transportation to one of your regular destinations to reduce air pollution and carbon emissions.



Did You Know...

There over 4,500 EV's registered in Rhode Island? Hear from Olivia about why she likes to drive electric: "We use it for everything! We've saved so much money AND it fits all our kid's stuff when we go on vacation."