

# OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



source: [climateweeknyc.org](https://climateweeknyc.org)

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM CLIMATE WEEK IN NEW YORK



### 6 Takeaways From NY Climate Week's Tale Of Two Cities-Forbes

Last week's United Nations General Assembly and Climate Week was a tale of two cities. Here are six key points from my Climate Week 2025 journey with business & nonprofit leaders and scientists.

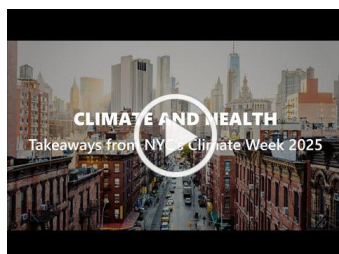
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### Learning From Local and Global Climate Leaders: Highlights From the Climate School Showcase

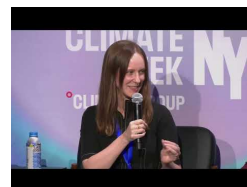
As part of this year's Climate Week NYC, the event included conversations between climate experts, interdisciplinary panels of researchers, and student presentations on the complex issues and possible solutions for the climate crisis.

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### Climate and Health: Takeaways from NYC's Climate Week 2025

Conversation with Dr. Danielle



### Communicating Climate Change - how can culture drive action -

*learn what these leaders are doing via their fields: tv, movies, music, food, sports*

Climate Group Podcast "50 Shades of Green" recorded live at the NYC Climate Week. When

Eiseman, Cornell Health Impacts Core; Dr. Anthony Townsend, Cornell Tech's Urban Tech; and Dr. Arnab Ghosh, Weill Cornell Medicine - sharing actionable strategies and innovations.

environmental stewardship becomes a core cultural value, climate-positive behaviors naturally follow. Today, cultural institutions are playing a crucial role in transforming abstract climate science into tangible experiences, emotional resonance, and collective action.

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## Events



### Trash Talk Tour - Oct. 3, 4, 5

During this fun, FREE, family-friendly, self-guided event you will see what happens to your trash, recyclables, and compost after you “throw it away.”

3<sup>rd</sup> - Community clean up

4<sup>th</sup> - Clothing swap

5<sup>th</sup> - Main event - tours and activities

See [event page](#) for details and to RSVP.



12-1 PM

[Register here](#)

### Implementing the A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Carbon Neutrality Plan 2025 Session VIII: AAPS Capital Improvements

*Speakers: Jason Bing, Director of Capital Programs - AAPS; Quinn Evans Architects Team Members - Denise Close, AIA, Senior Architect/ Senior Associate; Yao Ma, AIA, Project Architect; Maya Fraser, Designer.*

Ann Arbor Public Schools (AAPS) is undertaking one of the largest capital improvement programs in the district's history, with a strong focus on sustainability that closely aligns with the City of Ann Arbor's A<sup>2</sup>ZERO carbon neutrality plan. This session will explore how AAPS and its project partners work collaboratively to reduce emissions across district facilities and operations. The district has set ambitious sustainability goals, and architects and design teams are helping to translate those goals into actionable strategies, including electrification, energy efficiency upgrades, renewable energy integration, with focus on healthy environments for occupants. Presenters will share case studies from recent and ongoing projects, discuss metrics used to track emissions reductions, and reflect on the challenges and opportunities of implementing low-carbon strategies in K–12 schools. Attendees will gain insights into how school districts and design teams can partner to create healthier, more resilient, and more sustainable learning environments while advancing community-wide climate goals.

### Save the Date! SFBC Gathering: Sourcing Local and Sustainable Ingredients

This event will feature an interactive, cross-sector panel of speakers, including local farmers, purchasing coordinators, and chefs, who work to supply and/or source local ingredients to food businesses. We'll dive



into the benefits and barriers to local sourcing, hear from producers and purchasers about their experiences and lessons learned, and collectively brainstorm how we can foster more circular, local supply chains. Official invitation and details to follow. Questions - please reach out to Azella at [amarkgraf@a2gov.org](mailto:amarkgraf@a2gov.org).

**2:00 - 3:30 PM**  
**Location TBA**



Online sessions Oct 22, 23 & Nov 4



## Toronto 2030 District is making their Heat Pump Fundamentals Training FREE Online

- The knowledge you need to champion and implement electric heat pump systems effectively.
- Electric heat pump applications for HVAC systems in the mid-tier B and C Class commercial building sector.
- How to manage HVAC energy usage effectively and efficiently, while reducing your scope 1 GHG emissions.
- How to drive value for mid-tier commercial buildings by future proofing those assets.

*Courses are tailored for specific audiences:*

October 22, 2025 9:00 AM - Noon

**Heat Pump Fundamentals for Building Facility Managers**

October 23, 2025 9:00 AM - Noon

**Heat Pump Fundamentals for Commercial Property Owners, Developers or Asset Managers**

November 4, 2025 8:30 AM - Noon

**Heat Pump Fundamentals for HVAC Suppliers & Installers**

Register today at <https://lnkd.in/guPmdZ7G> or <https://www.hrai.ca/heatpumpfundamentals>

Heat Pump Fundamentals courses are presented by [Toronto Hydro](#) in collaboration with [Toronto 2030 District](#), [ASHRAE Toronto Chapter](#) and [HRAI \(Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute of Canada\)](#).

## Zero Emission - Passive House Building Workshop

Zero Emission  
Energy Efficient  
Free of on-site emissions  
from energy use  
Powered solely by clean  
energy



\* Samaritus affordable housing in Spring Lake, Michigan. The state's first passive house certified multi-family project

Passive House  
Performance Insulation  
Airtight envelope with  
controlled ventilation  
Minimal thermal bridges

November 6, 2025: 3:00 - 7:00 PM - [BRAG Building](#), Ann Arbor MI

*Sponsored by the by the Wolfpack Climate Action Team*

*In collaboration with the Washtenaw 2030 District, OSI, Washtenaw County, UM, BRAG*

A workshop covering the practical aspects of designing, constructing, and operating energy efficient buildings with zero emissions. Interact with an expert panel, hear case studies, and have discussions with your peers regarding the imminent future of buildings!

Who should attend:

- Local developers, builders, and contractors who are interested in, or already working, on sustainable projects.
- Architects, engineers, design and construction professionals who can put these principles into their work.
- State and municipal officials, planning commissioners, and policymakers who can influence building codes and standards.
- Realtors and others who are interested in promoting sustainable building.

*Drinks and Hor d'oeuvres will be provided . Get you FREE ticket [HERE](#)*

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**Save the Date: Nov 19 1:30-6 PM**

University of Michigan, Walgreen Drama Center - Arthur Miller Theatre

**USGBC Michigan Building Transformation Forum**

**Building Resilience in Michigan: Strategies for a Changing Climate**

Join [USGBC Michigan](#) for an inspiring afternoon focused on resilience. Hear leading-edge examples, best practices, and practical tools to accelerate your goals. [More info](#)

**SEU "Expression of Interest"**

The City's new Sustainable Energy Utility (SEU) is now accepting "Expressions of Interest" from businesses and residents who would like to learn more and potentially receive clean energy service from the SEU. This form will register you for occasional news updates and will help the SEU to prepare deployment plans to bring solar, batteries, geothermal, and other energy services to our community. Please fill out the form [here](#)!

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**New Members**



[Ann Arbor  
Community Church](#)



[Handicraft Building](#)



[Surrey Park](#)





[Oslund Condominium Association](#)



[United Community Management](#)



[111 North Ashley Association](#)



[Exhibit A2](#)



[Bloom City Club  
Ann Arbor / Ypsilanti](#)



[Cahoots](#)

## News



### Climate.us

Climate.us is an independent, nonprofit successor to Climate.gov, safeguarding public access to trusted climate data, climate tools, and climate information.

[Read More](#)



### The Sky's the Limit - Energy Efficiency at the Empire State Building

Nearly 20 years ago, RMI set out to help transform the Empire State Building into one of the world's most energy-efficient towers. Following an ambitious retrofit, its energy consumption decreased by half, resulting in annual savings of more than \$4 million.

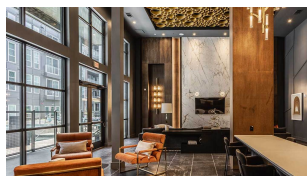
[Read More](#)



### Excerpt from The New Global Possible read by the author, Ani Dasgupta

An Invitation to Optimism

[Read More](#)



### What's Next for Opportunity Zones: A Brighter Future for U.S. Multifamily Development

The Opportunity Zone program, a national model



### The Retrofit Playbook for Large Buildings - RMI

Cities and states can benefit from lessons on strategic decarbonization from New

Comparison of U.S. Commercial Building Energy Benchmarking and Transparency Policies

Policy	Building Type	Year	Scope	Reporting	Enforcement	Notes
California	Commercial	2015	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 233
California	Commercial	2017	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2018	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2019	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2020	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2021	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2022	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2023	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2024	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2025	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2026	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2027	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2028	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2029	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2030	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2031	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2032	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2033	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2034	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2035	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2036	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2037	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2038	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2039	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2040	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2041	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2042	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2043	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2044	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2045	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2046	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2047	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2048	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2049	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709
California	Commercial	2050	Energy	Annual	Yes	SB 709

### Comparison of U.S. Commercial Building Energy Benchmarking and Transparency Policies - IMT

This matrix compares the requirements of building energy benchmarking & transparency policies around the U.S. This document is updated regularly as new policies pass or existing policies are

to spur private investment of housing in underserved areas, has been extended by Congress beyond 2026, marking a significant opportunity for real estate professionals. This innovative initiative not only helps rebuild communities but is a win-win for residents, property developers, and investors. The program's success in transforming economically distressed areas has proven its value, making it crucial for industry leaders to continue supporting it.

York City and the Empire State.

updated.

[Read More](#)



### Guide to Strategic Decarbonization Planning - ASHREA

Available to download free

[Read More](#)

[Read More](#)



### Recalibrating the Role of Banks in the Energy Transition - RMI

We are at an important inflection point in climate finance.

[Read More](#)

[Read More](#)

## Member Resources

### ICYMI - Green Rental Housing Webinar: Learn how to save money, stay compliant, and simplify planning



#### Green Rental Housing Learning Session

Joe Lange, Senior Energy Analyst  
City of Ann Arbor  
Office of Sustainability and Innovations  
jlange@a2gov.org

#### [Webinar recording](#)

#### Resources:

- [Landlord resource hub](#)
- [Renter education packet](#)
- [Rental Housing Services contact information](#) (reach out to Brandi Lewis)

### A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Heat Pump Concierge

OSI is delighted to announce our new A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Heat Pump Concierge, where users can input home information to generate initial heat pump system design options in a process that takes approximately five minutes. Together, this information aims to empower residents to choose the heat pump that's right for them, including any and all necessary improvements that might be needed as part of transitioning from fossil gas heat to heat pumps. The entire process is free for Ann Arbor residents. Learn more at [osi.a2gov.org/HeatPumpConcierge](https://osi.a2gov.org/HeatPumpConcierge)!



### Rebates Renewed and Updated

As of July 1, 2025, all Home Energy Rebate categories have been refreshed. Categories that ran out of money in the previous fiscal year are open and available to be drawn from again. Households can get tens of thousands

of dollars in rebates! Learn more and finance your home energy improvements at [osi.a2gov.org/rebates](https://osi.a2gov.org/rebates).



### Commercial EV Charger Program

Applications for the City of Ann Arbor's Commercial EV Charger Program are now live! With the goal of increasing the availability of publicly accessible EV chargers, the Commercial EV Charger Program provides an opportunity for commercial and multifamily property owners in Ann Arbor to receive up to four FREE level 2 EV chargers. To learn more about the program and view the application, visit [osi.a2gov.org/evchargerprogram](https://osi.a2gov.org/evchargerprogram).



### DTE 2025 Programs

[Electric Customer Bonus](#)  
[Gas Customer Bonus](#)



### Introducing BEACON Newsletter - Architecture 2030

Spotlighting the leaders who are designing built environments that support healthy, vibrant and equitable living, highlighting pockets of the future alive and thriving in the present. [Check it out here!](#)

### Energy Management Grants

Ann Arbor / Washtenaw 2030 District 2024 Energy Management Grant Program. Member buildings are eligible for grant funding for Energy Audits, Retro Commissioning and Electrification Plans. We support you wherever you are on your carbon neutrality journey. Contact: [jculbertson@2030Districts.org](mailto:jculbertson@2030Districts.org) if you are interested in learning more.

ANN ARBOR/WASHTENAW



The Washtenaw 2030 District is funded by our members, DTE, the City of Ann Arbor and EGLE. We are accelerating our work locally because climate change is a serious and immediate threat. Science, our community, and the global market place will not be deterred in accomplishing the energy transformation that is required for our planet's and nation's resilience.

[Membership/  
Support Info](#)



Thank you to our Michigan 2030 Statewide Supporters

Gold Supporters



Silver Supporters



Supporters



Stay up to date with A<sup>2</sup>ZERO's newsletter and events [HERE](#)



ANN ARBOR/WASHTENAW



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