

Apr 23rd, 7:00 PM

# Environmental Activism in New York City, Past and Present

Featuring Todd Fernandez of 350NYC

## Readings from The Climate Report

USGCRP National Climate Assessment, "Guide to the Report", pg. 4-9

"Report-in-Brief", Reducing the Risks of Climate Change, pg. 49-55

## Further Reading

### Articles

[Climate Activism and the 2020 Democratic Primary Debate](https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2019/04/climate-activism-2020-primary-debate/)

<https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2019/04/climate-activism-2020-primary-debate/>

[A Message from the Future by Alexandria Ocasio Cortez](https://youtu.be/d9uTH0iprVQ)

<https://youtu.be/d9uTH0iprVQ>

["A New Day in New York City": City Council Passes Omnibus Climate Legislation](https://www.commondreams.org/news/2019/04/18/new-day-new-york-city-council-passes-sweeping-climate-bill)

<https://www.commondreams.org/news/2019/04/18/new-day-new-york-city-council-passes-sweeping-climate-bill>

[The Ethics of Climate Change: A Panel Discussion with Bill McKibben](https://vimeo.com/329640801?fbclid=IwAR0dKrbKQIDpXVDpMGJ3vtB0B9SKI_JhfNwELvJ4Gcrh10srP-8F03VObe8)

[https://vimeo.com/329640801?fbclid=IwAR0dKrbKQIDpXVDpMGJ3vtB0B9SKI\\_JhfNwELvJ4Gcrh10srP-8F03VObe8](https://vimeo.com/329640801?fbclid=IwAR0dKrbKQIDpXVDpMGJ3vtB0B9SKI_JhfNwELvJ4Gcrh10srP-8F03VObe8)

[London climate-change street protest arrests reach 290 on second day](http://news.trust.org/item/20190416074127-lihyi/)

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[CityViews: NYC Activists Must Take the Environmental Movement to the Next Level](https://citylimits.org/2019/01/15/cityviews-nyc-activists-must-take-the-environmental-movement-to-the-next-level/)

<https://citylimits.org/2019/01/15/cityviews-nyc-activists-must-take-the-environmental-movement-to-the-next-level/>

[Climate Change First Became News 30 Years Ago. Why Haven't We Fixed It?](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2018/07/embark-essay-climate-change-pollution-revkin/)

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2018/07/embark-essay-climate-change-pollution-revkin/>

# Training Materials

[350.org Training Materials](https://350.org/training-materials)

[How We Win: A Guide To Nonviolent Direct Action Campaigning](#) by George Lakey

## Climate Action Groups in New York City

- [350NYC](#)
- [NYPIRG](#)
- [Extinction Rebellion NYC](#)
- [New York Communities for Change](#)
- [Sunrise Movement](#)
- [Uprose](#)
- [NYC Climate Action Alliance](#)

## Discussion Topics

1. What does activism mean to you? Do you consider yourself an activist? Why or why not?
2. How has climate change impacted your everyday life, and how could you organize yourself, your family, or your community around those issues?
3. Organizers often talk about identifying your power, or your leverage: specialized technical skills, a social media following, a strategically important workplace. What kinds of power do you have, and how could (or does) that power support your activism?
4. New York just passed Intro 1253, a sweeping omnibus bill which will reduce the city's contribution to climate change. How might activists capitalize on the momentum generated by that victory?
5. Organizing around climate change can be complicated by the fact that its causes are sometimes located thousands of miles away from its most devastating effects. How might we account for this in our organizing?
6. What is a direct action campaign and how is it distinct from an electoral or legislative campaign?
7. According to activist Daniel Hunter, *action logic* is "how your action makes sense from the standpoint of someone not in your group." How could we describe the *action logic* of Greta Thunberg's student strikes, the Extinction Rebellion actions in London, or the Valve Turners pipeline disruption?