

# WHY DO WE DO THIS?

Picture a town square and a town crier keeping the people alert to approaching danger. Imagine citizens ignoring the news that a foreign invader was coming to ransack the town. That's how it feels working in the climate movement. We asked activists why they do it.

**Bill McKibben:** "The world has many problems, but the existential one is the overheating of our planet; if we don't head it off, all else is moot. And happily the solution to that crisis – the rapid transition to renewable energy – comes with a host of other benefits, making our communities stronger and more prosperous. So we should do it!"



Bill McKibben



Bill Geer

**Bill Geer:** "I'm part of the climate movement because the climate change we're beginning to experience is likely to become extremely dangerous, affecting most life forms. And we, the chief instigators of the dangerous changes in the coming climate conditions, have proven to be in a widespread denial mode unwilling to act in our best human interests. Those of us who recognize the growing changes in climate have an obligation to push for corrective national changes."

**Nate Bellinger:** "I changed directions out of a Ph.D. track in Geography and went to law school to develop the skill set to make a difference in the world. Working for Our Children's Trust, I have an opportunity to do that."



Nate Bellinger

**Jim Roach:** "I am absolutely filled with dread and sadness when I consider the future for all the children of humanity. I have lived a privileged life advantaged by the plentiful energy made available by fossil fuels. How unfair that the societal benefits I and a minority of citizens of developed countries enjoy levy such a heavy cost on so many on the planet now. and all of humanity in a terrifying future. Maybe, just maybe, if enough of us raise the alarm loudly and very publicly and fight against the inertia and ensconced power, we can make a difference."



Jim Roach

**Barbara Chillcott:** "I feel privileged to practice law, mostly public interest law, and it feels good to know that I'm making a difference."



Barbara Chillcott



Melissa Hornbein

**Melissa Hornbein:** "I am so incredibly blessed to be a part of the Held case. It is a privilege to represent young people. I do this work because I have a daughter, and it helps me sleep at night."

**Jeff Smith:** "We have four grandchildren. It feels like we're letting their world slip away, and I'm driven to do something about it."



Jeff Smith

**Hannah Hernandez:** "Fundamentally, I have a spiritual responsibility to defend Mother Earth, Pachamama, Sophia Gaia, the one who holds me, nourishes me, and supports me. I would not be in Ayni, right relationship, with myself or Pachamama if I did not defend her and the more-than-human world from the assault of fossil fuel pollution. Spiritual integrity and reciprocity necessitate that I give back to Pachamama as she has given to me. I benefit from receiving clean water, clean air, healthy nutritious food, and the peace of wild landscapes; as such I need to be of service to Pachamama. I ask and she responds, she asks and I respond. Ours is a relationship of honesty, truth, love and integrity."



Hannah Hernandez

**350 Montana** | Stop Fossil Fuels

## The Perilous Times

is the newsletter of 350 Montana to bear witness to the climate crisis in Montana.  
Jeffrey J. Smith  
Writer and Editor

### Mission

350 Montana is a not-for-profit 501c3 educational organization.

We work to reduce atmospheric CO2 concentrations to 350 parts-per-million by implementing strategic actions and advocating policies to end fossil fuel burning with the greatest urgency. We envision a rapid conversion to a 100-percent renewable global energy system using wind, water, and solar. We work with the global grassroots climate movement to achieve these goals and safeguard Earth's life-support systems.

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