

RE-SOURCES

Global Cooling

A blanket of atmospheric greenhouse gases, mostly carbon dioxide (CO₂), is what keeps our planet warm and habitable. But our dependence on fossil fuels for everything from home heating to fueling our vehicles is getting us into trouble, as burning fuel releases excessive amounts of CO₂ and other pollutants into the air. These added gases are making the blanket too thick—kind of like leaving the winter quilt on the bed during the summer months. And this warm-up is melting polar ice, raising sea levels, and changing weather patterns around the world.

So how can you change the world—for the better? Check out these sources we've put together. Educating yourself is the first step—then we can all work together toward the solutions.



A Must-See Movie

► *An Inconvenient Truth* by Al Gore. Both a feature movie and a book, *Truth* is aimed at people who might not otherwise be exposed to climate change info. Yet there is enough in it to satisfy even the most seasoned activist. If you do nothing else to learn about climate change, see this movie. See www.climatecrisis.net. For show times: www.fandango.com/moviepage.aspx?mid=95961.

Recommended Reading

► *The Heat Is On: The Climate Crisis, the Cover-Up, the Prescription* by Ross Gelbspan (278 pages, US\$16, www.heatisonline.org). The first widely distributed “wake-up call” about global

warming, this book was first published in 1995, and is still pertinent. It explains the real science behind global warming, the suppression of the science, and how fossil-fuel lobbyists financed that cover-up.

► *Boiling Point: How Politicians, Big Oil and Coal, Journalists, and Activists Are Fueling the Climate Crisis—And What We Can Do to Avert Disaster* by Ross Gelbspan (254 pages, US\$22, www.heatisonline.org). The subtitle pretty much sums it up. Gelbspan has been an editor and reporter for the *Boston Globe*, and participated in a Pulitzer Prize-winning series while there.

► Three books by Richard Heinberg are of related interest. *The Party's Over* (288 pages, US\$17.95), *Power Down* (288 pages, US\$16.95), and *The Oil Depletion Protocol: A Plan to Avert Oil Wars, Terrorism, and Economic Collapse* (208 pages, US\$16.95, all from www.museletter.com) all discuss the diminishing oil supply and what it will mean to be part of a post-oil world.

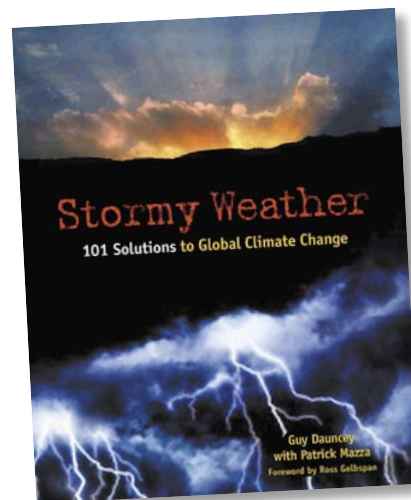
► *Can We Still Avoid Dangerous Human-Made Climate Change?* by James Hansen, director of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies (42 pages, available at www.homepower.com/promisedfiles). The answer is yes! This excellent and eye-opening presentation includes the summary, “The Earth’s climate is nearing, but has not passed, a tipping point beyond which it will be impossible to avoid climate change with far-ranging undesirable consequences.”

The Solutions

► *Stormy Weather, 101 Solutions to Global Climate Change* by Guy Dauncey (271 pages, US\$19.95, www.earthfuture.com). The ultimate one-stop source for what can be done to halt human-caused climate change, this book covers everything from solar and energy efficiency to political activism and carbon taxes.

► *Consumer Guide to Home Energy Savings* by Wilson, Thorne, and Morrill (247 pages, US\$8.95, www.aceee.org). This handy book, now in its eighth edition, compares operating costs and energy efficiencies of most models of modern appliances, and is full of energy-saving tips. Check out an abbreviated version on the ACEEE Web site.

► *Kilowatt Ours* DVD or VHS by Jeff Barrie presents the solutions to coal-based energy production (65- or 35-min.



DVD versions, US\$95, www.kilowattours.org). This educational film is not about global warming per se, but rather the other environmental and health problems associated with coal energy—and how conservation, efficiency, and renewable energy are the ultimate answers. You’ll be shocked to discover how devastating our reliance on coal really is.

Web Resources

- Union of Concerned Scientists • www.ucsusa.org/global_warming/science/Fingerprints.html • Sleuthing the human causes of global warming.
- RealClimate • www.realclimate.org • Climate science from climate scientists.
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change • www.unfccc.int • The international policy mechanism that developed and is charged with implementing the Kyoto Protocol.
- RenewUS • www.renewus.org • View a 4-minute online video, *Climate: A Crisis Averted*, which “looks back” from the year 2056 and recounts how ordinary citizens in 2006 took action to demand clean energy and other planet-friendly options.
- Green House Network • www.greenhousenet.org • Join the national volunteer speakers network to stop global warming.
- Alliance to Save Energy • www.energyhog.org • Interactive Web sites—one for adults and one for kids—on how to improve your home’s efficiency.

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