

The Freshwater Connection

Publication of the Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition - Winter 2022



**CAFC Annual General Meeting
Living With Climate Change
Looking For Tree Planting Partners**

**Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition
Annual General Meeting
March 16, 2022
7:30 - 8:00 pm
Online Zoom**

JOIN US FOR THE AGM

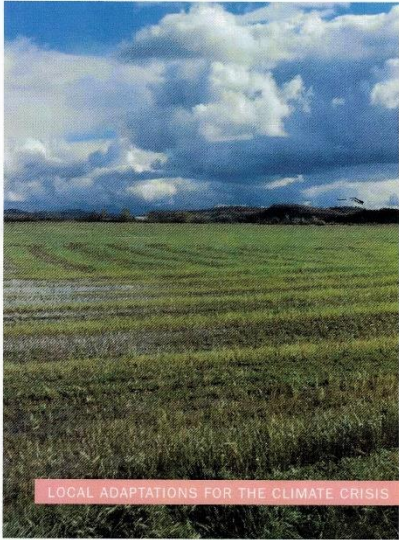
To receive contact information to join the Zoom video conference - send an email indicating you wish to attend along with your name and address to: cafreshwatercoalition@gmail.com



A GUIDE FOR ALGOMA



Living with Climate Change



A Publication of the Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition

Living With Climate Change

CAFC has just published a new 16 page guide on - Local Adaptations for the climate crisis - it is now available on our website as an electronic version - hard copies will be available in the spring.

www.centralalgomafreshwatercoalition.ca

under the resources - reports - tabs



Cumulative Assessment of the Canadian Great Lakes Nearshore

Environment and Climate Change Canada has conducted the first cumulative assessment of the Canadian Great Lakes nearshore waters; the Great Lakes community can access a series of webinars that explore the results and discuss the findings.

www.greatlakeswebinarseries.com

Climate Change - Adaptation and Mitigation

CAFC recently published a booklet *Living With Climate Change - Local Adaptations for the Climate Crisis* but there is another piece to the puzzle in addition to “adaptation” and it is “mitigation”.



Adaptation

It is important to realize that the greenhouse gases we have already released guarantee that at least some climate changes are underway and more change is unavoidable. Adapting to this new reality requires us to take the threat seriously, examine how it will impact us locally, and figure out what measures will be most effective.

Mitigation

The most important thing we can do to prevent climate change from getting worse is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Cutting back on emissions will require a wide range of approaches, ranging from replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy, to rethinking how we plan and build, to figuring out how to be more productive with fewer resources.

Mitigation will ultimately be a personal choice for your own personal satisfaction.

Here are a few ideas (some did not make the booklet) you may want to consider.

- Pass along what you have been given
- Happiness - being satisfied and grateful with what we have and the love we get - (not excessive consumerism)
- Thoughtful travel - exploring local, pooling travel, staying longer and less frequent long distance trips





- Livable Communities - people will travel less if more local things to do
- Local Food - food security, local economic benefits, not transporting food long distances
- Walkable / Cycling - make them pleasurable community activities - winding down cars where possible
- Express appreciation for what we have - gratitude inspires contentment
- Nature based solutions - to reduce emissions - restoring and protecting wetlands, riparian areas and grass lands

• More thoughtful development of waterfront properties - buffer strips, erosion control, smaller homes, energy efficient structures, the way we treated our lakes in the past is no longer acceptable

• Integrate Climate Change into Municipal Planning

• Insure readiness to extreme weather events

• Flood Plain Mapping - culvert sizing, - reduce risk of building, property, and people to flooding

• Protecting Workers from extreme temperatures



• Agriculture - crop selection, crop diversity, soil health, cover crops, new technologies

• Support Businesses that try to use less carbon dioxide or use local inputs

• Adopt "Old Ways" - food preservation, local gardens, clotheslines,

• More Resilient Infrastructure Development - reduce the need for long term maintenance of facilities - climate change repairs are expensive (flooding, washouts, ice storms)

• Personal Responsibility - get greener - smarter about food production and consumption (think local), home and water heating efficiency, home cooling (shade trees). Private vehicle use

• Planning for Great lakes Water level fluctuations

- Wastewater facilities - planning for storm surge
- Changing Recreation Practices - avoid swimming after major rain events, more beach water sampling, - learning about tick borne disease
- Become a citizen scientist - ebird, i naturalist, volunteer to collect water samples
- Help the Vulnerable - evacuees, check on neighbors in heat waves and after extreme weather
- Implement renewable energy



- Transformational adaptation - new ways when the historical approaches are no longer sufficient

Become a Member



Your annual membership fee will provide a base budget for work of CAFC and demonstrate the commitment of local partners working towards a common goal. A strong diverse group is an essential component in meeting the goals of the Central Algoma Region. Support us at <https://www.centralalgomafreshwatercoalition.ca/>