



Energize Acton News

March 2026

What is in this issue?

- **Upcoming Events**
- **Survey of Americans on Climate**
- **News: The Tough, the Good, and the In-Between**
- **Icicles and Insulation**
- **Book/Website/Action**
- **Plant-Based Recipe for March**



Sun., March 1st, 11am and 1pm, -- **CLEAN ENERGY HOME TOUR #1: Solar Shingles!**, sponsored by EnergizeActon.org. Acton clean energy coach David Martin shows a whole house heat pump system with a new roof of solar shingles! Address sent upon registration. Info and registration [HERE](#).

Sun., March 8th, 2:30-4:30pm -- **Community Skate FUNdraiser**, sponsored by K.J. Herther to benefit the AB STEAM program and other charities. Info [HERE](#).

Thurs., March 19th, 7-8pm, zoom -- **From Gas to Induction: Cleaner Cooking for Your Home and Climate**, sponsored by MassEnergize. Join Andee Krasner from the Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility to learn about the benefits of induction cooking. Info and registration [HERE](#).

Sun., March 22nd, 1:30pm, Chelmsford Public Library -- **Film: Plastic People--The Hidden Crises of Microplastics**, sponsored by the Chelmsford Climate Action Team and others. This film looks at the growing threat of microplastics on human health. More info/registration [HERE](#).

Wed., March 25th, 7pm. Zoom -- **Biosphere Book Club - Book #2: Abundance**, Sponsored by EnergizeActon.org. We will discuss the 2025 book, by Ezra Klein & Derek Thompson. Is a new political vision possible that creates sustainable and just social structures? Info & registration [HERE](#).

Wed., April 8th, 8am-5pm, Bentley University -- **Community Climate Leaders Conference 2026**, sponsored by MassEnergize. Speakers include MA Senator Mike Barrett, New Yorker cartoonist Tom Toro, and writer Meera Subramanian. Info/Registration [HERE](#).

CLEAN ENERGY HOME TOUR

Focus: Solar Shingles!

SUN., MARCH 1, 2026
11am and 1pm Acton, MA Tours

- Also see
- ✔ Heat Pumps
 - ✔ HP Hot Water
 - ✔ Induction Cooking
 - ✔ EV Charging



Go to EnergizeActon.org for info/sign-up.

How we use energy matters!



FROM GAS TO INDUCTION:

CLEANER COOKING FOR YOUR HOME AND CLIMATE

MARCH 19, 2026 AT 7:00 PM

LEARN, ASK QUESTIONS, AND FIND OUT HOW INCENTIVES CAN HELP YOU MAKE THE CHANGE

- 
 Learn about Benefits
- 
 Discover Incentives
- 
 Q&A Session

Register: bit.ly/cleaner-cooking

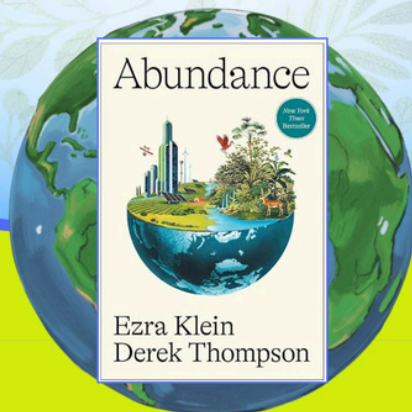
How we use energy matters!

BIOSPHERE BOOK CLUB

for reflections on climate & environment

Wed., March 25, 2026
 7:00-8:15pm, Zoom

March Title: *Abundance*
 by Ezra Klein and Derek Thompson



Info/registration at EnergizeActon.org
 All welcome, whether you have read the book or not.



Sunday, March 8
 2:30-4:30pm

Ice Skating
 Music
 Refreshments

Nashoba Valley
 Olympia Rink #3,
 Boxborough, MA

ALL WELCOME!
 (Food Pantry items are also welcome.)



- All donations benefit
- AB STEAM
 - Wellness
 - Local Food Pantries
 - Local Green/Climate Activities

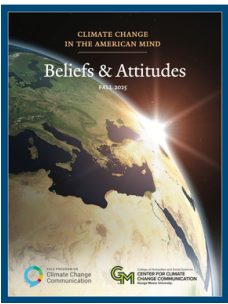


2026

March 8th Community Skate Fundraiser



Wed., April 8th, 8am - 5pm



Have Americans changed thoughts about climate?

Every December Yale University and George Mason University conduct a survey on U.S. residents' beliefs and attitudes about climate change. Have thoughts and opinions changed over the last year? Despite what some might perceive as "climate hushing," Americans remain concerned. Please click [HERE](#) to see graphs representing respondents' answers.

Is global warming happening?

Is global warming caused by human actions?

Do scientists have a consensus on global warming?

Are you worried about climate change?

Is global warming affecting U.S. weather now?

Will extreme weather affect your community?

Do you discuss global warming with family/friends?

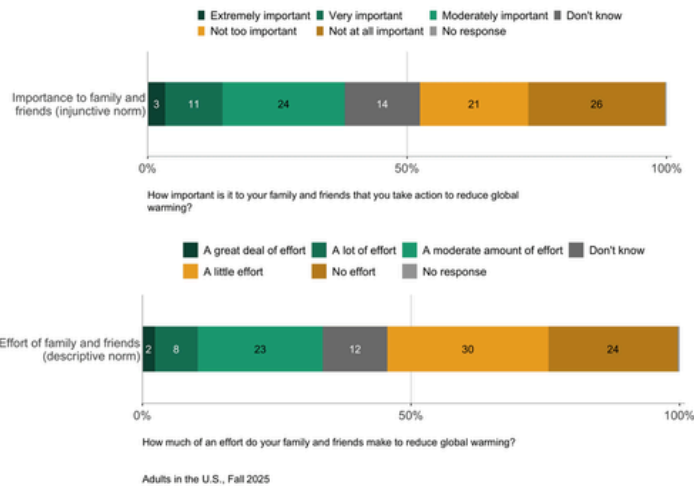
Does global warming impact your consumer choices?

Change over 12 months

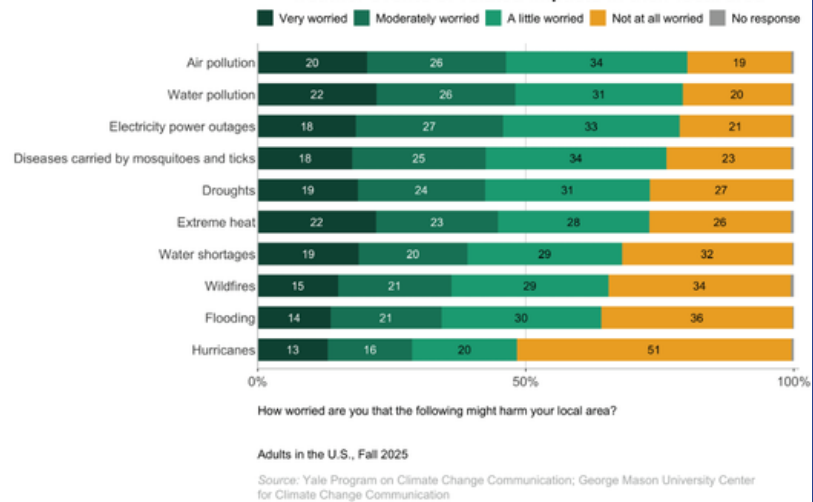
Yes - 72%	-1%	No - 13%	-1%
Yes - 58%	-2%	No - 29%	+1%
Yes - 57%	0%	No - 23%	0%
Very (29%) to Somewhat (35%)	-1%		
Yes - 64%	-2%	No - 14%	-2%
Yes - 80%*	+24%	No - 19%*	-18%
Yes - 56%	+18%	No - 44%	-18%
Yes - 31%	0%	No - 69%	+12%

*Depends on type of impact, from air pollution (highest perceived impact) to hurricanes (lowest). Look below.

Fewer than half of Americans perceive social norms for taking action on global warming



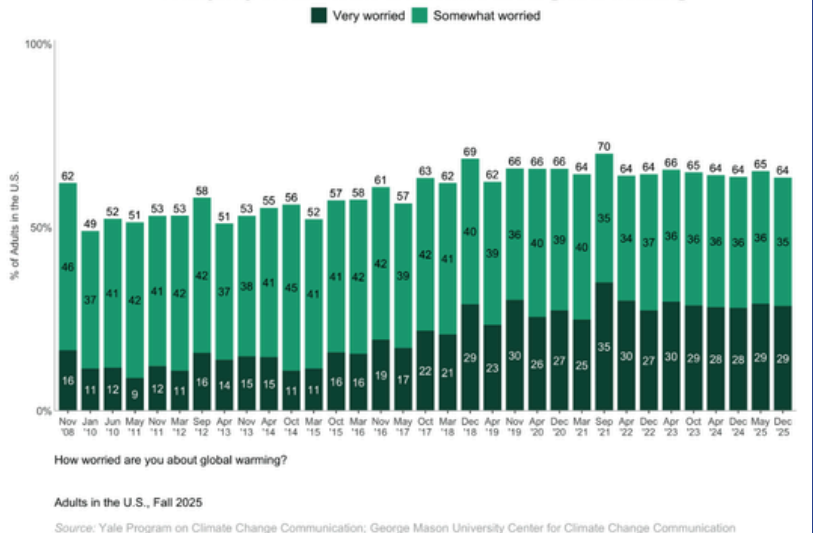
A majority of Americans are worried about harm from extreme weather events or related impacts in their local area



Apologies for boring you with graphs! All info is from the [Yale Program on Climate Change Communication](#).

Those who are concerned about climate change have remained quite consistent at around 64% of the population. Even more people perceive local impacts from extreme weather (top right graph.) The graph above is interesting because it hints at what moves people from concern to action. Seeing friends and family act seems to make a difference. Of course, why people act is very complicated. In the current context, how does climate concern interface with other concerns?

A majority of Americans are worried about global warming





The Tough News

The “[Endangerment Finding](#)” is dumped. The Endangerment Finding was based on a 2007 court ruling that found 1) greenhouse gas emissions are a danger to human health; and 2) these emissions could be regulated by the EPA under the Clean Air Act. Basically, the finding acknowledged the very real dangers of climate warming. After trying to junk the finding by denying the science of climate change (rejected by a judge), the administration now says no to any threat because the Clean Air Act (1963) doesn’t specifically mention greenhouse gases. Lawsuits have been filed in response. See the organization [Earthjustice](#) for more.

The Good News

[Science Magazine](#) called renewable energy the “[Breakthrough of the Year](#)” for 2025. Two big nations cut coal use--India by 3% and China by 1.6%--but they also vastly increased renewables in their power supplies. Using 2024 data, India generates 100 kWh per person in solar production, while China generates 600 kWh per person. For energy experts, this may seem modest, but it is the rate of solar adoption, over the last four years, that indicates a real shift in energy sources. The U.S. does have growing renewable energy--California generated 100% of its electricity demand from renewables for 8 straight days in January--but the question is whether growth will continue or stagnant.

The In-Between News

Is Massachusetts wobbly on clean energy? Many of us in climate education took pride in Massachusetts’ commitment to reducing fossil fuel use. But the MA House of Representatives voted on Feb. 26th for their version of a new climate bill, which makes deep cuts to Mass Save incentives. There was an amendment to keep Mass Save funding, where Rep. Sena voted yes and Rep. Cataldo voted no. The bill is not all bad. For instance, it allows balcony solar. But it cuts incentives, which makes clean energy less feasible. Plus, it undercuts other clean energy investments. A good summary? Next steps? See [Green Energy Consumers.org](#).



Heating Bills Too High? How’s Your Insulation?

Take the coldest winter in a decade, add high energy prices, and . . . get very high utility bills! Does it feel like there isn’t much you can do about it? Take heart! Chances are you can always do a better job of weatherizing your home to make it more energy efficient. Looking at roofs during the January cold snap, it was apparent many homes need better insulation (see the *Acton Exchange* article “[Do you have icicles? Maybe you need better insulation](#)”). To get help insulating and air sealing, contact Mass Save to get a [Free Home Energy Assessment](#). If they recommend adding or replacing insulation, Mass Save will pay for 75% of the costs (or more). You can also get free local advice and support from the Acton Sustainability Office’s [Clean Energy Coach](#) Program. See the Department of Energy for informative webpages regarding [air-sealing your home](#) and everything you want to know about [insulation](#). Upgrade your insulation, keep your heat in your home, AND your money in your pocket by reducing your heating bill!



Heat escaping through this northeast facing roof has melted much of the snow (from below), forming bare patches on the roof ridge & huge icicles (despite temperatures being between 7° & 25° F at the time).

Plant-Based Recipe for March

This is a *wonderful* winter salad. Apologies for the quality of the photo--the recipe has been used many times! From *Vegetarian Times* (no longer published).



Super Citrus Salad

SERVES 4 | 30 MINUTES OR FEWER

Citrus fruits and shallots are said to ease colds and respiratory infections. Foods with a cool-spicy quality, such as arugula and mint, help keep us refreshed and in balance with nature. Red-fleshed blood oranges, which are just coming into season, look especially beautiful in this salad.

DRESSING

- 2 Tbs. agave syrup
- 1½ Tbs. lime or lemon juice
- 1 Tbs. low-sodium soy sauce
- ¼ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. red pepper flakes

SALAD

- 2 oranges or blood oranges
- 1 grapefruit
- ½ cup coarsely chopped arugula

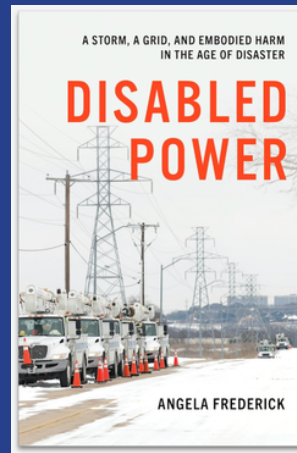
- 1 shallot, peeled, thinly sliced crosswise, and loosened into strands (¼ cup)
- 1 Tbs. coarsely chopped mint leaves
- 2 Tbs. crushed roasted peanuts or dry-roasted almond slivers, for garnish
- 1 Tbs. toasted sesame seeds, for garnish

1. To make Dressing: Mix all ingredients together in bowl. Taste for balance of sweet, sour, salty, and spicy, adjusting seasonings as necessary. Set aside.

2. To make Salad: Slice ends off oranges and grapefruit. Stand fruit on cutting board, and slice away skin and pith from outside with knife. Cut fruit segments from membranes, and transfer to bowl; toss lightly with arugula, shallot, and mint. Toss with Dressing. Serve garnished with peanuts and sesame seeds.

PER ¼-CUP SERVING: 142 CAL; 3 G PROT; 3 G TOTAL FAT (<1 G SAT FAT); 27 G CARB; 0 MG CHOL; 427 MG SOD; 3 G FIBER; 20 G SUGARS

Book of the Month



What happens when the power goes out for an extended time? *Disabled Power* looks at the 2021 Texas power crisis and the particular impact on disabled people. But it also looks at the communal power and resilience of the disabled community.

Website of the Month

US ▾
The Guardian

Where do we get trustworthy news about climate? *The Guardian* newspaper is one powerful source for ongoing climate info. In particular, see "[Greenwashing, illegality and false claims: 13 climate litigation wins in 2025](#)," by reporter

Quick Action of the Month



One interesting finding from the [Yale Program on Climate Change Communication](#) is that people do NOT speak about climate. This month, please speak with someone about our beautiful planet, about future generations, and about how we can live more sustainably. For ideas on climate actions, see the [Yale Climate Connections](#).

Please remember--
The free [Acton Clean Energy Coach Program](#);
The free [Acton Exchange](#) online newspaper;
That EnergizeActon.org team invites you to subscribe to our newsletter.
Want to help out in other ways? Write us at EnergizeActon.org@gmail.com.