

# A CLIMATE CHANGE READING LIST

for teens & adults  
*Only One Earth, Only One Rhode Island*

## The Climate Crisis

***The Uninhabitable Earth: Life After Warming*** by David Wallace-Wells

This is a dense, but beautifully written work. If you can stick it out past the introduction, you will be rewarded. It is one of the only books that describes what life will actually be like in a post climate change world.

***Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore*** by Elizabeth Rush

Rush describes the impacts of climate change and rising sea levels both near (Jacob's Point) and far, chronicling catastrophic storms and coastal destruction across the country and around the world. A 2020 Reading Across Rhode Island selection, Pulitzer Prize finalist and National Outdoor Book Award winner.

***The Story of More: How We Got to Climate Change and Where to Go from Here*** by Hope Jahren

A wide-ranging look at human habits and global change by the author of *Lab Girl*, examining everything from population growth and food sources to energy use and human consumption.

***How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need*** by Bill Gates

Bill Gates proposes a comprehensive, practical, and understandable plan to get the world to zero greenhouse gas emissions and avoid a climate catastrophe.

***This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate*** by Naomi Klein

Klein argues that climate change isn't just another issue to be neatly filed between taxes and health care. It's an alarm that calls us to fix an economic system that is already failing us in many ways. Klein ... builds the case for how massively reducing our greenhouse emissions is our best chance to simultaneously reduce gaping inequalities, re-imagine our broken democracies, and rebuild our gutted local economies.

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## Strategies & Solutions

***Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming*** by Paul Hawken, ed.

Following a dense introduction this book consists of short, 1-2 page entries on different strategies to address climate change, broken down into sections on energy; food; women and girls; buildings and cities; land use; transport; materials; and new, as yet untested innovations and inventions. The layout of the book makes it easy to skip around among the entries that interest you most and it provides valuable rankings, calculations of costs and predicted gigatons of CO2 reductions for each proposed solution.

***On Fire: The Burning Case for a Green New Deal*** by Naomi Klein

Klein makes the case for revolutionary economic and political change to simultaneously battle climate change and rampant inequality. A series of essays advocating for climate justice.

***Under a White Sky: The Nature of the Future*** by Elizabeth Kolbert

Chronicles human's misguided and irreversible interventions in nature and the hubris of man with a wonderful sense of humor and an eye for the absurd. Delving into the diverting of rivers, invasive species, flood control, desert pupfish, coral reef destruction, genetic engineering, carbon capture schemes and solar geoengineering, Kolbert ponders if the only way to save the earth is to intervene more.

## Activism - Individual Action & Collective Collaboration

***No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference*** by Greta Thunberg

An inspiring and short read of climate activist Greta Thunberg's 2018-2019 speeches.

***Oil and Honey: The Education of an Unlikely Activist*** by Bill McKibben

Recounts McKibben's reluctant transition from writer to global activist and founder of 350.org, his involvement in fighting the Keystone XL Pipeline and later role in college and university divestment from the fossil fuel industry, while telling a parallel story of his investment in a local farm and beekeeper in Vermont.