



WELCOME TO 'Being greener'



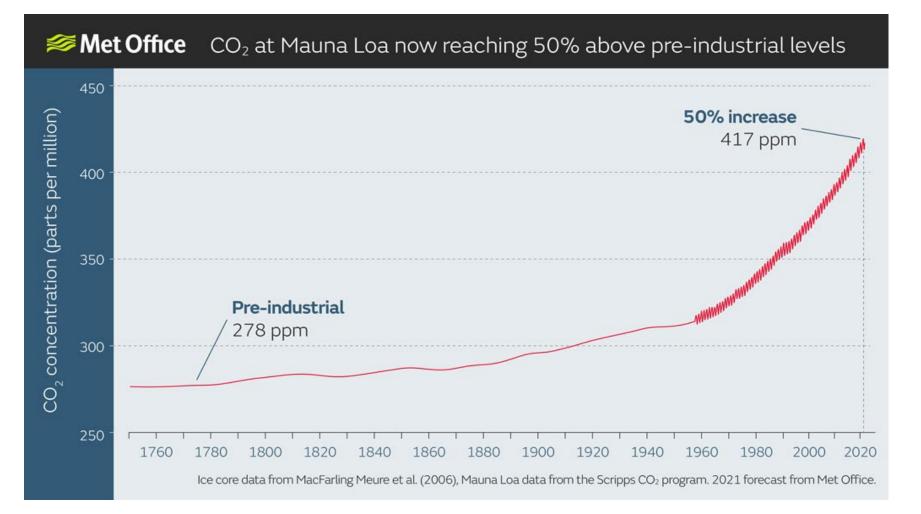


Reducing Your Carbon Footprint

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The Problem



The amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has risen dramatically since pre-industrial times.

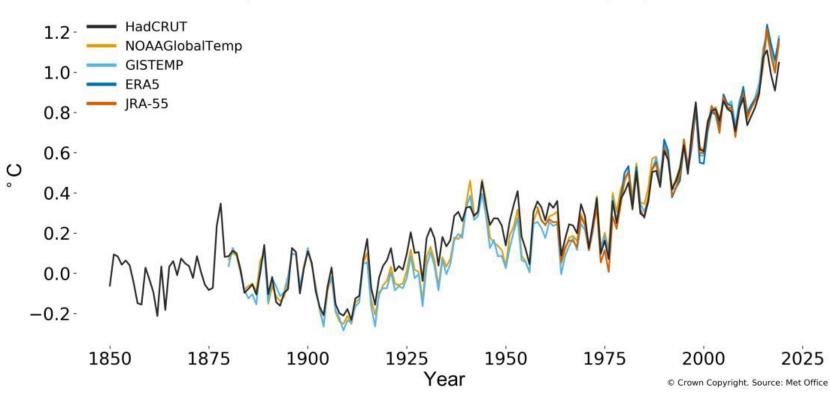
Other greenhouse gases (notably methane) have also increased.

The Problem

Source Met Office

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Global mean temperature difference from 1850-1900 (°C)



Global surface temperature is about 1.1°C higher than pre-industrial times.

Higher temperatures are causing widespread disruption to climate systems.

The Problem

The consequences of increasing temperatures include:

- More extreme weather events, including heatwaves, droughts, stronger storms
- Rising sea levels
- Loss of sea ice
- Melting glaciers
- Loss of biodiversity due to ecosystem disruption
- Ocean acidification
- Food insecurity and risks to water supply
- Climate migration

All these consequences are already happening and will become worse with increasing temperatures!

The Challenge

Some consequences of global warming are now inevitable, but the worst effects can still be avoided if we can rapidly reduce our emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

Hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above preindustrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C (IPCC, 2015)

The UK has a target of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050

What can we – as individuals – do to help meet these targets? How can we reduce our own carbon footprint?



Finance and investment



Nature and open spaces



Energy in the home





Consumption and waste





Transport



Diet



Using your voice

Reduce energy use in the home

Turn the heating down a degree or two – most people don't notice!

Turn off lights and appliances when not in use. Don't leave appliances on standby.

Make your home energy efficient – fit insulation (particularly in the loft) and draught-proof windows and doors if necessary.

Switch to a green energy tariff.

Fit a low-carbon heating system, such as an air or ground source heat pump.











Eat less meat and dairy



Meat and dairy production accounts for about 14.5% of global greenhouse gas emissions.

Plant based diets have a lower carbon footprint than those that include lots of meat.

The climate impact of beef and lamb production is significantly higher than other types of meat.

Reducing consumption of meat (particularly red meat) and dairy by including vegetarian or vegan meals in your diet is significant way of reducing your carbon footprint.

For both animal and plant components of our diet, locally sourced and seasonal are usually the most climate-friendly options.

Reduce car use



A typical family car in the UK produces about 150g of carbon dioxide per kilometre, giving an annual production of about 1.5 tonnes, based on average mileage.

Walk or cycle if you can, and for longer trips take public transport.



If you only need a car occasionally, consider car sharing or hiring rather than ownership.

Try to avoid 'nipping out' in the car. Combine shopping and other tasks into fewer car excursions.

The future looks electric!

4/7/2022



Fly less





Consider using the train to UK and European destinations.

Direct flights have a lower carbon impact than connecting flights.

Business class has a much higher carbon impact than Economy!

Cut consumption and reduce waste

As consumers, everything we use has a carbon footprint.

Avoid single use items and fast fashion. If possible, buy quality goods that last longer or consider second-hand.

Repair and re-use. Donate unwanted items to charity.

Eco-swaps!



Invest money responsibly

Banks, pensions funds and big corporates often hold investments in fossil fuel companies.

Responsible investment – weighing up environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors and taking them into consideration when investing money – is growing.

You may be able to opt out of investments that harm the environment.



Nature and open spaces



Open, green spaces absorb carbon dioxide and have many other benefits for human well-being and biodiversity, including moderating temperatures in urban environments and preventing flooding.

Create and maintain your own garden or open space if possible.

Plant trees!



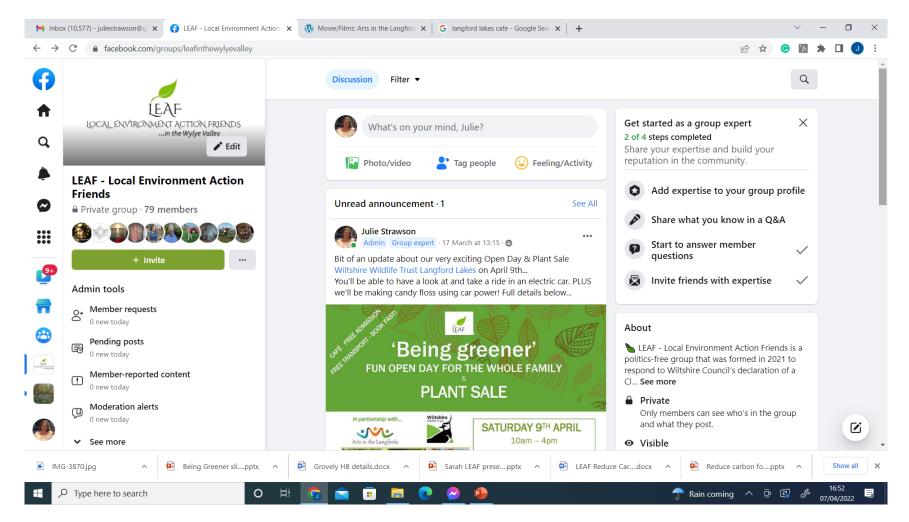
Make your voice heard

Talk to your MP and local councillors and tell them that you think action on climate change is important.

A prosperous future for the United Kingdom depends on their decisions about the environment, green spaces, roads, cycling infrastructure, waste and recycling, air quality and energy efficient homes. (Grantham Institute)

Join a social movement or campaign that focuses on environmental issues.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK





LEAF LOCAL ENVIRONMENT ACTION FRIENDS ...in the Wylye Valley