



WASHINGTON PHYSICIANS  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# 2024 CLIMATE AND HEALTH REPORT

Burning fossil fuels is already harming the health of Washingtonians, and these health impacts will worsen without decisive, large-scale action. Communities of color, low-income households, the elderly, and children are disproportionately being affected.



**Increased extreme heat events are leading to more heat-related illnesses.**



**Wildfires are severely reducing air quality, causing asthma, heart attacks, and strokes.**



**Climate change is aiding the spread of novel, multi-drug resistant infectious agents to the Pacific Northwest.**

AVAILABLE SUMMER 2024

**Learn more  
and take  
action!**



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# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

## FOR CLIMATE AND HEALTH



### BUILDING DECARBONIZATION

- Mandate all-electric heating and cooking appliances in existing and new residential and commercial buildings.
- Expand tax incentives/rebates from the Inflation Reduction Act for electrification, including a 50% tax credit and a sales tax waiver for low-income households.



### FOSSIL FUELS + RENEWABLE ENERGY

- Ban greenhouse gas emissions from new power plants, fracking, and new LNG terminals. Reduce oil and gas production and eliminate fossil fuel tax subsidies.
- Reform FERC, prioritize community engagement on all energy proposals, streamline permitting, and ensure hydrogen projects produce green hydrogen.



### AGRICULTURE

- Promote urban food production and increase access to healthy, low-emission foods. Reduce consumption of high-emission foods with subsidies, public health campaigns, and impact assessments of meat substitutes.
- Subsidize local regenerative agriculture projects for carbon sequestration viability.



### HEALTH CARE SECTOR

- Help healthcare facilities take climate pledges, and incentivize fleet electrification, telehealth, rural access, and low-emission commuting.
- Require clinical settings to replace high-impact anesthetic gases and use the health sector's purchasing power to reduce embodied carbon in products.



### MARINE + SHIPPING

- Pass statewide legislation like California's At-Berth Regulation and federally pass the Clean Shipping Act of 2023.
- Expand No Discharge Zones to the Seattle-Alaska cruise route and reject LNG-powered ships from port use.



### AIR QUALITY

- Pass the CURB Pollution Act in the Washington to prevent projects that harm air quality in overburdened communities.
- Accelerate high-capacity electric transmission infrastructure using Inflation Reduction Act funds to enhance grid stability and integrate renewable energy.