

DEFEND OUR FUTURE CHAPTER TOOLKIT

WHY WE'RE DOING THIS WORK

Defend Our Future is building a movement of young people of all political persuasions who are interested in advancing climate change and clean energy solutions that grow our economy and protect the world for future generations. Whether you consider yourself liberal or conservative, Americans need people like you to let our leaders know that bold action is needed to solve the climate crisis! Our work is guided by these principles:

[We want climate solutions, not climate denial.](#)

[We want to create a clean energy economy.](#)

[We want our elected leaders to reach across the aisle.](#)

[Clean air and clean water are rights for all people.](#)

Read more about our commitment to fighting a more just future for all [here](#).

ESTABLISHING A DEFEND OUR FUTURE CHAPTER

Congratulations on starting a Defend Our Future chapter! You are now the leader of a local campaign/movement, helping to save the planet from your own community. Here's some next steps to help build out your team. As a volunteer leader of a local Defend chapter, we are committed to working with you to provide the materials, resources and support to execute on state and federal priorities through events and outreach in the community. If your work is based on a college campus, you should consider becoming an officially chartered group on your campus. Chapter leaders will have a direct point of contact at Defend Our Future to help make sure they have access to everything they need to be successful.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF A DEFEND OUR FUTURE CHAPTER LEADER

- Committing 5-10 hours per week to volunteer for one or more activities below.
- Participate in monthly all-team (Defend staff and all ambassador) calls.
- Provide weekly status updates on activities and relevant metrics (phone calls made, event report outs, connections made, petitions gathered, volunteers recruited, etc.)
- If applicable, send photos of your activities on a timely basis to Defend staff for amplification on national social media pages.

WHAT WE CAN PROVIDE YOU AS A DEFEND OUR FUTURE CHAPTER LEADER

- Stipend for: Printing and other supplies, costs related to events, limited local travel, etc.
- Talking points, one pagers, messaging, support to secure speakers or media
- Annual fly-in to DC: Additional training ("boot camp") and office visits
- Trainings: webinars and support calls with other chapter leaders

HOW TO START A DEFEND OUR FUTURE CHAPTER

Typically, a student or group of students (current) is/are required to apply to charter a chapter of an organization in order to secure an official presence on campus and have a faculty member serve as an academic advisor. While criteria



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may differ from campus to campus, the following is an example template that can guide you as you apply to charter a Defend chapter. Some campuses offer funding for groups that are approved as official campus organizations. An example charter for Your University can be found in Appendix A.

DEFEND OUR FUTURE CHAPTER: STRUCTURE

Volunteer chapter leader(s): Students and members of the community willing to commit several hours (ideally 5-10 hours, minimum) to perform many of the activities listed above. Chapter leaders are assigned a member of the Defend Our Future staff as a coach and adviser. A potential schedule would be to have weekly or biweekly check-ins for report outs, setting goals, and providing other information.

Volunteer committees: top volunteers would be responsible for managing other volunteers based on areas of interest and activities.

LEADERSHIP

Oversees general logistical operations of the organization, serves as a liaison between the advisors and the other officers, and delegates tasks when necessary.

OUTREACH

Oversees outreach to other campus groups, community organizations, local businesses and other partners.

EVENTS

Oversees event planning and execution and works with other chapter members and campus groups to ensure that appropriate partners are involved.

RECRUITMENT

Oversees recruitment of new volunteers and ensure volunteers are “matched” to activities that suit their strengths and interest area(s).

MEDIA

Oversees promotion of chapter and events on campus (social media, flyers, website, etc.) and serves as a primary point of contact for the press. Also oversees training of volunteers who are writing letters to the editor.

DATA

Oversees data entry – coordinating with Defend staff – of information such as contact information of and contact with elected officials, local businesses, volunteers, event participants, and other relevant communications.

HOST A DEFEND OUR FUTURE EVENT

Defend Our Future hosts climate summits, press conferences, teach-ins, local-themed events Defend Our... events and public forums with elected officials and community leaders to educate young people about climate solutions and why it is important to get involved.

One of our most popular kind of Defend Our... event is Defend Our Beer. At these events supporters partner with local breweries to host a discussion on climate change, its impacts on the beer industry and supply chain and how establishments are working to become more sustainable. Typically, these events feature a panel of experts, brewery staff and local elected officials.



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In **Appendix B** you'll find an events template and example run-of-show to help guide you through the planning and execution process. We can also provide additional message guidance, talking points and fact sheets to prepare for your event.

NOTE: Costs associated with supplies, events, and other activities will be covered by Defend Our Future/EDF, subject to approval.

TABLING FOR DEFEND OUR FUTURE

Tabling is critically important for activists of any cause to recruit new supporters and get the word out about who they are and what they do. You can table at a farmers' market, back-to-school club fair, community event, and much more! Who can table? Anyone with a basic level of understanding of Defend's mission and goals and an ability to engage positively and effectively with members of the target audience (i.e. peers or community members) – it's easy and fun!

Our goals for tabling:

- Educate peers, community members and civic leaders about our goal to unite young people to act on climate and fight for a clean energy future.
- Recruit new volunteers and supporters.
- Encourage people to take action.

PREPARATION

2 – 3 weeks before the event: Recruit and prepare volunteers and choose your tabling "ask(s)."

- Recruit a list of volunteers to table at the event. Breaking up the total tabling time into shifts is a great idea.
- Keep in mind that all volunteers should be, or should be made familiar, of general Defend knowledge, such as:
 - When and why it was started; basic understanding of the different chapters; the kinds of action members can take; how people can get join – go to our website and sign up!
- Plan what "the ask(s)," or the specific action(s) you will ask people to take. Are you going to ask people to donate \$10 to help uplift the voices of youth activists in exchange for a "Defend Our Coffee" pin? Or are you going to ask people to sign a petition in opposition to the newest dangerous environmental rollback? Or maybe you want to invite people to participate in an upcoming webinar on mobilizing youth voters.
- When choosing "the ask(s)," keep in mind that whatever you choose should:
 - Be relevant to current Defend campaigns & issues.
 - Be appropriate for the audience to which you are tabling.
 - Be quick, painless, and simple. People will rarely want to spend more than a couple minutes at any one table.
 - *Note:* Avoid asking for too many unrelated actions. If you're focusing on 100% Clean, pick several actions related to that specific campaign.

1 week before: Create your tabling kit

- The kit should include all the materials and supplies volunteers will need while tabling – think pens, markers, tape, Defend swag, informational brochures, and fact sheets. We will provide you with what you need!

1 – 2 days before the event: The sign-up sheet and any last minute preparations.



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Sign-up sheets (paper or electronic) provide you with new contact information, which you can easily add to pre-existing outreach lists, and use to send people more information about Defend and any upcoming opportunities to get involved with our organization.

- You can download an example Defend Our Future sign-up sheet from our website [here](#).
- Now is also the perfect time to follow-up with those who signed up to table and remind them of their time slot and event details (location, date).

PRESENTATION

Engaging directly with the public is one of the most effective ways to encourage people to join our fight for climate action.

- Volunteers should greet people enthusiastically, say hello, and ask if they have heard of Defend Our Future.
 - If they answer yes, introduce “the asks” you have prepared for the tabling event.
 - If they haven’t, briefly explain what Defend does, i.e. our organization’s mission, priority issues, and any actions we’re taking on the ground (think a 30 second elevator pitch). Then answer any clarifying questions they might have and go into the tabling “asks.”
- Take this opportunity to see what each person you talk with is excited about: Are they interested in planning a Defend Our Beer event at their local brewery, or are they super thrilled by the possibility of meeting with their elected leader to lobby for climate action?
 - Once you have this information, point them in the direction of the work Defend does in their area of interest and explain how they can get involved!
- Always try to hand out informational brochures and encourage people to follow us on social media (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter), so they can stay up to date with what we’re doing.
- Last, but definitely not least, don’t forget to take photos of your tabling event!

FOLLOW UP

- Input all the new contact information into your group’s database or email list as soon as you get the chance after the tabling event.
- Within **one week**, contact the new members to thank them for stopping by, provide any additional information about Defend, and invite them to an upcoming meeting or event.
 - Note: Don’t forget to provide a Defend contact, so they can email the group directly with any questions.
- Take action on your tabling asks: You had a super successful tabling event and generated broad engagement with your asks. Now it’s time to take the next steps, which will depend on the specific action(s) you collected at your table.
 - For example, if you collected petitions or postcards, make sure to send them to their respective target.
 - Now is also the perfect time to send any photos taken at your tabling event to jonathan@defendourfuture.org.



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BUILDING THE MOVEMENT: RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are critical to Defend, and they are the backbone of our efforts to push for a 100% Clean future. In fact, without all of our wonderful volunteers, a lot of what we do could not be possible. Our volunteers are critical to our movement. They:

- Spread our mission to different communities and networks all over the country.
- Increase our impact on the ground exponentially – Our elected leaders are A LOT more willing to listen to the concerns of their constituents than anyone else. Our volunteers have the power to deliver consequential messages! Being the voices of the youth climate movement. Volunteers donate their time and energy because they are passionate about fighting for climate action and want to be involved in the fight for a better future for all of us.

IDENTIFYING VOLUNTEERS AND THEIR STRENGTH(S)

When you first connect with a new volunteer, ask them about their background (academic, professional, etc.) and interests. Once you have this information, consider how this person can play a part in making your chapter a success. Introduce your ideas to them and don't forget to ask for their feedback on your ideas. Also, ask them what type of role they would be interested in having with your Defend chapter – they might make some great suggestions you wouldn't have thought of!

- Tips for making an ask: Focus on the outcome of “the ask”: When making the ask, make sure to paint a clear picture of how the volunteer's actions will make a direct impact in your community or even on the national political stage. Say you want to ask someone to write a letter to the editor; here, it would make sense to discuss the large number of people that will receive the volunteer's message once it is published, or to discuss Defend's role in promoting volunteer LTEs on our website and social media. Tell the volunteer that their LTE will have the power to shape public opinion on climate change.
- Focus on the many ways in which volunteering benefits them:
 - Volunteering allows you to develop critical professional skills that will put you at an advantage throughout the hiring process, such as, opinion writing, event planning, organizing, social media, and much more!
 - Networking opportunities – there is no better way to meet people active in the environmental & climate action community than through volunteering. Defend volunteers have the opportunity to meet and connect with elected leaders, climate policy experts, and polished organizers, to name a few.
 - Finally, volunteering with Defend allows you to advance a cause you truly believe in and make lasting friendships – it's fun!

Recruiting volunteers is one thing, but retaining them is equally as important. Making the volunteer feel welcome and that their work is appreciated plays a huge role in retention outcomes. Consider putting together a volunteer appreciate (it could be something small, like hosting a potluck BBQ) event to demonstrate how grateful you are that volunteers have given their time to advance the organization's mission. Sending personalized thank-you notes – either handwritten or via email – are also a fantastic way to let volunteers know that they are appreciated.



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PREVENTING BURNOUT

Preventing burnout is also necessary to secure volunteers for the long-run. Providing opportunities for different levels of engagement is one way to do this. Provide volunteers with options – some may involve a time commitment akin to a part-time job, while others may involve a once or twice a month commitment. Providing opportunities for different levels of engagement is another way to maximize your number of volunteers. Communication with volunteers is key in preventing burnout: As a chapter leader, part of your job is checking in periodically with your volunteers (once or twice a month) to make sure they are not overwhelmed by the tasks you have assigned to them; on the flip side, you might find out that they would like to take on a larger role with the chapter.

WRITE AND SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

You can help raise awareness about the need for climate action in your community. Write a letter to the editor (LTE) or op-ed for your local or school paper about what you're doing – and why you're taking action on climate now. And if you share it with us, we might highlight it on our website or social media!

We have a toolkit which provides message guidance and talking points to help you write your letter to the editor. When writing a letter to the editor, it is important to write in your own voice, share the reason(s) why you're advocating for your issues and connecting your message with readers.

HERE ARE SOME KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM OUR LTE TOOLKIT:

- LTEs are all about communicating your personal story. By conveying the very real, local concerns regarding how climate change impacts you, you can help motivate others to act on climate, too!
- Brainstorming is an important first step. Take a minute to consider the answers to 2 questions that will serve as a foundation to your LTE:
 - Why does climate change matter to you personally?
 - Why should those in your community – whether that be your friends or elected leaders – care too?
- Crafting your own compelling LTE: Once you have responses to the questions above, take about 30 seconds to answer these 3 questions **directly, clearly, and powerfully**. (Now is a great time to jot down a few notes!):
 - Who are you and where are you from?
 - Why does climate change matter to you? Think: Do you suffer from asthma that is intensified by climate pollution? Are you worried about what the planet will look like when your baby cousin is all grown up?
 - Why should members of your community care about climate change too? The important thing here is to remember to keep it personal.
- The answers to these questions serve as the basic framework of your story. After you have them down, all that's left to do is fill in the details in a unique and compelling way!
- Always remember that you don't have to be a scientist, policymaker, or high-ranking official to have knowledge about climate change. You too are an issue-area expert on this issue – your experiences are valid – so trust yourself, your ideas, and get to writing!
- Finally, keep your LTE concise – most online and print newspapers limit letters to about 250 words in length.
- Don't forget submit your LTE to your publisher of choice – most newspapers have online portals through which you can submit.



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Let us know when your letter to the editor is published! Send a link with the subject line “Letter to the Editor” to info@defendourfuture.org! You can help amplify on social media by also tagging your representative to let them know that as a constituent you care about bold climate action!

SOCIAL MEDIA: AMPLIFY OUR MESSAGE

Social media is a power tool to let elected leaders know their constituents are demanding action on climate – and a 100% clean energy future! You can use social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook and Instagram to amplify stories on climate change impacts and solutions and highlight actions you’re taking like hosting events, attending town halls and talking one-on-one with peers and community members. We encourage you to tag your representatives (be respectful, of course!) when you’re sharing news stories and photos from Defend Our Future activities like events, tabling and canvassing. Also, don’t forget to tag us at @DefendOurFuture so that we can help lift up your incredible work to defend our future! Finally, email us your photos with the subject “Social Media Photos” to info@defendourfuture.org. We’ll gladly post them to our national accounts!

You can also establish your own chapter-based social media to amplify the work you’re doing on the ground and to mobilize supporters. If you have interest in establishing a chapter-based social media account, please reach out to Jonathan Soohoo (jonathan@defendourfuture.org).

SPEAKING WITH THE PRESS

You may be approached – in person or through email or social media – by members of the press who would like to learn more about Defend Our Future and your involvement in the movement. If a reporter does contact you, you can explain that you’re volunteering with Defend, what you’re doing (like tabling, talking about climate change with members of the community and students, etc.). If the reporter would like a more in-depth interview, we ask that you politely tell them to reach out to our national communications team led by Ben Schneider (bscheider@edf.org).

MEETING WITH YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Your senators and representatives (and local officials) want to hear from their constituents – like you – about the issues that concern them the most. Meeting in person with lawmakers or their staff is just one of the many actions you can take to make your voice heard.

Below you will find some steps on how to prepare oneself for a meeting beforehand, tips for the meeting itself and follow up. You will also find an example of a meeting minutes form on which you can record your experiences.

HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR MEETING

- **Do Your Homework.** Know the lawmaker’s stance on our issue(s) before the meeting. This may involve reading fact sheets, the lawmaker’s legislative website and recent news stories. Know if he/she has any pet issues or particular areas of concern.
- **Bring a Clear Ask/Request.** Staff are very busy, so to the extent that it’s possible, be clear and brief in your desired outcomes for the meeting, and (politely) press for a commitment. The Defend Our Future leave-behind, fact sheets and other materials in writing will help.



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- Remember—Everything is local. Come armed with information about how X issue will play in the district—both in the sense of politics and policy effects writ large. Come up with local reasons as to why the member should do X.
- Don't Make Anything Up. Our credibility is everything. If you don't know the answer to a question, tell the member/staff you will find out and follow up promptly in an email or call to staff.
- Take Good Notes. Make a note of date, time, location of the meeting. Which staff attended? Who joined you? What information did you share? What questions did the member/staff ask? What questions did you ask? Is there a need for follow-up? Provide as much information as you can in the meeting minutes form to help get clarity on the office's position so you know how best to move forward.
- Follow-Up! Make sure you follow-up with any information requests, send thank yous for the meeting, and be politely persistent with the member and staff in future interactions. It pays off to maintain the relationship; one-offs won't accomplish anything.

One of your responsibilities as a Defend Ambassador or chapter member is to follow up with Defend Our Future staff by providing a readout of your meetings(s) by providing a summary of the issues discussed and who attended the meetings(s). Also, don't forget to use social media after your meeting. Tag your representative, thank them for the meeting and include a photo if you took one!

Download: [Meeting Minutes Form](#)

REGISTER PEOPLE TO VOTE

We've partnered with TurboVote to make it as easy as possible to register to vote! You can register friends, family members, neighbors and your community using this easy-to-use online application:

<https://defendourfuture.org/register-to-vote/>.

PETITIONS

Petitions take about 5 seconds to sign and they can make a huge difference. Signing a petition is one of the easiest ways to make your voice heard by, for example, your elected leaders, corporations, or your school's administration. Each of these targets has a responsibility to listen to your voice: When it comes to your elected leaders, listening to your concerns is their job. Your concerns are their concerns because, at the end of the day, they need your vote to get reelected. And petitions DO actually make a difference – did you know that in 2003, 1.3 million Californians petitioned for a recall election, ultimately resulting in the election of Arnold Schwarzenegger as governor?

At Defend, we use petitions to make sure that youth voices are heard throughout the halls of Congress and by those in charge at the EPA, to name a few. We want our elected leaders to know that we aren't backing down until we secure their commitment to act boldly and protect us from nothing short of a climate catastrophe.

You can find links to active petitions on our [website](#). We urge you to share these with your chapter members and communities – the more signatures we have, the stronger we will be. Together, we can make the change we wish to see in our communities and throughout our country.



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DAILIES

At Defend, we strongly believe that our leaders must step up to address climate change as the existential crisis of our time that it is by committing to act boldly in pursuit of climate solutions. But we also believe that each of us has the power to make a difference, too. For example, did you know that line-drying your clothes is equivalent to saving the amount of electricity required to keep 225 lightbulbs on for an hour – yup, you heard that right! Now imagine if just 3% or even 10% of us started line drying our clothes. The point is that individual actions add up to make a larger difference very quickly.

Of course not everyone has the space to line-dry their clothes, and not everyone can afford to shop locally and organically all the time. We understand that. Our Dailies initiative is meant to be something you can adapt to your own lifestyle, so pick and choose the challenges that make the most sense for you and encourage your family and friends to join you! Plus, holding yourself accountable with these pledges makes you feel proud to have accomplished something that will reduce your overall environmental impact – it's fun!

Here are several examples of pledges (and facts!) that you and those close to you can commit to:

- *Fact:* More than 380 billion plastic bags are used each year in the US. [Pledge to protect our planet by saying goodbye to single-use plastic grocery bags.](#)
- *Fact:* Nearly one-fifth of manmade greenhouse gas emissions are generated by the meat industry. [Challenge yourself to go meatless for just one day a week](#) – doing so is truly a win-win – it's good for the planet and your health!
- *Fact:* 133 billion pounds, or almost 40%, of food in America ends up in the landfill every year. [Join us in pledging to be more aware of what we buy and throw away and consider donating food we might otherwise waste.](#)
- *Fact:* Around 16 billion coffee cups are used per year, translating to more than 6.5 million trees, 4 billion gallons of water, and the energy equivalent of powering 54,000 homes for an entire year. [Take our pledge to save the planet while using a reusable mug \(some coffee shops even offer discounts for customers who bring their own mugs!\).](#)



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APPENDIX A

EXAMPLE CHARTER: YOUR UNIVERSITY

Defend Our Future at Your University Constitution

Article I – Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization

Section 1 – Name: Defend Our Future at Your University

Section 2 – Purpose: ***Defend Our Future is building a diverse coalition of partners that have a shared vision/goal of finding actionable and common sense solutions to solving climate change. We are building a nationwide movement of young people who aim to educate people on the issues and support bold action on climate to protect the environment, their communities, and future generations. We challenge students to take small, but substantive actions to solve climate – from using a reusable water bottle, to starting a bike-share with friends, or pledging to vote.***

Section 3 – Non-Discrimination Policy: This organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individual(s) for reason of age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Our mission is preventing climate change and anyone who supports this cause is welcome.

Article II – Membership

Voting membership should be defined as limited to currently enrolled Your University students. Members will be eligible to vote after participating in at least (but not limited to) three Defend Our Future events. Meetings will be considered events. Others such as faculty, alumni, professionals, etc. are encouraged to become members but as non-voting associates or honorary members.

Article III – Organization Leadership

Section 1 – President: The role of the President shall be decided by a general membership vote on a predetermined election date. The President's primary roles shall include being responsible for presiding over meetings, engaging with University administration, and representing Defend Our Future to other student organizations. The President's term length shall be one academic year.

Section 2 – Vice President: The role of the Vice President shall be decided by a general membership vote on a predetermined election date. The Vice President shall be responsible for taking minutes during general meetings and presiding over elections. The Vice President's term length shall be one academic year.

Section 3 – Treasurer: The role of the Treasurer shall be decided by a general membership vote on a predetermined election date. The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining the Defend of Future budget and reserving rooms for meetings. The Treasurer's term length shall be one academic year



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Section 4 – Officers: Officer positions shall be defined and appointed by the President. There must be at least 3 officers on the council. Suggestions for officer positions include an educator (whose job is to educate the public on the issues), a public relations specialist, Special Election Officer, etc.

Article IV – Method of Selecting and/or Removing Officers and Members

Elected officials shall be voted on by the general membership during a predetermined election date. The Vice President is responsible for determining the date of the special election. Elected officers who are not fulfilling their responsibilities can be removed by a general vote of the membership of the organization. This can be called by a majority vote of the three elected officials, and will be conducted by an appointed Special Election Officer, who will also be decided by a majority vote of the three elected officials.

Article V – Advisor(s) or Advisory Board:

Advisors of student organizations must be members of the University faculty or Administrative and Professional staff. Responsibilities of the Defend Our Future advisor will be to approve the organization’s goals on an annual basis.

Article VI – Meetings of the Organization:

Required meetings will be held biweekly for each academic term. Meetings will qualify as a Defend Our Future event for prospective voting members.

Article VII – Method of Amending the Constitution:

Proposed amendments should be in writing. They should not be acted upon until read in the general meeting in which they are proposed, read again at other subsequent general meetings, and read at the general meeting in which the vote is taken. Approval should require at least two-thirds of voting members present (and to conduct any business an organization should have quorum present at a business meeting, which is at minimum 50% +1 of total organization members).

Article VIII – Method of Dissolution of Organization:

The President has the power to call for dissolution of the organization. Dissolution will occur with a two-thirds majority vote of the organization. Defend Our Future national will be responsible for all debts incurred by the organization upon dissolution.



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APPENDIX B

EXAMPLE DEFEND OUR BEER RUN OF SHOW AND MESSAGING GUIDE

Defend Our Beer

Theme

A discussion on the impacts of climate change on beer production, related agriculture, and the direct link between the consumer products and climate change. This panel discussion will be followed by time for networking between environmental activists/event attendees and the panel of speakers. More event background materials are on the following page.

Event Type

Panel

Date

Wednesday, August 7, 6:00pm

Location

City Brewery

Street, City, Zip Code

Site Location POC:

Defend Our Future Organizer, Phone Number, Email

Speaker Call Time

5:30 pm

Event Start Time

6:00pm

(panel begins at 6:15)

Our Goal

At Defend Our Future, we're helping educate young people about what is at stake in a changing climate. Often times, millennials don't think about how man-made climate change can alter the products that they use on a regular basis. From the way we grow hops/malts, recycle wastewater and other grains, to how we distribute beer to consumers, climate change poses serious issues for the brewing industry. We're partnering with City Brewery and other members of the City brewing and environmental community to showcase local brewers and their product and to advocate for strong environmental protections which enable the production of their beer and ensure its great taste.

Speakers:

Speaker 1 (Full Name and Title, if applicable)

- ... is the VP of Policy at X organization.



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- ... earned a B.S. in X and a Master's in X from X University.
- ... is an expert in X issues and worked on X project to ____.
- ... previous experience includes ____.

Speaker 2 (Full Name and Title, if applicable)

Speaker 3 (Full Name and Title, if applicable)

Speaker 4 (Full Name and Title, if applicable)

Schedule

5:30 p.m.: Defend Our Future team arrive for set-up

5:45 p.m.: Speakers arrive and meet each other, discuss their backgrounds and portions of the event discussion. Guests begin to arrive.

6:00 p.m.: Defend gives brief remarks about panel beginning at 7:15 and allowing time for food, drink, and mingling

6:15 p.m.: Defend gives opening remarks and introductions of each speaker.

6:20 p.m.: Speakers go down panel discussing their work and expertise, and how it relates to brewing

6:30 p.m.: MC provides questions for discussion among panel members

7:10 p.m.: Floor opened for questions

7:25 p.m.: Defend gives closing remarks and thank you to the audience and panelists for their participation. Event space opened for mingling among audience and panelists.

Questions:

1. What components go into our beer, and what risks do these different components face?
2. How can breweries help to limit their environmental impact?
3. What personal action can people take to help further sustainable beer?
4. What role does clean water play in the brewing process, and what risks are there to the supply of clean water for the Colorado brewing community?
5. Is there a capacity to make beer in non-traditional agricultural settings? How will we have to adapt our beer creation process?
6. If we do nothing, what can we expect the future of beer to look like?
7. What can young people specifically do to learn more about and do more for sustainability and environmental protection?
8. How can we work on bridging the political gap on the environment and make these issues matter in a bipartisan way?
9. What changes have you observed, in the last decade, to the availability and/or quality of brewing resources? How have you dealt with this?

