

New Mexico Climate Master™ Program

Make a BIG Impact with a Light Footprint

Learn How to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint &
Help Others in Your Community to Do the Same

Climate change is the most pressing environmental issue facing the world today and we are already feeling the effects. Most of today's strategies to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions focus on large sources such as power plants, industrial facilities, and vehicles, with the goal of achieving the greatest results from initial efforts.

Households, however, are the ultimate end-users of most energy production via home heating, cooling, appliances, food, travel, and embedded energy in products that households purchase. Therefore, households, directly or indirectly, produce significant amounts of GHG emissions. Yet the general public's understanding of climate change remains low and few people think they personally can do much about the problem.

Climate Masters at Home

In the spring of 2009, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) adopted the Climate Masters at Home™ program developed by the University of Oregon's Climate Leadership Initiative (CLI) to support our greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. Climate Masters provides 30 hours of training on climate change, energy and resource efficiency, which participants "pay back" with an equal amount of volunteer education and outreach.

This actions-based education program helps individuals reduce their personal and household greenhouse gas emissions. Upon completing the class, trained Climate Master volunteers share easy, low-cost ways to reduce emissions from home energy, transportation, food, consumption and waste, and yards.

We held our first class in Santa Fe during May-June of 2009 and are just now finishing with our second class being held in Albuquerque. Our 24 Santa Fe class graduates have completed over 190 hours of volunteer service to date.

Class topics include: Climate change science, home energy, transportation, water, renewable energy, yards, consumption & waste, food, behavior change, and outreach / consultations.

For more information about Climate Leadership Initiative, visit: <http://climlead.uoregon.edu/node/67>

For more information about NM Climate Masters Program & classes visit:
www.nmenv.state.nm.us/aqb/NewMexicoClimateMasters.htm

New Mexico Climate Master Program Contacts
Emily Geery, 505-476-4315, emily.geery@state.nm.us
Jill Turner, 505-222-9548, jill.turner@state.nm.us

