



**JOB POSTING:  
CLIMATE ADVOCATE  
Save the Sound  
[www.savethesound.org](http://www.savethesound.org)**

Would you like an opportunity to harness your advocacy, leadership, communications, and citizen engagement skills to make Connecticut a regional leader in fighting climate change? Do you want to mobilize youth and enact laws and policies to ensure Connecticut slashes 45% of its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030?

If so, you may be the ideal candidate for the Climate Advocate position at our region's pre-eminent environmental nonprofit organization. Save the Sound is seeking a dedicated, experienced organizer and communicator to join its climate program. You will have the opportunity to build on four decades of successful advocacy before Connecticut's legislature, state and federal agencies and courts, and local governments.

As the Climate Advocate, you will be part of a wider organizational team that employs a broad range of tools: not only legislative and legal action, but also community engagement, policy development, science, engineering, and public relations expertise.

**Who We Are**

Save the Sound leads environmental action in your region. We fight climate change and build resilient communities, save endangered lands, protect the Sound, and restore its rivers. For more than 40 years we've been ensuring people can enjoy the healthy, clean, and thriving environment they deserve—today and for generations to come.

Our staff's sustained advocacy campaigns, tenacious legal work, and engineered projects have proven highly effective in:

- Enacting laws and policies that help Connecticut lead the way to a clean energy future;
- Saving forests, wetlands, and fragile coastal areas from unwise development;
- Monitoring, identifying, and stopping water pollution so our beaches, rivers, and Long Island Sound are becoming cleaner and healthier;
- Restoring rivers and marshes around Long Island Sound;
- Engaging thousands of citizens every year in cleaning up more than 60 miles of coastline; and
- Enforcing and strengthening environmental laws to protect the greater Long Island Sound region's natural resources and residents' rights and health.



## **Position and Responsibilities**

Connecticut is at a crossroads in its fight for a healthier climate and cleaner air. A recent state law mandates significant greenhouse gas reductions by 2030, but to hit that target, the state must ramp up the deployment of renewables, make substantial progress in eliminating transportation-related emissions, and increase investment in energy efficiency improvements within the next several years.

The Climate Advocate is responsible for developing and implementing our youth engagement effort; providing communications support for the climate program; engaging in community and legislative education, outreach, and grassroots activism efforts; assisting with coalition management; and supporting all elements of the climate program.

The Climate Advocate, with direction from our Chief Program Officer and Climate and Energy Attorney, will also plan, track, and report on progress in meeting Save the Sound's overarching climate and energy goals. Recent priorities include: (1) advocating for meaningful greenhouse gas emissions reductions at the Governor's Council on Climate Change, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the legislature; (2) promoting policies to promote clean transportation; (3) the Share the Sun campaign, which focuses on public outreach and education around shared solar in selected communities around Connecticut; and (4) removing regulatory barriers to deployment of offshore wind and other clean and renewable distributed generation.

The position will involve working with the public, multiple stakeholders in the legislature, administration, regulatory agencies, and business and clean energy communities, advocacy coalitions, and others, including municipalities and other environmental groups. It will involve outreach, education, and mobilization across this spectrum, through planning virtual and in-person events, presenting to community groups, writing emails that motivate action, generating press coverage, and developing attractive advocacy materials and web content.

The Climate Advocate opening is a full-time, exempt position in New Haven, CT with travel throughout the state, including Hartford, as pandemic rules allow. The Climate Advocate manages interns and volunteers; coordinates closely with our Chief Program Officer, communications staff, and development staff; and is supervised by our Climate and Energy Attorney and Director of Communications.

## **Qualifications**

Candidates must have a demonstrated interest in climate change policy, communications, and youth engagement and experience in propelling advocacy campaigns forward. The ideal candidate should have at least three years of advocacy or campaign experience, a demonstrated commitment to public interest environmental advocacy, and a background in climate law and/or policy. They should be highly self-motivated, capable of organizing and implementing campaigns, and a strong public representative of Save the Sound and its mission. Finally, they should be an experienced, dynamic self-starter with experience in, and understanding of, legislative and regulatory affairs involving climate and energy.



Excellent research, writing, and communication (including comfort with public speaking) skills are required. Skills and experience in graphic design, video editing, social media management, CRM systems (i.e., EveryAction/VAN, Salesforce, Salsa), website CMS, and media relations are a plus.

Our organizational leadership and staff are working to deepen Save the Sound's diversity, equity, and inclusion. We seek to attract a more diverse applicant pool with a goal of adding and retaining more outstanding people of color to all levels of our team. We work in diverse communities and landscapes, and are actively working to increase our focus on driving environmental justice action for equitable outcomes within diverse communities through our work.

Compensation is commensurate with relevant education and experience.

The position's desired start date is mid-late November 2020. Interested candidates should email a resume, cover letter, writing sample, salary requirements, and three references to [climate@savethesound.org](mailto:climate@savethesound.org) with "Climate Advocate" in the subject line. Supplemental work samples such as web design, graphic design, or video editing are welcome. Applications without a cover letter and writing sample will not be considered.

The application process will remain open until a candidate is selected; however Save the Sound advises that materials be submitted before Nov. 10, 2020. Candidates will be interviewed on a rolling basis. We are a thoughtful and thorough organization. We will be touch to acknowledge receipt of your organization and to schedule selected applicants for an interview. Our hiring process can take from 7 to 10 weeks. You will be informed when the hiring process is complete. Please be patient.

### **Organizational Background**

In 2004, Connecticut Fund for the Environment (founded 1978) merged with Save the Sound (founded 1972). Linking Connecticut Fund for the Environment's legal, scientific, and policy expertise with Save the Sound's proven stewardship, restoration, and community outreach capability created one of the region's leading environmental organizations and in 2020, we adopted the name Save the Sound to cover our full activities. Our mission is to protect and improve the land, air, and water of Connecticut and Long Island Sound. Our staff of 30+ works with partners and stakeholders including elected officials and community leaders, individual citizen activists (18,000), volunteers (2,500), and members (5,300).

### **Additional Duties of All Save the Sound Employees**

All employees are expected to assist with execution of the annual development plan to support meeting the annual organizational and campaign budget. Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Maintaining positive and productive working relationships with all Save the Sound staff members, including providing and receiving constructive feedback;



**Save the Sound®**

Action for our region's environment.

- Participating in building productive relationships with Save the Sound's members, external partners, policy makers, and the general public. This includes donor cultivation and solicitation activities in support of small donor development;
- Playing a lead or support role in drafting content for grant proposals and funding requests;
- Supporting the execution of small fundraising events or donor cultivation events;
- Contributing content for organizational communications and marketing materials; and
- Completing all administrative work on time, such as time sheets, purchase orders, project reports and planning documents.

*Save the Sound is an equal opportunity employer. We prohibit discrimination based on age, color, disability, marital or parental status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status, or any other legally protected status in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws.*