

Save the Sound Climate Task Force

Roles and Responsibilities

The Climate Task Force is a dedicated group of passionate individuals who are supporters, experts, and advocates for climate action within Save the Sound's community. Task Force members help drive impactful initiatives that address climate change, promote sustainability, and influence policy changes. Save the Sound's team leverages their collective expertise and commitment to create a significant positive impact on our environment and communities.

The Task Force meets quarterly, with a goal of providing input and advice on the shape of our advocacy campaign and helping to open the door to prospective donors or making pledges necessary to augment Save the Sound's base of support.

Call to Action: Make Connecticut and New York regional leaders in setting short-and long-term enforceable policies that will cut greenhouse gas pollution by 80% by 2050 and move us into a new economy that focuses on renewables and energy efficiency.

Front page articles document that we are living into predicted climate destabilization – massive hurricanes, severe rain-induced flooding, a diaspora of climate refugees from the Caribbean. These alarming headlines will only get worse if we don't act now. The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP) most recent greenhouse gas emissions report shows that we are off-track to meet our legal mandates in 2030 and 2050. The most recent 2 years of economy-wide emissions is going up instead of down, with some sectors emitting more greenhouse gases than 1990 baseline levels.

Connecticut is part of a 9-state climate compact from Maryland to Maine. Together, these states collectively contain the 6th largest economy in the world and are home to 34 million citizens. Connecticut must lead, not lag, and successfully execute against the short- and long-term promises contained in our historic Global Warming Solutions Act and subsequent updates.

To move Connecticut from laggard to leader, Save the Sound has ambitious climate goals that include:

- Ramping up renewable energy in our electrical grid to 50% by 2030 and 100% by 2040, while building clean and resilient in-state energy generation and a green workforce.
- Driving down carbon emissions 45% by 2030 and 80% by 2050. This includes the rapid adoption of EVs, electrifying mass transit, and decarbonizing our home heating and cooling solutions.
- Investing in an environmentally just, equitable, and resilient climate future.
- Holding the State accountable for climate mandates and investments.
- Engaging young and diverse voices in the effort to combat climate change.

To advance this critical work, Save the Sound, through a generous donation, created **The Henry L. and Grace Doherty Climate and Resilience Institute**, a place-based climate change hub for individuals, communities, and decision-makers.

The priorities of the Doherty Institute include:

- Advancing climate science by hosting a new and nationally groundbreaking effort to gather and interpret data on water-related climate change conditions.
- Building resilience by expanding our ability to engineer and construct on-the-ground projects that limit water pollution and protect neighborhoods throughout New York and Connecticut.
- Building public demand for climate action by creating and executing a compelling climate change education and awareness campaign.
- Winning policy change by assessing Connecticut's progress following through on climate-related legislation and executive orders.

QUALITIES OF TASK FORCE MEMBERS

- Committed to Save the Sound's mission and goals, and especially enthusiastic about the goals to make Connecticut and New York regional leaders in fighting climate change.
- Influential and well-respected in business, philanthropic, and/or civic communities.
- Able to connect with leaders from a broad range of our communities.
- Acquainted with or able to access potentially large contributors, and willing to access these networks of affluence and influence on behalf of Save the Sound.
- Able to devote time & resources to Task Force meetings & events including:
 - Participate in four 90-minute Task Force virtual meetings annually.
 - Engage in breakout discussions on relevant topics as needed.
 - Availability to call on or connect staff with at least three prospective donors.
 - Willingness to participate in at least one cultivation or celebration event annually.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Each Task Force member is responsible for:

- Collaborating with Save the Sound staff and providing input and advice on our regional climate strategies.
- Making a gift to support Save the Sound, consistent with ability.
- Providing staff with speaker names and topic areas of interest for Task Force meetings.
- Assisting staff by making introductions or contacts with people within your network and participating, when possible, in identifying, screening, and selecting major donor prospects.
- Attending Task Force related cultivation and celebration events.

If there are any questions or feedback, please reach out to Alicia Sullivan, Executive Vice President of Philanthropy, at asullivan@savethesound.org.