

We can do much more collectively!

We can really make a difference if we work as a whole.

For example: The Town of Branford is now looking into a *Coastal Resiliency Plan*.

The overall goal of the plan is to address the current and future resilience of the Town's shoreline to the impacts of coastal hazards.

Resilience: the ability to resist, absorb, recover from and adapt from disasters.

The town has studied the vulnerability of every neighborhood under the current and future conditions, and has started to develop an action plan.

You can go to the Town of Branford Department of Engineering website (<http://www.branford-ct.gov/Engineering>) and have a look at it.



Where Can I Find More Information?

ESDHD climate change website:

<http://www.esdhd.org/node/125>

USEPA Climate change website:

<https://www3.epa.gov/climatechange/>

NASA global climate change website:

<http://climate.nasa.gov/>

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Website:

<http://www.ipcc.ch/>

National Climate Assessment website:

<http://nca2014.globalchange.gov/>

Contact us:

This pamphlet was created by Jie Wu, an intern researcher in ESDHD.

E-mail: jie.wu.jw2337@yale.edu

East Shore District Health Department

Address: 688 East Main St, Branford, CT

www.esdhd.org 203-481-4233

Live **BETTER** in a **CHANGING** World!



Things you should know about climate change and health.

Town of Branford Coastal Resilience Plan

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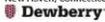
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Prepared by:

Milone & MacBroom, Inc.
99 Realty Drive
Cheshire, Connecticut 06410
 MILONE & MACBROOM

With assistance from:

Dewberry
59 Elm St #101
New Haven, Connecticut 06510
 Dewberry

Under the direction of the
Town of Branford



CONNECTICUT
Department of Housing

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Climate ≠ Weather

The climate of a region is its weather averaged over many years.

It changes very slowly.

Isn't it normal for climate to change?

Climate has, and always will, vary for natural reasons. However, recent evidence shows that abnormal variations have occurred in the past decades due to human activities.

Who thinks the climate is changing?

Most of us (>60%) believe. The majority (97%) of climate scientists and major scientific agencies in U.S. also agree (NASA, NOAA, etc.).

Did you know ...?

Since around 1900, climate has changed significantly.

Temperature: U.S. average temperature has increased **1.3°F to 1.9°F**.

Precipitation: Average annual precipitation over the U.S. has increased **5%**.

Sea level: Global sea level has increased **8 inches**.

Most of the changes occurred after 1970.

Does climate change have anything to do with our health?

Yes.

Air quality

Climate change can affect human health by reducing air quality and contribute to more respiratory disease. As a matter of fact, Connecticut has more asthma cases in recent years than before.

Water quality and quantity

Changes in precipitation pattern and human behaviors brought by climate change will increase water demand and reduce water quality.

Human infectious disease

There will be an emergence and a reemergence of infectious diseases because of climate change. For example, a bacteria called vibrio which was never found in Long Island Sound is now found in shellfish in Connecticut after 2013. They prefer to live in warm water.

Environmental justice

The socially disadvantaged communities are disproportionately burdened by poor environmental quality, and are least able to adapt.

Coastal hazards

Because of sea level rise and other factors, there will be more intense storms, more frequent floods, and more beach erosion.

Did you know ...?

According to WHO (World Health Organization), there will be **250,000** additional deaths each year worldwide caused by climate change between 2030 to 2050.

What can we do?

Everyone has a role to play in combating climate change.

1. Reduce your carbon footprint



Turn down: Don't overcool or overheat your home.

Switch off: Don't forget to turn off lights and faucets when you don't need them.

Be efficient: Look for ENERGY STAR-qualified products which have special energy-efficient designs.



Recycle: Use reusable bags and lunchboxes. Sort paper, cardboard, cans and bottles from the rest of your waste.

Drive less: When possible, walk or ride your bike, carpooling and public transportation are also good options.

2. Get involved in your town Climate Resilience Plan

It is time to participate in climate change issue and prepared for it together.