

Your Donations at Work...

Cool Planet Program Highlights 2013-2014

Cool Planet is proud to share highlights from the fiscal year 2013-14 to move toward our mission to: "Inform and inspire people to be fit, have fun and take action for a healthy and sustainable home, neighborhood and planet."

Your help and support is needed to continue these efforts in 2014 and beyond:

Citizen Engagement



Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL)

In partnership with CCL, **Cool Planet** has facilitated the growth and support of 12 local chapters in 6 of 8 MN Congressional Districts, started one group in northern WI and provided regional coordination for the North Wind Region (MN, IA, SD, ND and NE). In addition, Cool Planet served as host for the CCL Regional Conference in January 2014 at Macalester College in St. Paul for over 100 attendees and speakers with expertise on the local impacts of climate change in agriculture, forestry and health.

"Political Will for a Livable Planet" - bringing Conservatives and Liberals to the table to take action for solutions on Climate Change. By passing Fee and Dividend legislation a steadily rising price on carbon emissions with a full refund to American households (revenue neutral) will create long lasting green jobs, jump start the economy, send a message to other big polluters (India and China) and cut emissions drastically. See groundbreaking REMI report at www.citizensclimatelobby.org for details.

Fitness & Fun

Cool Planet believes that healthy, fit individuals make the difference in any organization and endeavor. We are yearly hosts of the **MN Flying Disc Overall Championships** and this year sponsors of the **US Open Flying Disc Overall Championships in Fredericksburg, VA** encouraging and supporting players and spectators to get involved with climate solutions in their communities.



Cool Planet Skiers

Winter is the most endangered season because of climate change. Cool Planet organizes downhill and cross country skiers to "ski green", fundraise and engage the ski community in low carbon actions and conversations. Through outreach efforts at the City of Lakes Loppet and the American Birkebeiner (in partnership with Birkie sponsor, the Climate Reality Project "I Am Pro Snow" campaign) we registered our first 100 Cool Planet Skiers and conducted training in Conversations for Climate Action. Love Winter? Join Us!!

Cool Planet Bikers

A cross country jaunt or just using your bike to get groceries, biking is a symbol for sustainable living around the world. This summer (8/30-9/3) Cool Planet will join MN 350, CCL and the Climate Reality Project leaders for a "LowCarbon Crossing." A 300 mile lightly supported bike ride through southern Minnesota visiting 5 communities to promote a biking lifestyle and action for climate solutions. We have invited 5 members of Congress and their staff to join in for an hour or a day to show bi-partisan support for healthy action on Climate Change.



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Educating Kids & Families

Cool Planet has just completed our first year in the Edina Public Schools working with K-12 students and their families to make Edina “a deeper shade of green” (Edina’s color and symbol is the green hornet). Through classroom presentations, grade level projects, and middle school and high school clubs **Cool Planet** is developing a new generation of families that are adding “re-think and re-imagine” to the reduce, reuse, recycle mantra of environmental education.



This school year ('14-'15) **Cool Planet** is adding youth and family programs through the Edina Park Board and Edina Community Education as we get “COOL PLANET FAMILY LIVES HERE” yard signs all over our community.

Shared Community Solar



Roof facing the wrong way? Too many trees blocking the sun (our tomatoes need sun!!)? Don't want to mess with the hassle of installing a solar unit?

Shared Community Solar is **Cool Planet's** favorite way to let families subscribe as much or as little as they can afford to a big reduction in their carbon footprint. Working with MN Community Solar LLC, Cool Planet does info sessions and signs up subscribers for a 25 year subscription to “leaves of solar energy” and monthly credits from our local electric provider. This program makes “Solar for Everyone” a possibility, and Cool Planet is jumping in....remember “what do you call a solar spill?.....a sunny day!!”

Leadership Training



SPEAK UP!!- Climate Solutions Leadership Training

Cool Planet has now trained over 150 climate solution leaders (that's YOU, btw) in their 3 hour training that blends the basics of climate science (Dr. John Abraham, University of St. Thomas) and solutions (“silver buckshot, not a silver bullet”) with the psychology of sustainable behavior (Dr. Christie Manning, Macalester College).

Focus here is to develop empathetic conversational skills to seek shared values and authentic dialogue to move conversations from discussion to action.



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Paul Thompson & Mindy Ahler, Co-Directors Cool Planet

Mission: **Cool Planet** informs and inspires people to be fit, have fun and take action for a healthy and sustainable home, neighborhood and planet.

Vision: **Cool Planet** envisions neighborhoods where people are healthy, happy and engaged in building a socially just and environmentally sustainable world.

Sustaining investors and individual contributions accepted online at www.coolplanetmn.org or checks payable to “Cool Planet ECF” and mailed to: 4244 Crocker Ave, Edina, MN 55416