

## Do You Have a Right to Clean and Healthy Air, Water & Soils, a Stable Climate, & a Healthy Environment?

### With Passage of the Connecticut Environmental Rights Amendment aka the Connecticut Green Amendment You Will!

Of course you have an inalienable human right, but, NO, you do not have an enforceable legal right to a clean and healthy environment under the Connecticut or US constitutions.

While our state and federal constitutions protect some rights, they do not protect our rights to clean and healthy air, water, and soil; a stable climate; and healthy environments. Because environmental rights are not constitutionally recognized, government decisionmakers are too often free to disregard them in favor of other political or economic priorities.

The result is a system of environmental laws that accept environmental pollution and degradation as something to be accepted and managed rather than prevented. **All communities suffer when there is pollution, environmental degradation, and an unstable climate. And it is a proven fact that communities of color, Indigenous communities, and low income communities carry a disproportionate burden of environmental harm.**

**The CT Environmental Rights Amendment/Green Amendment will require environmental rights to be protected equitably for all communities. The Amendment will ensure all government officials in our state prioritize environmental protection from the start of all planning, decisionmaking, legislating, regulating and permitting. It will require our government officials to avoid/prevent environmental harm, not simply manage it after-the-fact.**

We need a Green Amendment added to our Connecticut state constitution — and ultimately to the US Constitution. The Connecticut Green Amendment has been introduced into the state legislature as the CT Environmental Rights Amendment in 2023, and will be re-introduced again.

Green Amendments in Pennsylvania and Montana have been used to check inappropriate government action that would have had devastating environmental consequences for communities, environment, local businesses and environmentally protective economic development. **In 2021, the New York Green Amendment passed with the support of over 70% of state voters after also securing bi-partisan support in the state legislature!** For more information, on Green Amendments, see <http://ctgreenamendment.org>.

**It's time to put an Environmental Rights Amendment into the Bill of Rights of the Connecticut Constitution! We deserve our own constitutional Green Amendment.**

Asylum Hill CC  
Environment Committee  
Branford Garden Club  
Clean Water Action CT  
Climate Reality Project,  
Southern CT Chapter  
CT Alliance of Retired  
Americans  
CT Association of  
Conservation Districts  
CT Audubon Society  
CT Climate Crisis  
Mobilization (C3M)  
CT Council of Trout  
Unlimited  
CT Democratic Socialists  
of America  
CT League of  
Conservation Voters  
CT League of Women  
Voters  
CT NOFA: The Northeast  
Organic Farming  
Association  
CT Nurses United  
CT Roundtable on Climate  
and Jobs  
Eastern CT Green Action  
Farmington River  
Watershed Association  
Foodshed Network  
Food and Water Watch  
Green Amendments For  
The Generations  
Green EcoWarriors  
Green Party of CT  
Hamden Alliance for Trees  
Hampton Green Energy  
Committee  
Hartford Monthly Meeting  
(Quakers)

Interreligious EcoJustice  
Network  
Moms United in East  
Haven/Mamas Unidas en  
East Haven  
The Nature Conservancy  
CT  
New Haven Bioregional  
Group  
New Haven Friends  
Meeting  
New London Friends  
Meeting  
No More Dirty Power in  
Killingly  
Norwalk River Watershed  
Association  
People's Action for Clean  
Energy (PACE)  
Pollinator Pathway  
Portland Green Energy  
Task Force  
PT Partners  
Save the Sound  
Seaside Sounds Club  
Sierra Club CT  
Sunrise CT  
UUS:E Sustainable Living  
Committee  
Windham-Willimantic  
NAACP Environmental  
Justice Committee

## **The CT Environmental Rights Amendment (*aka the CT Green Amendment*) that when passed, would go to a vote of the people:**

### **Article 1 of the state constitution will be amended to add a section 21 that read**

Each person of the state of Connecticut shall have an individual right to clean and healthy air, water, soil, and environment; a stable and safe climate; and self-sustaining ecosystems.

The state, including any political subdivisions thereof, shall not infringe upon these rights; and shall protect these rights equitably for all people regardless of race, ethnicity, tribal membership status, gender, socioeconomics or geography.

The State shall conserve, improve and protect Connecticut's natural resources and lands, including but not limited to its air, waters, flora, fauna, soils, climate, and ecosystems for the benefit of all the people, including present and future generations.

The rights stated in this section are inherent, inalienable, and infeasible, are enforceable without implementing legislation, are among those rights reserved to the people, and are equivalent with all other inalienable rights.

### **Take Action Now!**

- linktree: <https://linktr.ee/ctera>
- <http://ctgreenamendment.org>
- CT Green Amendment Action app: [bit.ly/CT\\_GAActionApp](https://bit.ly/CT_GAActionApp)



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