



Our program report

on the actions you made possible

Fiscal Year 2022

For a greener America



A letter to our supporters

Amid a surplus of crises, restoring the natural world to health is humanity's most profound challenge. Defending the environment requires of advocates and activists an ample supply of focus, ingenuity, grit and perseverance.

In the past year, Environment America staff, supporters and allies put these attributes to work on dozens of campaigns, raising public awareness, earning popular support, and winning pro-environment changes to public policies and corporate practices.

The results include parks and other special places gaining protection from conservation funding we secured through the Great American Outdoors Act. They include solar panels and wind turbines sprouting across the land (and sea), facilitated by federal tax incentives we won.

Are these victories permanent, complete solutions to our conservation and clean energy problems? Of course not. But in this polarized time, incremental steps offer a path forward—often the only one. Hence—we persevere.

Your action and support are the sparks that transform our research, advocacy, organizing and resolve into tangible results for a greener world. Onward and upward.

Wendy Wendlandt
President

At Environment America, our mission is to work for clean air, clean water, clean energy, wildlife, open spaces and a livable climate.

But we can't do it without you. Our staff research the issues, educate the public, and advocate tangible results for a greener world. Our members give us the resources to carry out our mission and put grassroots support behind all of our campaigns and programs.

To keep up to date with our work and learn more about our campaigns and progress, you can follow us at the addresses below. We'd also love to hear from you—feel free to email us at info@EnvironmentAmerica.org

[EnvironmentAmerica.org](https://www.environmentamerica.org)

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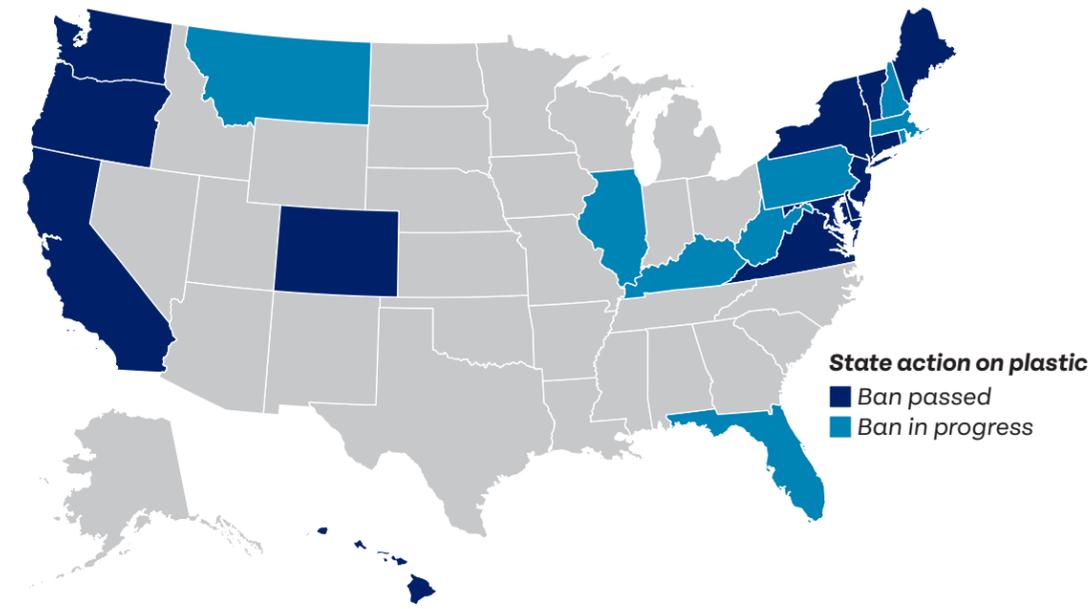


WILDLIFE OVER WASTE

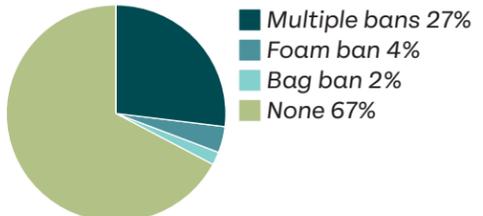
One-third of Americans now live in states with plastic bans

By mid-2022, 1 in 3 Americans were living in a state with some form of single-use plastics ban. Through our Wildlife Over Waste campaign, our members and staff have contributed to that total, while also spurring companies to take responsibility for their plastic packaging—before it finds its way into our rivers and oceans, where it harms or even kills wildlife.

A new Environment Colorado-backed law will require companies to pay for their products' packaging and use the revenue to expand curbside recycling programs. Meanwhile, a new Environment California-supported law will reduce plastic pollution by an estimated 23 million tons over 10 years.



Percent of U.S. population in states that currently have a ban on some types of single-use plastics.



(Left) Staff and supporters rally for California's Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act, which Gov. Gavin Newsom signed on July 29. (Above left) Colorado Gov. Jared Polis signs a single-use plastic ban, with Environment Colorado's Rex Wilmouth (far left) looking on. (Above right) Staff call for action to ban single-use plastics. Photo credits: (Left) Ricky Mackie Photography; (above, left to right) Haley Hawn Photo; Ricky Mackie Photography

Historic



GLOBAL WARMING SOLUTIONS

America invested big in action against climate change

Our country made its largest ever investment in clean energy and climate solutions with the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act this past summer. Though the new law isn't perfect, it includes billions of dollars in funding designed to reduce global warming emissions 40% below 2005 levels by 2030—with many of its provisions modeled after proposals made and won by our Global Warming Solutions campaigns.

Our campaigns are continuing to promote solutions that will help more of our people and our economy go fossil fuel free, transition to carbon-free transportation, reduce power plant pollution, preserve forests and more.



(Above) Aug. 23, 2022: Laura Deehan calls for action on climate at a California rally. (Left) Sept. 13, 2022: Dan Xie and Lisa Frank head to the White House to celebrate a bipartisan infrastructure bill that includes investments in climate solutions.

(Left) July 26, 2022: Staff and supporters urge Gov. Charlie Baker to sign a Massachusetts climate bill—which he did on Aug. 11. Photo credits: (Left) Liam Louis, Elle Vignette Photography; (above, left to right) staff; Ricky Mackie Photography

Cleaner

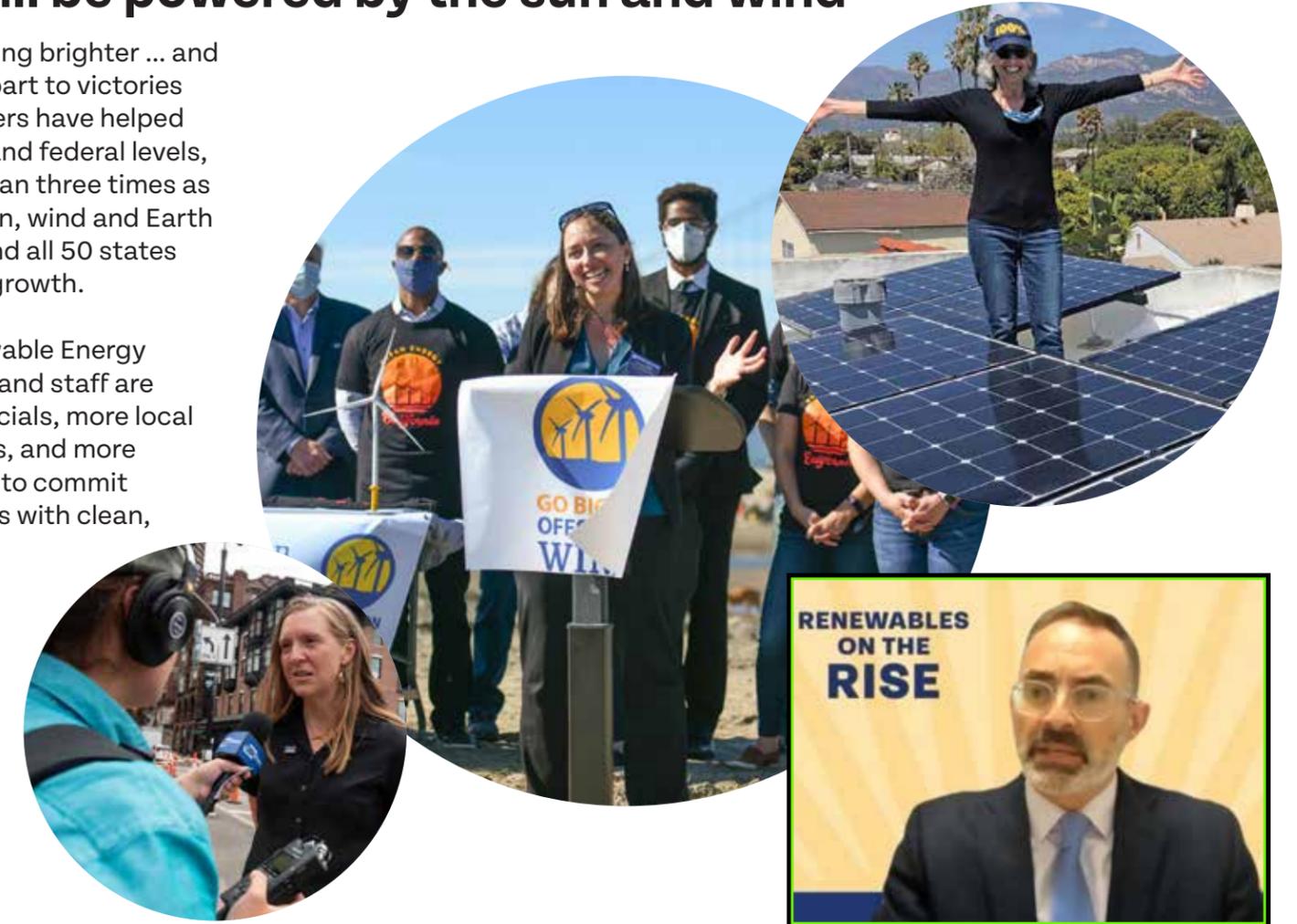


100% RENEWABLE ENERGY

More lives will be powered by the sun and wind

Our energy future is looking brighter ... and cleaner. Thanks in large part to victories that our staff and members have helped to win at both the state and federal levels, our country gets more than three times as much energy from the sun, wind and Earth as it did a decade ago, and all 50 states are seeing clean energy growth.

Through our 100% Renewable Energy campaign, our members and staff are calling on more state officials, more local officials, more companies, and more colleges and universities to commit to repowering themselves with clean, renewable energy.



(Left) At a rally, ballcap-wearers show support for 100% renewable energy. (Above, center) Laura Deehan calls on California to invest in offshore wind. (Above, left) Johanna Neumann speaks to a reporter in July at an event urging Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker to sign a law to increase clean energy and energy efficiency and reduce transportation emissions. (Above, right) Tony Dutzik explains renewable energy's rise in the U.S. Photo credits: (Left) Liam Louis, Elle Vignette Photography; (above, clockwise from left) Liam Louis, Elle Vignette Photography; Ricky Mackie Photography; staff; staff



Staff

In 2022, Environment America Research & Policy Center and our coalition launched the Let Trees Grow campaign to protect older trees from logging. By Earth Day, we had our first win: President Joe Biden ordered federal agencies to inventory and develop policies to protect mature and old-growth forests on federal lands.



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In October 2022, our research partners at Environment America Research & Policy Center released “Renewables on the Rise 2022.” Among the report’s findings: America now gets three times as much energy from the wind, sun and Earth as we did in 2012, with growth in all 50 states.



Public Domain

Environment America-backed bills to help wildlife saw progress. In 2021, Congress approved \$350 million in funding for wildlife corridors to connect fragmented habitats. In 2022, the U.S. House passed the Recovering America’s Wildlife Act, which would offer funds for 50,000 at-risk species.



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In 2017, the Trump administration shrank two national monuments in the West and removed protections for one in the Atlantic Ocean. More than 500,000 supporters of our national network objected and the Biden administration listened, restoring all three national monuments.



Staff

Our supporters sent 25,000 petition signatures to Amazon urging it to stop selling bee-killing neonicotinoid pesticides and another 23,000 petition signatures urging the Biden administration to reinstate a ban on the use of neonics in wildlife refuges—safe havens for bees.



Photo Denbow

After 13 years of litigation brought forward by National Environmental Law Center and our state partners at Environment Texas, a federal judge once again ruled that ExxonMobil must pay the largest civil penalty of its kind for 3,651 instances of illegal air pollution at its oil refinery in Baytown, Texas.

Together, we have a long legacy of victories for clean air, clean water, clean energy and more—including state and local wins that have provided blueprints for action nationwide.



2007: 5 states join regional climate pact

Environment Massachusetts, Environment Maine, Environment New Hampshire, Environment New Jersey and Environment Rhode Island help convince their states to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)—a climate program that cuts power plant pollution.

2011: Nation sets first mercury coal standards

Environment America helps win the first nationwide standards for limiting mercury from coal power plants. The Mercury Air and Toxics Standards go on to reduce mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants by 86%

between 2011 and 2017.

2012: We help secure national clean car standards

Environment America plays a key role in securing new national clean car standards equivalent to 54.5 mpg that will make super-efficient cars the norm by 2025. This win sets automakers on a path toward improving fuel efficiency across their fleets and even helps usher electric vehicles into the mainstream.

2012-2014: 4 states spearhead local plastic bag bans

Between 2012 and 2014, Environment Oregon, Environment California,



Environment Rhode Island and Environment Washington help pass bans on single-use plastic bags in various municipalities and counties. California passes the nation’s first statewide plastic bag ban in 2014, and nine more states follow suit over the next eight years.

2015: Clean Water Rule finalized

Environment America helps win the Clean Water Rule, restoring federal Clean Water Act protections for half the nation’s streams, which help provide drinking water for 1 in 3 Americans. Environment America has since worked to uphold the promise of the Clean Water Act by defending hard-won protections from attacks.



2017: Environment Florida wins toxic wastewater settlement

Environment Florida wins a settlement against the world’s second-largest chicken producer, Pilgrim’s Pride, over its discharges of toxic pollution into the Suwannee River. As part of the settlement, the company agrees to upgrade its pollution control equipment.

2018: Giant leap as California goes for 100%

In September, as Environment California’s Dan Jacobson looks on, Gov. Jerry Brown signs Senate Bill 100 into law. The bill commits the world’s fifth-largest economy to 60% renewable electricity by 2030 and

100% zero-carbon electricity by 2045.

2020: U.S. military phases out PFAS use

Environment America helps win a law compelling the military to phase out its use of firefighting foams containing toxic PFAS chemicals, which have contaminated drinking water in communities across the country.

2020: Conservation gets \$900 million annually

After winning the permanent reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) in 2019, Environment America wins full



funding of \$900 million annually for the LWCF the following year. It’s the nation’s most effective conservation and recreation law, putting billions of federal dollars into national and local parks, playgrounds and trails across the country over the last 50 years.

2021: PennEnvironment helps win waste cleanup lawsuit

PennEnvironment wins a lawsuit against PPG Industries, forcing the company to clean up soil and water contamination at its waste site in Ford City, Pennsylvania. The suit was first filed in 2012 over ongoing Clean Water Act violations that polluted the neighboring Allegheny River.

(Left to right) Dena Mottola with Environment New Jersey speaks with NJN News about climate change; our staff meet with President Obama at an event celebrating the new fuel efficiency standards; Environment California’s Dan Jacobson calls for the passage of the statewide plastic bag ban. Photo credits: NJN News; White House; Staff

(Left to right) Environment Florida’s Jennifer Rubiello speaks at a press event; Environment California’s Dan Jacobson (front row, third from right) and Emily Rusch of The Public Interest Network (back row, left) attend the bill signing for SB100; our staff distribute lawn signs calling on Congress to fully fund LWCF. Photo credits: Jose Matos; Joe McHugh, California Highway Patrol; Suzanne Navarro Photography



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