



Our Work and Accomplishments

Biodiversity for a Livable Climate is a 501(c)(3) non-profit incorporated in July 2013. To date our projects include:

- A highly successful three-day conference in November 2014 at Tufts University in the Boston area, [Restoring Ecosystems to Reverse Global Warming](#), attended by over three hundred people from from the U.S. and abroad.
- A one-day conference, [Reversing Global Warming: Carbon Farming for Food, Health, Prosperity and Planet!](#) at Bristol Community College in Fall River, Massachusetts
- A one-day conference, [Urban and Suburban Carbon Farming to Reverse Global Warming](#), at the Harvard University Science Center in Cambridge, Massachusetts.
- A ground-breaking conference at Tufts on October 16-18, 2015, [Restoring Water Cycles to Reverse Global Warming](#), presenting the power of water to cool the biosphere as well as remove carbon from the atmosphere through eco-restoration. This presented a new and different approach to reversing global warming through the proper management of the water cycle.
- We now have an active Washington, DC Chapter which worked on the steering committee of the [Moral Action on Climate](#) (MAC) around the Pope's visit to Washington in late September 2015. As part of the MAC program, Biodiversity for a Livable Climate, DC Chapter organized a very well-received [day-long conference](#) on Saturday, September 26th at the University of the District of Columbia. This has been an exceptional opportunity for us to bring the role of biology into the mainstream climate conversation to a broad spectrum of concerned groups.
- With our DC chapter we are planning a major conference in the Washington, DC area for 2016.
- We have had a presence by tabling at numerous events, including
 - Toxics Action Center and Massachusetts Climate Action Network conference
 - Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions conference
 - Northeast Organic Farmers Association Conference
 - Cambridge Science Fair
 - Third Annual Massachusetts Carbon Farming Conference
 - Massachusetts Environmental Education Society
 - Climate Change Intensive at Virginia Union University

- Building Sustainable Security at Harvard Law School
- NU Life, Old Planet: Sustainability in the Modern World at Northeastern University
- as well as at numerous smaller events.
- We are developing a working relationship with Farm Aid, and participated in their Roots event and had a table at the Farm Aid Concert Homegrown exhibit in Chicago on September 19, 2015.
- Our Executive Director was on the Steering Committee for the [Soil Not Oil Conference](#) in Richmond, California on September 4-5, 2015, spoke and presented a workshop.
- We partnered with [Know Tomorrow](#), a student-led campaign to demand progress on addressing climate change. There was a national day of action on October, 2, 2015, with colleges participating across the country, and presented at the event in Boston, have a table there, and help with outreach and spreading the word.
- We hold frequent potluck/discussion [Meetups](#) in the Cambridge area, which have brought us donors and some excellent volunteers. Our 2015 Meetups included:
 - [“Ruminating on the New Water Paradigm,”](#) November 15, 2015
 - [“A New Water Paradigm: Restoring Water Cycles to Reverse Global Warming,”](#) September 13, 2015
 - [“INHABIT: A Permaculture Perspective Screening + Discussion,”](#) July 26, 2015
 - [“Microbes ‘R Us,”](#) June 14, 2015
 - [“Questions Raised at the Urban & Suburban Carbon Farming Conference,”](#) May 10, 2015
 - [“How We Can Reverse Global Warming: The Good News,”](#) March 30, 2015
 - [“Soil Carbon Cowboys: Grazing for Biodiversity,”](#) February 22, 2015
- We wrote a small grant (\$5,000) to pay for Jim Laurie, our staff restoration ecologist, and Ridge Shinn, a professional rancher and grass-finished beef marketing expert, to consult with members of the Lakota tribe on the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota. This initial four days of meetings and workshops with tribal members took place in early April. We started helping to build the foundation for grazing and water restoration strategies on reservation lands, as well as raising considerations of employment and economic benefits through cattle-related product and market development.
- One of our staff, Paula Phipps, a teacher and school director for over thirty years, has created a presentation, “Preparing Young Children for Climate Change” (see her website, [Young Children and Natural Disasters](#)). This is a two-hour workshop for parents and teachers, raising awareness of children’s private concerns about global warming and extreme weather events. The workshop explores the adults’ feelings, develops an understanding of children’s responses, and offers age-appropriate ways of informing and reassuring children. It is built around the stories in exceptional children’s literature, and will be a service that we offer as well as a revenue stream for the organization.
- Our Chief Scientist, Jim Laurie, spoke at the Positive Pasture Conference sponsored by [A Greener World](#) in Sausalito, California in November 2015
- We received notice during a congressional hearing, June 25, 2014, by the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation, [Increasing Soil Carbon on Public Lands](#)

(testimony actually starts at 30:07). Biodiversity for a Livable Climate and our paper, [Restoring Carbon Dioxide to Pre-Industrial Levels: Re-Establishing the Evolutionary Grassland-Grazer Relationship](#), are mentioned by name.

- [Michal Kravcik, Precious Phiri, Jon Griggs, Adam Sacks](#) (October 18, 2015), and [Jim Laurie](#) (October 25, 2015). were interviewed after the Tufts 2015 conference for two editions of Emerald Planet TV.



Background

When intact, the natural world can provide bountiful resources for millions of species. Ecosystem health and restoration are the basis for all decisions affecting our life-support systems, from local to global.

From a human perspective, broad-scale eco-restoration addresses:

- Moving gigatons of excess carbon from the skies where it causes great harm, and into the soils where it does worlds of good
- Restoring healthy water cycles
- Creating food security
- Building thriving local economies
- Reducing (or ending) drought and floods
- Eliminating conflict (food and water wars)
- Expanding environmental and climate justice.

What's special about our approach?

- Our primary focus is to expand the mainstream climate conversation so that eco-restoration and biological processes are understood to be critically important climate solutions.
- We promote the power of biodiversity as fundamental to the synergy, cooperation and survival of all species, including humans.
- To gain broad support, we build bridges across political, economic and religious divides.
- We have developed, and continue to promote, the narrative, single-track conference as a powerful communications, networking and collaboration tool.
- We are an attractor organization - in the midst of widespread discouragement and despair, we invite people into eco-restoration and regeneration scenarios and action based on real hope and achievable goals.
- We promote a toolkit equipped with several tools and effective choices for a wide range of people, cultures and landscapes, including:
 - holistic management
 - permaculture and regenerative agriculture
 - forest, wetlands and ocean restoration
 - local and sustainable biochar
 - remineralization
 - relocalization
- Our approaches are low-cost, low-tech and pay for themselves in a few years or less
- We present a coherent new story that grasps the urgency and brings the world together to solve it.

Future Plans

- Education: conferences for educational, outreach and networking purposes; workshops; seminars; internships
- Papers and research to influence policy in land management and climate
- Expanded land-based projects to contribute to our collective understanding of how to reach the necessary scale to affect biogeophysical process
- Collaboration with other organizations to leverage our impacts
- Publication of a scientific journal on the use of eco-restoration and biology to address climate.

For further information, please visit [our website](#), or contact Adam Sacks, Executive Director, at adam.sacks@bio4climate.org, 781-674-2339.

