



# Intermountain Sustainability Summit

# REGENERATION

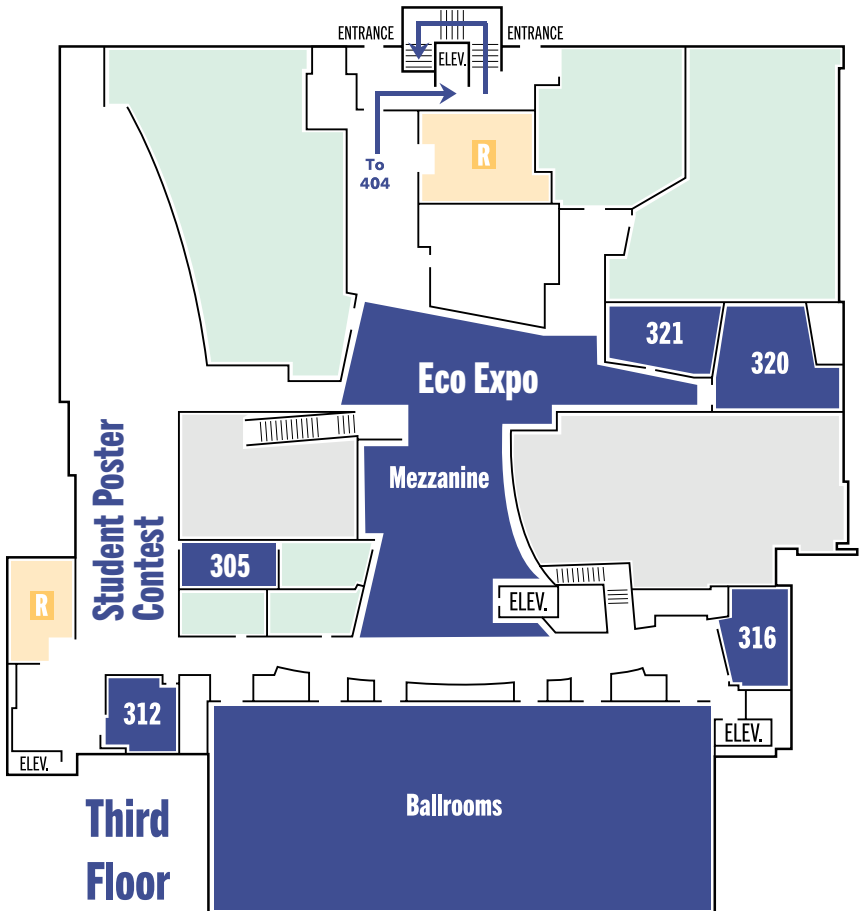
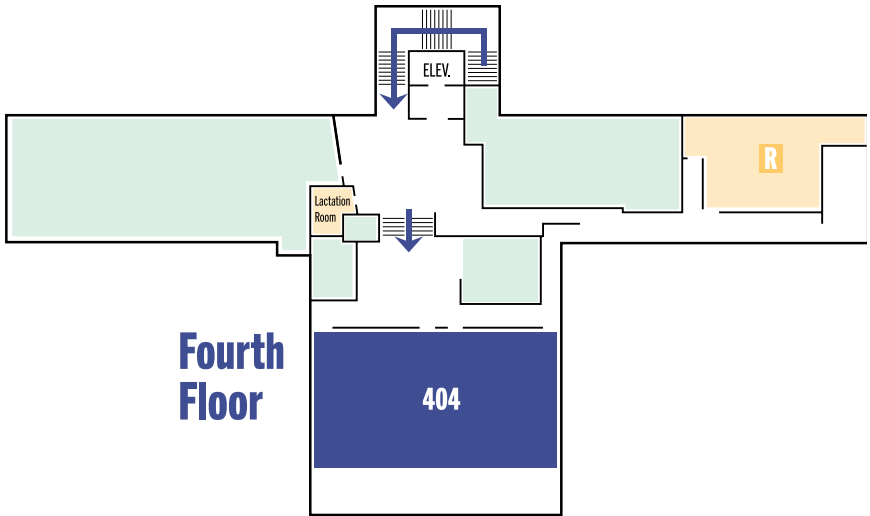
MARCH 20-21, 2025 | OGDEN, UT



WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

Sustainability Practices and Research Center

[weber.edu/issummit](http://weber.edu/issummit)



# ISS Schedule at a Glance

Thursday, March 20

- 7:40 a.m.**      **Registration and Breakfast**  
Mezzanine and Ballroom
- 8:10 a.m.**      **Welcome and Morning Keynote**  
Ballroom
- 9:45 a.m.**      **Eco Expo, Student Poster Contest and Art Displays**  
Mezzanine and Ballroom
- 10:15 a.m.**     **Session 1**  
Rooms 404, 321, 320, 316
- 11:15 a.m.**     **Session 2**  
Rooms 404, 321, 320, 316
- 12:15 p.m.**     **Networking Lunch and ISS Sustainability Awards**  
Ballroom
- 1:15 p.m.**      **Eco Expo, Student Poster Contest and Art Displays**  
Mezzanine and Ballroom
- 1:40 p.m.**      **Session 3**  
Rooms 404, 321, 320, 316
- 2:45 p.m.**      **Plenary Session and Student Poster Contest Awards**  
Ballroom
- 4:10 p.m.**      **Session 4**  
Rooms 404, 321, 320, 316
- 5:20 – 7:00 p.m.** **ISS Social at Kimball Arts Center**  
*Free, but RSVP required. RSVP at registraion desk.*

Please return your lanyard to the registration desk  
or at the social so we can reuse them next year.

# Morning Keynote Speaker

## Bill Reed

Principal at Regenis, Inc.

### Regeneration: Working with the Potential of Life



Bill Reed is an internationally recognized planning consultant, design process facilitator, lecturer, teacher, and author in sustainability and regeneration. Bill is a principal of Regenis, Inc. — a regenerative design, living systems integrator, and education organization. His work centers on creating the framework for and managing an integrative, whole and living system design process. This work is known as Regenerative Development. The objective: to improve the overall quality of the physical, social and spiritual life of our living places and, therefore, the planet. The more immediate benefits of this process include higher efficiency, lower costs, reduced waste, faster time to market, and the realization of exponential value to the social, ecological, financial and human qualities of a project, the community and its ecosystem.

An author of many technical articles and contributor to multiple books including co-authorship of the seminal work, “Integrative Design Guide to Green Building”; he is a founding Board of Director of the US Green Building Council and one of the co-founders of the LEED Green Building Rating System. In addition to being considered one of the leading thinkers in this field, Bill has also consulted on hundreds of green design commissions - buildings and city master plans.



## THANK YOU

K Stevenson and Andrew Rice and their students for providing artwork to display at the ISS.

WSU Art classes include: ART 2200, 3200, 4200 Intro, Intermediate and Advanced Printmaking, ART 2810/ENGL 2750 Printmaking & Poetry, ART 3215 Etching, ART 3210 Relief Printmaking, ART 4810 Special Topics — Screenprint, ART 4920 Book Arts, ART 4900 Independent Study.

**PRINTS OF SELECTED ARTWORK ARE FOR SALE!**

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# Afternoon Plenary Speakers



**Shalae Larsen**  
Io LandArch



**Kat Andra**  
Salt Lake City Public Lands



**Troy Callantine**  
GOAL Foundation



**Andrea Nelson**  
The Nature Conservancy in Utah



**Ashley Pelletier**  
Sasaki

## Nurturing Nature Connections: Designing Spaces for Ecological Engagement

Today, societal disconnection from nature, community, and the urban fabric has resulted in decreased civic engagement and stewardship for our natural and built environments. This panel discusses strategies for embedding meaningful nature experiences within urban landscapes, asking how intentional design can foster connectivity and commitment to ecological and community resilience. We will explore how creating spaces that blend aesthetic appeal with functional biodiversity can provide the public with direct impactful nature encounters that are essential for cultivating a deep-seated ecological ethos.



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and Research Center

The Intermountain Sustainability Summit  
is organized and hosted by Weber State's  
Sustainability Practices and Research Center

# Morning Sessions

## Session 1 | 10:15 – 11:05 a.m.

### Room 404

#### **Federal Funding, Pt. 1: Seeking Clarity and Moving Forward Amid Uncertainty**

**Presented by:** Jennifer Eden, Kevin Emerson  
and Max Becker, Utah Clean Energy

Join experts from Utah Clean Energy for an insightful discussion on navigating the complexities and uncertainty of federal funding changes for clean energy and climate initiatives. As policies and opportunities evolve, they'll share key insights on the status of Utah programs impacted by funding uncertainty.

### Room 321

#### **Why Does Building Enclosure Matter and How the State of Utah is Moving the Needle**

**Presented by:** Chris Cox and Sawyer Hill,  
Utah Division of Facilities Construction and Management

This session highlights the importance of building enclosures in energy efficiency, resilience and comfort. Featuring Utah's High Performance Building Standard, it explores best practices for new construction and retrofits, addressing challenges in enhancing energy efficiency and durability. Case studies showcase Utah's leadership in sustainable construction across diverse climates.

### Room 320

#### **From Campus to Community: Cultivating Regeneration through Student Engagement**

**Presented by:** R. Giselle Bandle, Mercy Smith  
and Kate Anderson, Utah State University

Join Utah State University's Christensen Office of Service and Sustainability (COSAS) to explore how emerging leaders can drive positive change through regeneration. This session highlights COSAS programs: True Blue Reuse & Repair, promoting sustainable fashion and circular economy, and USU Harvest Rescue, addressing food security by rescuing surplus produce.

### Room 316

#### **Native Restoration of Urban and Suburban Lands**

**Presented by:** Steven Kelty, Endemic LC

Ecosystem services are lauded as essential to our daily lives, yet there are relatively few practitioners seeking to restore them where they will provide the most benefit: The places we live. Join us to discuss the challenges and best practices of urban restoration.



## Session 2 | 11:15 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.

### Room 404

#### Federal Funding, Pt. 2: Identifying Barriers and Creating Opportunity

**Presented by:** Jennifer Eden, Kevin Emerson and Max Becker, Utah Clean Energy; Caitlin McLennan, United Today, Stronger Tomorrow; Shawna Cuan, Sustain Energy Finance

Join your colleagues and technical experts to brainstorm paths toward a clean energy future in the current environment. Topics include: protecting federal programs; garnering political support; building innovative community networks and clean energy financing.

### Room 321

#### The Path to Zero Net Energy On-Site: Daybreak Library

**Presented by:** Holli Adams and Kenner Kingston, Place Collaborative; Ryan Henrie, Salt Lake County Facilities Management; Joey McNamee and Leslie Schow, Salt Lake County Library System

Our panel discussion and presentation will present how it takes all four parties - Owner, Operator, Construction Project Manager and Architect team to work together with the goal of energy reduction and achieving on-site (certifiable) net zero energy status.

### Room 320

#### Making Green Work: Our Clean Energy Workforce Challenge and the Benefits of Regional Action

**Presented by:** Nathan Chai, FUSE and Salt Lake City Sustainability Development

Across the US, we've created ambitious clean energy plans. Success requires a monumental infrastructure transition—and millions of skilled workers. Unfortunately, the occupations we need most are losing talent, and recruiting is slow. In this session, we'll explore our critical "green" workforce needs, as well as models and benefits of action.

### Room 316

#### Soil and Water Restoration... Really? How?

**Presented by:** Scott Dwire, Vortechs; Jennifer Mitchell, Natura Solve; John Webster, Go Biochar

Can adding beneficial microbes to depleted or polluted soils or water systems help restore the ecosystem's health by "Helping Nature do what she does best?" Yes, and biochar can also aid in this process. The symbiotic addition of both can supercharge the regenerative processes to augment these dwindling resources.

# Eco Expo

[Bernhard](#)

[Bridgerland Audubon Society](#)

[Campus Compact EnviroCorp](#)

[Citizens' Climate Lobby](#)

[Cache Valley Chapter](#)

[The Dignity Index](#)

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[TreeUtah](#)

[Utah Clean Air Partnership \(UCAIR\)](#)

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[Utah Rivers Council](#)

[Utah Yamas Control](#)

[Weber Industrial Training & Assessment Center \(WITAC\)](#)

[WSU College of Engineering, Applied Science & Technology](#)

Please let us know about your experience at the ISS, and be entered to win a **FREE 2026 REGISTRATION**.



## THANK YOU

ISS Advisory Committee (ISSAC) for playing a crucial role in shaping an engaging and informative summit experience.

### ISSAC MEMBERS:

Kaylee Anderson, Weber State University, AmeriCorps | Jenn Bodine, Utah Clean Energy | Sadie Braddock, Weber State University | Michelle Brown, State of Utah | Bonnie Christiansen, Weber State University | Kevin Emerson, Utah Clean Energy | Kase Johnstun, Utah Humanities, Utah Center for the Book | Lorenzo Long, Ogden City | Debbie Lyons, Salt Lake City Sustainability | Alice Mulder, Weber State University | Amy Wicks, Utah Rivers Council

# Student Poster Contest

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## Sustainability Research (Graduate)

Bayesian Optimization-Driven Battery Energy Storage Sizing with  
Electrochemical Degradation-Aware for Industrial Facilities

**Jiwei Yao, John Hedengren, Tao Gao, Kody M. Powell**, University of Utah and Brigham Young University

Biosecurity Strategies for Combating IUU Fishing: Protecting Ecosystems and Economies

**Spencer Anderson**, Utah State University

Exploring Climate Change Adaptation for Active Transportation Strategies:

What Can We Learn from Plans of Large U.S. Cities?

**Nawshin Tabassum, Alessandro Rigolon, Reid Ewing**, University of Utah

Great Salt Lake Biosecurity

**Jamie Parry**, Utah State University

Land Use Based Wildfire Planning for Unincorporated Communities:

An Analysis of CWPP in the Western US

**SurakshaBhandari, Divya Chandrasekhar, Tasnim Isaba, Francis Andre Loquellano**, University of Utah

Optimal Tree Planting Locations to Benefit South Salt Lake

**CorinneBahr, Benjamin Chandler, Bailey Guinn, Andrew Hughes,**

**Nate Shumway, Kawsar Uddin**, Utah State University

The Role of Non-Degree Credentials in Developing a Sustainable

Workforce in Electrified Transportation Infrastructure

**Foeday Zinnah, Angela Minichiello**, Utah State University

Techno-Economic Analysis of Renewable Energy Systems. Case Study: Salt Lake County

**Ali Khosravani, Matthew DeHaan, Blake Billings, Julia Sieving, Kody Powell**, University of Utah

Thawing Arctic Unleashes Biosecurity and Sustainability Challenges

**Logan Bolan**, Utah State University

## Sustainability Research (Undergraduate)

Air Pollution for Marginalized Groups in West Salt Lake Valley

**McKay Jones**, Utah Valley University

Mapping Potential Sidewalk Network Connectivity Improvements in Ogden, Utah

**Max Richmond**, Weber State University

Mitigating Herbivory Impacts on Aspen Forest Regeneration Through  
Fire and Mechanical Thinning in High-Grazing Landscapes

**Chloe Denham**, Brigham Young University

Size Matters? Park Cooling Counters Urban Heat Island Effects

**Ben Allan**, Weber State University

## Green Design

Designing Bus Stops to Mitigate Urban Heat Islands (UHIs)

**Parizad Saghari Chiha**, University of Utah

Peak Performance: Sustainable Energy Solutions at PC MARC

**Talon Townsend, Matthew R.T. Williams, Jiwei Yao, Matthew Millburn, Sam Protopapas**, University of Utah

Solar-Powered Water Purification: A Cost-Effective Approach for Clean Water Access

**Kevin Shurtleff, Nathanael Salazar**, Utah Valley University

## Sustainability in Action

Dismount Zone at Library Plaza

**Parizad Saghari Chiha**, University of Utah

Double Your Bucks

**Ella Leonelli**, Utah State University

From Trash to Treasure: Turning Textile Waste into Public Art

**Maggi Fessler**, Weber State University

The Future of Sustainable Ogden: Trails, Trees, & Trade

**Daniel Stewart, Jinni Messenger, Romina Aguado, Wil Blanch, Gerardo Castillo-Chacon, Isaac Espinosa, Jaxon Findlay, Santiago Olmedo**, Weber State University

Students and Sustainability: Preparing the Next Generation

**Elsie Guertin, Kelly Parsley, Emily Barnett**, Carroll College

True Blue Reuse & Repair: Promoting Sustainable Consumption at Utah State University

**Mercy Smith**, Utah State University

USU Harvest Rescue: Reducing Food Waste While Increasing Food Security

**Kate Anderson**, Utah State University

**This program is printed on recycled paper.**

## Sustainability Education

A Shift in Mindset Through Preservation and Waste Management

**Amy Crookston**, Weber State University

Beyond the Car: Aggie Blue Bike's Guide to Bicycle Commuting

**Gwendolyn Sepp**, Utah State University

Enhancing Wildfire Resilience in Salt Lake City: Strategies for Prevention and Mitigation

**Sarah Tahsin**, University of Utah

Exploring Mushroom Based Materials in Design

**Emily Swenson**, Weber State University

Hemp Textiles

**Mina Nydegger**, Weber State University

The Impact of the Fast Furniture Industry on Textile Waste

**Lerner Johnson**, Weber State University

Sea Kayaking and Sustainability on Antelope Island

**Jack Graves, Devin Hughes, Sean Mahdi**, Weber State University

**VOTE NOW!**



Vote for your favorite student poster by 1:30 p.m. and be entered to win prizes.

“The **greenest building** is the one that is **already built.**”

CARL ELEFANTE FAIA



Join the McKay Education Building tour,  
March 20 at 1:40 pm

**GSBS**  
ARCHITECTS

# WE'VE GOT BIG NEWS

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More details coming soon! Visit [www.bernhard.com](http://www.bernhard.com) for updates.

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# WE ARE MAKING THE ISS SUSTAINABLE BY

	Donating uneaten food to our local homeless shelter		Using washable china and flatware		Asking all of you to bring your reusable mugs and water bottles
Serving vegetarian and vegan meals		Composting all pre- and post-consumer food waste		Using washable napkins	
	Printing on post-consumer waste paper whenever possible		Encouraging carpooling and transit use		Powering the venue with over 20% renewable electricity
Avoiding single use creamer containers		Reusing lanyards (please return yours)		EV charging & solar covered parking	

Bringing Intermountain Sustainability Professionals (this means you) together to collaborate, and advance regenerative development!



## Be Sustainable. Be Brilliant.

[weber.edu/sustainability](http://weber.edu/sustainability)

# Afternoon Sessions

## Session 3 | 1:40 – 2:30 p.m.

### Room 404

#### Three Horizons of Regeneration: Using Three Horizons Facilitation and Game Play to Inform Community-Driven Climate Policy

**Presented by:** Caitlin McLennan, United Today, Stronger Tomorrow

Do you work with a group that's stuck on where to go next, eager to understand solutions to a complex challenge? Join us for an overview of the innovative Three Horizons framework and learn to lead groups from stagnation to shared understanding and transformative action. This session will begin with a brief case study of Utah State University's successful application of Three Horizons to meaningfully engage communities throughout Utah and train attendees to apply this technique in their own communities and organizations.

### Room 321

#### Electrifying Commercial Lawncare and Snow Removal

**Presented by:** Christoph Heinrich, Blue Planet Lawn

Join us for an insightful presentation on the transformative impact of electrification in the commercial lawncare and snow removal industries. In this session, we will explore how electric equipment is revolutionizing traditional outdoor maintenance practices through innovative technologies, and how our customers and the wider community benefit from this transition.

### Room 320

#### Heat and Health

**Presented by:** Dan Bedford, Aminda O'Hare, and Heather Root  
Weber State University

As global temperatures rise, heat waves become more frequent, more intense, and longer lasting. As such, understanding how heat affects us and what we can do to mitigate high heat effects is becoming more and more important. In this presentation, we will share perspectives on heat and health from psychology, geography, and botany perspectives. The audience will leave with an understanding of the interacting factors that contribute to our experience of heat and some practical tips on dealing with heat.

### Room 316

#### WSU McKay Education Building Tour

**Presented by:** Clio Rayner, GSBS Architects

The McKay Education Building tour explores the intersection of sustainable design and education spaces. This project pairs biophilic design with efficient use of space, energy and materials to create an educational environment



that inspires students of all ages. When complete the building will be fully electrified and utilize a rooftop solar array for some of its power needs.

This project is still under construction so **close-toed shoes are required** and hardhats and safety vests will be provided. There is a **max capacity of 24 attendees** for the tour.

## **Session 4 | 4:10 – 5:00 p.m.**

### **Room 404**

#### **How to Develop a Sustainability Plan In-House**

**Presented by:** Hannah Salzl, Provo City

As organizations face growing pressure to address their environmental impacts and long-term sustainability, developing a comprehensive plan can be a crucial tool for aligning actions and communicating commitments. In this presentation, learn how to guide your organization through the process of crafting its own effective, actionable and personalized sustainability plan.

### **Room 321**

#### **Lessons Learned in Local Government EV-Readiness**

**Presented by:** Kelbe Goupil, Utah Clean Energy; Lorenzo Long, Ogden City; Ray Milliner, Summit County; Peter Nelson, Salt Lake City Corporation

Many people residing in multifamily housing do not have access to EV charging. Local governments can address this gap in charging access by adopting EV-readiness programs. Utah Clean Energy will facilitate a discussion with 3 municipalities on the opportunities and challenges in EV-readiness and why local governments should prioritize EV-readiness.

### **Room 320**

#### **Decarbonization Through Care: Balancing Humanity and the Environment**

**Presented by:** Charlie Woodruff and Lyndsay Watkins, U.S. Green Building Council

The decarbonization of buildings and communities is rooted in a methodology of care – for the environment, for humans and striking a balance between them. This session will introduce strategies in LEED V5 for decarbonizing projects and expand on how these solutions support a framework for social and ecological impact consideration.

### **Room 316**

#### **Diffusing Utah's Multi-Billion Dollar Bomb: Great Salt Lake Dust**

**Presented by:** Amy Wicks and Zach Frankel, Utah Rivers Council

This session explores findings from a year of research, culminating in a report showcasing sobering findings regarding the consequences that drying up the Great Salt Lake could have on the health of the Wasatch Front residents and the costly mitigation measures that could be required to suppress dust if Utah doesn't succeed in raising Lake levels.

# Friday Workshops

**8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

## Room 404

### **From Data to Decisions: Building Leadership Consensus for Smarter, Energy-Focused Facility Upgrades**

**Presented by:** An Ho, Weber State University; Jim Crockett and Jane Guyer, Bernhard; Michael Reynolds and Jason Grooms, McKinstry

Join us for a comprehensive workshop focused on leveraging data-driven insights from your own facilities to build engagement and consensus in your organizations' key decision-making team on a path towards optimized energy performance and reduced operational costs. In these interactive sessions, you will use your own energy data to uncover performance trends, pinpoint opportunities for improvement, assess the suitability of state-of-the-shelf technologies and craft a strategic roadmap for your organization's future.

## Stewart Library, Room 321

### **Exploring How Utah Uses Water: The Role of Local Government and Public Policy in Preserving the Great Salt Lake Ecosystem**

**Presented by:** Amy Wicks, Zach Frankel and Elizabeth Weight, Utah Rivers Council; Lorenzo Long, Ogden City

This deep dive into water policy will provide an understanding of the challenges surrounding water that Utah is facing, with some tangible solutions including water conservation tools and policies participants can take back to their communities to ensure a sustainable and financially sound future – one that includes a healthy and stable Great Salt Lake ecosystem.

**1:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

## Room 404

### **Fora.ai: Reshaping Collaboration for Climate and Social Impact**

**Presented by:** Moira Zellner, Northeastern University

Fora.ai is an intuitive digital environment that enables diverse stakeholder groups to collaboratively interact with embedded simulation models to understand real world socio-environmental problems and create novel and impactful solutions. Stakeholders interact with this digital representation and with each other, iteratively creating, revising and testing solutions until diverse needs are addressed. Workshop participants will use Fora.ai's interactive game-board to collectively build green infrastructure solutions to flooding in a neighborhood in Chelsea, Massachusetts.

# Stewart Library, Room 321

## Advocacy Action Tools for Bipartisan Policy Solutions

Presented by: Bill Barron and Karen Jackson, Citizens' Climate Lobby; Andrew Watt, University of Utah

Participants will explore tools to advocate for policy solutions that benefit their communities with hands-on practice focused on building political will for bipartisan climate solutions through lobbying role-play, and writing for impact. We will provide techniques that can be used for advocacy at any level of government.



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