

FOR STUDENTS

Envision your future and take the first step towards creating it. Learn, create, have fun and make new friends.

APRIL

- Movie screenings and new climate venture competition for students
- Educational webinars and community building for residents and businesses
- Community Climate SWOT Analysis

ALL TOGETHER NOW, SOUTHERN ILLINOIS!

It's time for a clean recovery for all in 2021. This April and May we're **learning about and organizing** our clean energy and climate ventures and target actions **to make our lives and our communities** safer, more prosperous, and healthier **by building our resilience to climate change.**

FOR RESIDENTS

Simplify and improve your life by learning about and taking target actions. Improve health, save money and earn rewards.



MAY

- Four regional community listening forums covering 19 counties from Madison - Hardin
- Community members express ideas and concerns and get expert feedback on resources and options for clean energy, local food, water, waste and funding.

FOR BUSINESS

Show your community commitment and address business and financial risks from climate change.

VISIT WWW.ALLTOGETHERNOWSI.COM OR CALL **618.713.2896**
FOR MORE INFO. SPONSORS: JUST TRANSITION FUND, THE CLIMATE
ECONOMY EDUCATION INC, SHOPSOUTHERNILLINOIS.COM.

April is Earth Month! To celebrate, we are doing it up on education!

This is part of the www.AllTogetherNowSI.com Climate Economy Community Kickoff Events for southern Illinois in Spring 2021. So much good stuff is coming our way! Participate in these events, sign up on CLEANetwork.com, get your business signed up as a sponsor on ShopSouthernIllinois.com, get your kids' school signed up for Youth Climate Economy Ventures, let's do this! Read on for more info. Attending the events to learn about these things is a key "target action" for April. You can get rewards for target actions, including points on CLEANetwork.com. Everyone who is signed up on CLEANetwork.com gets 100 points on their profile for each event attendance. Southern Illinois is stronger together. 

April Webinar Events

Wednesday, April 14, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Round-Table Discussion

Topic: Go Solar SI!

Join our panelists for the latest updates on everything related to going solar in southern Illinois. Solar energy has a great return on investment, improves the air quality and creates jobs in our communities. A lot of things are happening that people need to be aware of. Q&A will follow presentations. Here are our panelists for April 14:

- Beau Henson will talk about [Solarize SI](#), the solar group buy program that is currently underway
- Aur Beck of AES Solar, will talk about [Coal2Sol](#), a solar program for nonprofits
- Shannon Fulton of StraightUp Solar will talk about "Cooperative Owners for Solar"
- Scott Allen of the Citizens Utility Board will talk about the [Illinois Clean Energy Jobs Act](#)

Registration required, register at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUoduyuqT4jE9wOLd-E11zmxndFg6qxKZ5>

Tuesday, April 20, 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Lunch-n-Learn Educational Webinar

Topic: Hydroponics and Indoor Gardening Opportunities in our Communities

Join us for a lunch-n-learn at noon on Tuesday, April 20. Kicking off our focus-on-food day of events with a double feature! You're not going to want to miss this one.

- Hilary Scott-Ogunride of [Macedonia Development Corporation](#) is going to tell us about [SLIP, St. Louis Indoor Produce](#), their innovative business model and sustainable lighting solutions
- Monica Gehrig of Green Our Planet is going to talk about their nationwide [K-5 Hydroponics STEM Program](#)

Registration required, register at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAkdOqhjwEtHKIkx86BRhzEQ0mjoUlW5m>

Tuesday, April 20, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Round Table Discussion

Topic: Local Food and Farming

Join our "Local Food and Farms Round Table Discussion" to learn about some existing local farm and food efforts, how you can get involved, and how you can work to start up new initiatives in your community. Q&A will follow presentations.

- Marilyn Tipton - [Food Autonomy](#) Group in Carbondale - Coalition of Community Gardens and Chicken Coops
- Jennifer Paulson - [Food Works](#) - Local Food System Development
- Marcella Woodson - Men of Power-Women of Strength - [Cairo Community Gardens](#)
- Stephanie Taylor - [Community Development Sustainable Solutions of East St. Louis](#) - Urban Agriculture Experience
- [Illinois Stewardship Alliance](#) - Latest Illinois farm and food legislation news
- Shantanu Pai, [Illinois Sustainable Technology Center](#), Food Waste and Farm-to-Food-Bank Survey, Technical Assistance Program

Registration required, register at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpd-igqjlsE93qMonUYKZ0Wh5FYyjjUZZc>

Wednesday, April 21, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Educational Webinar

Topic: [ReGen Villages](#): The Future of Public Housing

Presented by James Ehrlich with Q&A following presentation.

- Engineering and facilitating the development of integrated and resilient neighborhoods that power and feed self reliant families around the world.
- Using artificial intelligence and machine learning algorithms to enable thriving and flourishing communities with surplus energy, clean water, high-yield organic food that support urgently needed neighborhood regenerative resiliency.
- Partnering with regional land developers, architects, construction, universities and brand manufacturing firms to maximize cost-benefit efficiency that enable global scaling of development projects.

Registration required, register at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvdO2oqzMrGNHZErxSmCclrh0LnoP839jX>

Thursday, April 22, EARTH DAY

GO OUTSIDE AND ENJOY MOTHER EARTH!

Friday, April 23, 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Lunch-n-Learn Educational Webinar

**Topic: Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy: A Plan for Jobs and
Community Resilience**

"Rural America will save us all," according to Tim Michels, [Energy Resources Group](#). "The key for rural America is to see the potential and see the change as an opportunity rather than a threat."

Join us Friday April 23 for a look at a plan for revitalizing and strengthening our southern Illinois communities and growing jobs with energy efficiency and renewable energy. Over the years, Mr. Michels has developed a variety of appropriate technologies, building designs, and economic development plans to meet the needs of economically disadvantaged populations. He visited Carbondale in June 2019 for the first Climate Economy Kickoff Event and you can view his participation on the Clean Energy discussion panel [here](#). With more time to talk this time around, Tim's going to go into much more detail on how to get past "net-zero" to "restorative." Here are his three steps for starting:

1. Develop an Energy Investment Policy to define "cost effective" based on:
 - Energy Costs
 - Maintenance Costs
 - Life Cycle Replacement Costs
 - Useful life of the equipment/building
 - Cost of CO2 Emissions
 - Cost of Money
2. Develop a Master Plan of Attack
3. Find the Money

Registration required, register at

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZl5fuuhpz4pE9BrvMCxMKWvwfU_e5jkCbJD

Tuesday, April 27, 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Lunch-n-Learn Educational Webinar

Topic: Biochar and Our Southern Illinois Local Carbon Network

Dr. Paul Anderson has long experience in biochar equipment and producing biochar, and he'll be sharing some of his insights for southern Illinois. Also, a new local group is aiming to establish a "local carbon network" for collecting local organic non-food waste and forestry waste to produce biochar, combining it with local food waste compost, and supplementing our soil. There are many benefits of applying biochar to soil. There are also many other uses of biochar. We'll be launching our new local carbon network over this event and the coming months.

Registration required, register at

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpfumprij4iHtUY8D_daMgJNbj3xXo-XboH

Throughout April - It is ON

This effort is not a one-off April-only thing. It's going to continue throughout the year and hopefully beyond. Here are the focus areas for April.

- CLIMATE SWOT - Learn about the Community Climate SWOT course and surveys at <http://cleanetwork.com/climate-swot>, or fill out the form attached below. A course and survey is available online where everyone in our community can provide their thoughts and input on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of our homes, communities and businesses in the face of clean energy and climate change. We will use the results of the April Climate SWOT survey to inform our community listening forum events coming up in May, times and dates still TBA. Everyone who completes the course and surveys online will earn points on their CLEANetwork.com profile.
- YOUTH CLIMATE ECONOMY VENTURES - High schoolers and students of all ages can register on the [YCEV Hub](#). We are asking students to complete Step 1 of a new climate venture, which includes envisioning the future we want to see, determining the target actions we need to take to get there, and looking at the related problem actions in our current situation. We have inspirational videos available for screening for your class or group, and we have a list of inspiration at The Hub also. For info about screenings contact Amy at 618-713-2896 or email amy@theclimateeconomy.com. Students that submit Step 1 on The Hub can share their ideas if they want at the upcoming community listening forums in May, dates and times TBD.
- [PARACHUTES FOR THE PLANET](#) - The Climate Economy Education Inc has 10 parachutes available for elementary, home or high school groups that want to create their climate parachute and make an impact on the world. Just call Amy at 618-713-2896 or email amy@theclimateeconomy.com. Our local efforts are super important and we can show our love for Mother Earth every day. All groups that make a parachute can have it displayed as part of our May community listening forums in May, dates and times TBD.
- SPONSOR AND SUPPORTER SIGNUPS - These efforts are supported through a unique model of support for local businesses. Half of the proceeds for local business packages at the shop local platform at www.ShopSouthernIllinois.com go towards a tax-deductible donation to support all the activities above and continuing these activities over the coming months. You can sign up at the link above or go to www.AllTogetherNowSI.com and pick a package. All packages include setup support for your business on the platform. Also, donations from individuals are also welcome and appreciated! Payments can be made monthly or annually.

All Together Now, Southern Illinois! Quiz

It's time for all of us who love our southern Illinois home to band together and own our future. We have the power in our hearts, minds and hands to create the inclusive, prosperous, healthy future we want to see for current and future generations. We also have a blueprint of opportunities thanks to the current transition that is underway towards **clean, renewable energy** and **mitigation and adaptation to climate change**. The Climate Economy Education Inc, a local 501(c)(3) nonprofit for education on lifestyles and business models that are good for the climate, economy and humanity, works to provide the education and tools you need to get prepared for this future. You can take this simple quiz here and send it in or go to our online community to fill it out. The biggest effects from the two transitions above are likely to mean the following for southern Illinois:

1. Jobs in clean energy, especially solar and possibly biomass waste, will grow and replace jobs being lost from closing coal plants. It's the economy! Solar is cheapest.
2. Electric vehicles, bikes and walking will mean lower car costs and communities with less pollution and noise. It's the economy! EV's are cheaper over their lifetime, we can learn to recycle the batteries, and people like clean air and healthy bodies.
3. We waste $\frac{1}{3}$ of the food we purchase and consume, often shipped from afar, and this is a massive contributor to climate change. Many people are unhealthy because of all the processed food and lack of access to fruit and vegetables. We can do better by growing our own!
4. A lot of southern Illinois' productivity is centered around natural beauty and outdoor work and activities. With climate change, we have increasing risks of extreme weather events and drought and heat waves. It's climate change! Mostly because of fossil fuels from #1 and 2, and we know what to do to fix it.

Based on these three statements, think about your home, community and region (referred to collectively below as "your community"). Add contact info below, or visit www.AllTogetherNowSI.com, which takes you to the CLimate Economy Action Network and an entire online course on the topic of Climate SWOT Analysis.

1. What are the existing **strengths** internal to your community in the face of clean energy and climate change? _____
2. What are the existing **weaknesses** internal to your community in the face of clean energy and climate change? _____
3. What are the potential **opportunities** from external forces on your community in the face of clean energy and climate change? _____
4. What are the potential **threats** from external forces on your community in the face of clean energy and climate change? _____

Please send back your answers to The Climate Economy Education Inc, 1700 Robinson Hill Road, Makanda IL 62958, or sign up on the CLimate Economy Action Network via www.alltogethernowsi.com and take this quiz, earn rewards, monitor your progress and participate in online and offline activities. **To become a business or individual financial sponsor** of clean energy and climate economic growth education, please apply online or fill out the following info and we will contact you (visit the website for sponsor package perks):

Contact name: _____

Business name (leave blank to sponsor as individual): _____

Contact email or phone: _____

Sponsor package (circle one): Gold: \$1,100 paid annually, \$100/month paid monthly, 50% tax deductible for business, 100% for individuals; Silver: \$550 paid annually, \$50/month paid monthly, 50% tax deductible for business, 100% for individuals; Bronze: \$250 annually, 100% tax deductible; include check or money order with this form or call to make a phone order.

Questions? Call Amy McMorrow Hunter, 618.713.2896 or email amy@theclimateeconomy.com.