

# Climate Stick Introduction

## Lesson 1



When carbon is burned, heat and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) are produced.

Gray is CO<sub>2</sub> that will come from burning the carbon that the fossil fuel industry says it will burn in the next 50 years.

Black is harmful CO<sub>2</sub> added since 1800 from carbon burning

Green is good CO<sub>2</sub> creating our historical climate.

## Lesson 2



The Yellow Stripe in the Black is 350ppm of CO<sub>2</sub> which is the limit of CO<sub>2</sub> for us to have a historical (normal) climate.

## Lesson 3



Red is fossil fuel folly with no one left to burn carbon.

Large Yellow Band is CO<sub>2</sub> that brings us to loss of agriculture and near extinction.

Red and Large Yellow Bands are the CO<sub>2</sub> that will come from burning the carbon that the fossil fuel industry says it will burn in the next 50 years.

## Lesson 4

The terrible future does not need to happen! There is time for a mass movement to end carbon burning that prevents the worst of Climate Change. But it needs you to learn more. And act.

More information at [www.climatestick.org](http://www.climatestick.org)

## What is the Climate Stick Project, Inc.? (From FAQ)

The Climate Stick Project, Inc. is a Michigan non-profit corporation that exists to educate people about the harm from the burning of fossil fuels and to support conservation and the development of sustainable energy.

## What is a Climate Stick?

The Climate Stick is a teaching tool that helps with the education needed to eliminate fossil fuel burning, achieve sustainable energy production and conserve energy in these ways:

- The physical Climate Stick is marked so that the increase in the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the earth's atmosphere from human activity is displayed for use in discussions about climate change
- A pendant or pin version of the Climate Stick (made of plant material) is used to communicate a person's membership in the mass movement to end the burning of carbon
- Donations for Climate Stick pendants, pins and apparel help pay for Climate Sticks and to support the educational activities of the Climate Stick Project.

## More details about the Climate Stick (From Simple Climate Stick Facts)



RED and YELLOW are CO<sub>2</sub> from burning the carbon on the books of the fossil fuel industry. As temperature increase approaches 58.6°F (As the YELLOW approaches the RED) the ability of world food production to meet human needs will be drastically reduced.

YELLOW is the maximum amount of CO<sub>2</sub> that the atmosphere can hold before heating makes agriculture unsustainable. Predictions are that we have 6 years to end the burning of carbon (by 2025) so that we do not reach the RED by 2039 plus or minus 5 years.

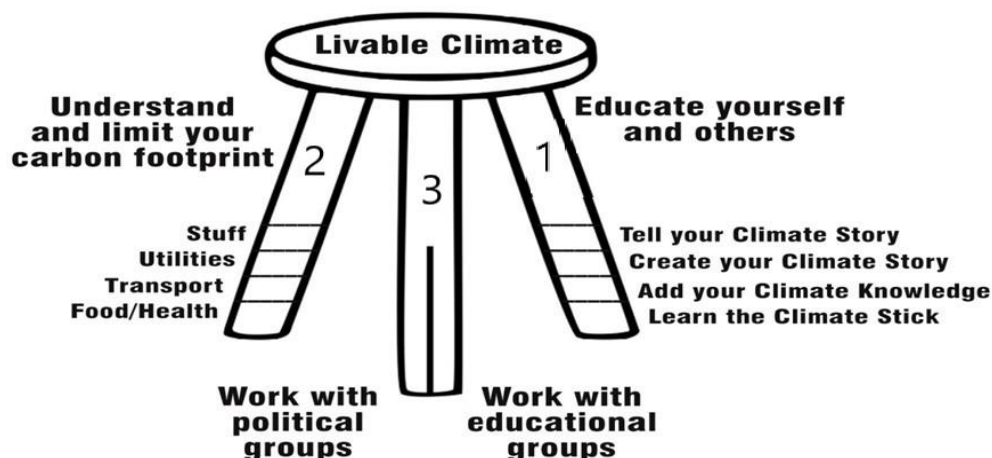
YELLOW line (past in 1988) is 350ppm of CO<sub>2</sub>, the maximum level of CO<sub>2</sub> that sustains our human population.

BLACK is CO<sub>2</sub> added by humans burning carbon since 1804 (1 billion population) reaching 414ppm in May 2019 with temperature increase of 1.6°F.

GREEN is CO<sub>2</sub> at 275ppm that supported human population growth for 800,000 years with an average temperature of 55°F.



## Sustainability Stool



From [ClimateStick.org/SustainabilityStool.html](http://ClimateStick.org/SustainabilityStool.html)

Polling has found that 60 to 70% of the US population has concerns about climate change. Yet there is a culture of silence that makes discussion very difficult. Polling also reveals that many of the same people who are concerned about climate change think negatively about those who discuss it in the media. The way to break this culture of silence is to “TALK CLIMATE”.

The feelings of “I’m alone”, “I do not know enough” and “how can I do anything about this huge problem?”, all prevent a mass movement of people who do oppose burning carbon and who want to make rational choices to preserve a livable climate. The Sustainability Stool helps you to create your own Climate Story with the Climate Stick so you can comfortably “TALK CLIMATE”.

The three legs are described on the reverse.

## Sustainability Stool Page 2

**Leg 1 Educate Yourself (and create your Climate Story):** Most people already have a great deal of information about Climate Change and more information and images come in their view every day. The problem for a person who wants to understand and do something about Climate Change is that they need a way to organize some of this information so they can get a Climate Story that they are comfortable using in conversations with other people. That is what the Climate Stick is for. It is a starting point with the basic facts about CO<sub>2</sub> right in front of you.

The process to get your Climate Story is to see what parts of the climate issue you are most comfortable with and then use that with the Climate Stick to develop your own Climate Story. There will be stock parts from the Climate Stick and unique parts that come from your concerns and the desired actions you want to take.

**Leg 2 Personal Carbon Footprint Choices:** Make choices that reflect your understanding that we must reduce our energy use and non-essential purchases now.

Food/Health Moving from eating a lot of red meat, to small amounts, or turning to chicken and fish only, or to a plant based diet without dairy products is a progression that reduces your carbon footprint (the move from red meat to chicken is an eightfold reduction in your carbon footprint) and makes a positive effect on your health.

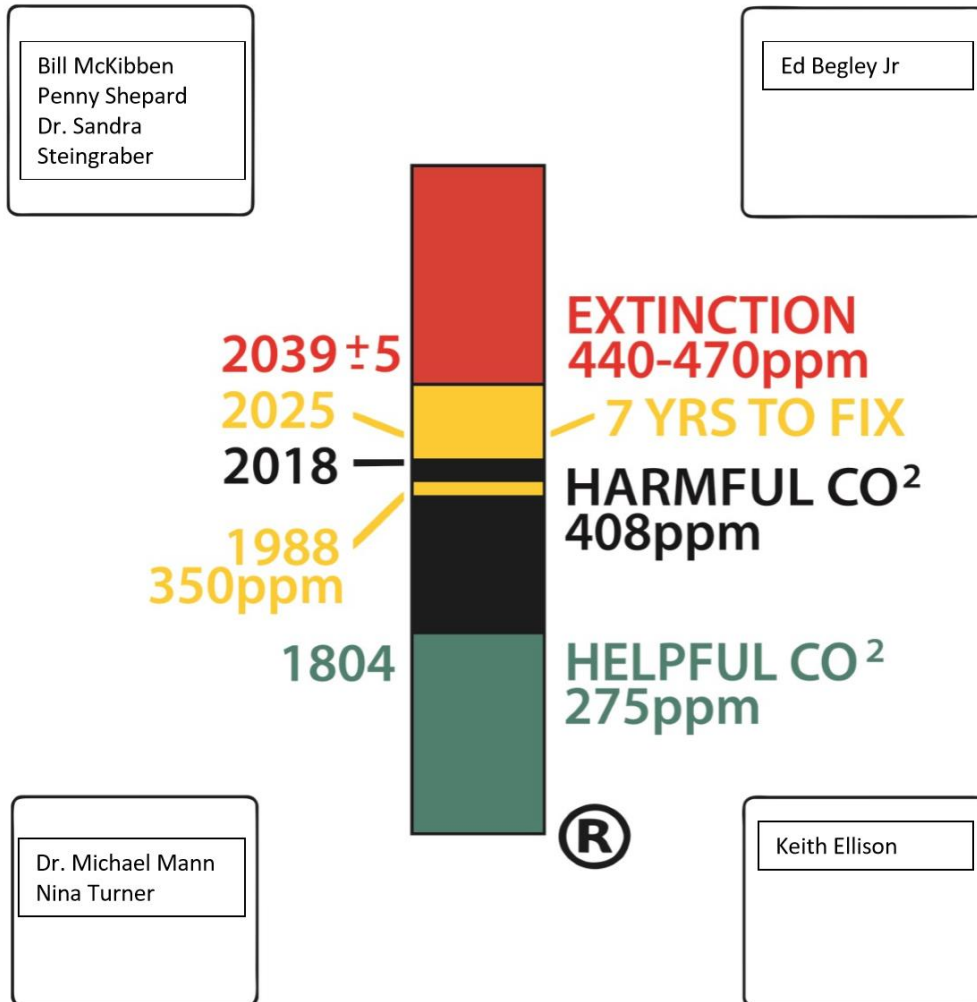
Utilities/Transportation People, for example, commonly consider reduction in energy cost in a variety of ways in their normal decisions about transportation, home heating and electrical use. New technologies focused on homes can bring about greater savings, and integrating walking and bike riding can provide double benefits from reduced cost and improved personal health.

Stuff Use a carbon footprint analysis (do I really need this?) when thinking about buying that next thing. Children are given so many presents in the first 3 years of their lives that are really just a way for grandparents to feel happy. That stuff (and all the other feel good stuff purchased) is like a big deadly bullet they are sending to these little ones when they are in their twenties or thirties. Your stuff takes energy to make and “is it worth it to my children and grandchildren?” should be question that is asked about every purchase.

**Leg 3 Working in Groups for Survival:** Once you have a personal Climate Story then you can use it to inform others of your feelings about the unpleasant results of our not doing enough, quickly enough, to end the burning of carbon. When there are two of you, you have a group to share the work of informing and motivation others. As your little group grows you will find organized groups, or you may already belong to an organized group or two. Bring your knowledge and your story about Climate Change to these groups formally and informally.

For some people the idea or possibility of working in an overt political way is not an option, and for them working with a non-profit organization that presents educational information may be the only way to work in a formally organized group. But for most people with the desire to do more now, political work is a must.

## Join these Climate Stick Supporters



and Talk Climate with friends and family

More Info at [www.CS4US.org](http://www.CS4US.org)

## Why you do NOT want to talk about Climate Change?

The difficulty of communicating to others about climate change has always had two general barriers to getting the word out.

- An individual's reluctance to talk about unpleasant things
- The "How can I do something about this immense problem?" (the Only Me Problem)

In 2019 most people know a lot about climate change, too much actually. Many of the 60 to 70 per cent who are concerned do not feel competent to participate in a discussion about it.

It is a "wicked" problem because, as George Marshal explains in Don't Even Think About It, there are so many barriers to discussing our climate problems that there is a **cone of silence** that shuts down discussion:

- It is woven into many other issues: economics, foreign policy, social justice, food production and health (the Totality Problem)
- Billions have been spent to pollute the discussion with bad science
- It concerns people dying now, and the possibility of extinction of all form of higher life, us included
- Needed changes and adaptations require changes than may negatively affect some people
- Possible solutions are varied and they change as time goes on.

The Climate Stick helps you break **the cone of silence** by telling your Climate Story and by having your name listed for your city as a Climate Stick Supporter on our website (as seen below). For example Michigan has 174 Supporters with 57 from Bay City.

### From the Supporters Page (part of one page out of nine) Total Supporters: 209

Country	State/Prov.	City	Last	First	Middle	Fellows
United States	Michigan	Bay City	Shultz	Deb		
		Bay City	McComb	Carrie		
		Bay City	Johnroe	Jordan	T	
		Bay City	Simons	Edna		
		Bay City	Snable	Skyla		
		Bay City	Duso	Daniel	C	
		Bay City	Redmond	Robert	J	
		Bay City	Laskowski	Kimberly	A	
		Bay City	Jacobs	Whitney	A	
		Bay City	Seeber	Sonja		
		Bay City	Childs	Bill		
		Bay City	Mastroiann	Rick	G	