

Climate Change - Virginia is on the Frontlines

We need a 100% clean economy and that starts right here in Virginia.

Climate change is not a distant threat. It's impacting our economy, our business infrastructure, and our health. Sea level rise in Norfolk has increased the likelihood of the city exceeding flood warning levels by 400%.

Temperatures are rising, with some parts of the state seeing more than 14 additional extreme heat days, compared to the 1970s. Mosquito season is expanding. Increasingly heavy downpours are stressing already deteriorating infrastructure.



If we don't act, things will get much worse. By 2050

Virginia's coastal flood threat may increase by 75%, and the number of heavy rainfall events could double. Heat waves could become more common, with the number of extremely dangerous heat days in the state increasing over 400%.

100% Clean is 100% Achievable. If we're serious about beating climate change, we need to be fully committed to a **100% clean economy**. The U.S. must stop adding climate pollution to the atmosphere -- producing no more climate pollution than we can remove by 2050. **It's an ambitious goal. But it's achievable if we start now. There's no time to waste.**

Across the United States, we're already making progress. Solar power in the U.S. is nearly 90% [cheaper](#) than it was a decade ago. Wind power is almost 70% cheaper. Electricity from renewables is now [cheaper](#) than power from 75% of U.S. coal plants. Strategies to remove climate pollution are gaining ground. More than 4 million Americans already [work](#) in wind, solar, energy efficiency and other clean energy jobs. [More Americans work in solar](#) alone than in coal and oil and gas powered electricity generation combined.

Virginia is beginning to move toward cleaner energy: Virginia has long lagged behind other states in terms of reaching its clean energy potential, missing out on tens of thousands of good paying jobs, but is beginning to catch up. Governor Northam has set a goal of moving the state to [100% clean electricity](#) by 2050, and the legislature has adopted bills that would help ensure 100% carbon-free power in the state by 2045, have the Commonwealth join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, as well as advance energy efficiency and renewables in the state.

As climate impacts continue to increase, we need bold action from Congress to protect Virginians and create a 100% clean economy.

Here's what you can do to help grow a 100% clean economy:

Contact elected officials: They need to know you support a 100% clean economy.

Join EDF at [edf.org/signup](https://www.edf.org/signup): We'll help you get involved.

Talk to your employer: Check out Defend Our Future's [guide](#) to corporate engagement to find out how your voice can be the tipping point that helps companies raise their ambition on climate.

Hold an event: Get your friends together and spread the word. Check out this [guide](#).