



July 2025

Hello ChathamCAN Community,

ChathamCAN is working with CORE (Community Organizing for Racial Equity) to flesh out our strategy to work with frontline communities in Chatham County. We received a \$40,000 grant over the next 2 years to expand our climate justice work. If you have ideas or would like to get involved directly in this work, reply to this newsletter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CALLS FOR ACTION AND RESOURCES

Pittsboro Climate Action Plan Survey

Only 5 more days to complete Pittsboro's Climate Action Plan survey. Don't miss the opportunity to make your voice heard! We encourage you to make strong recommendations about land use (consult our [website](#) for ideas about climate friendly/community friendly development). And please do not support hybrid vehicles. Hybrids are the Business-As-Usual response and will never deliver the greenhouse gas savings we need that EVs will. The survey is open until **July 7, 2025**.

Update on Petition to Pittsboro Town Board to hold Chatham Park Investors Accountable

We have had overwhelming support for the petition we began circulating 3 weeks ago regarding Chatham Park Investors' proposal for a single, massive 5,000-acre "small area plan." (For more information about the plan click [here](#).) We have collected over 800 signatures and will continue to collect signatures until we present the petition to the Pittsboro Planning Board at their meeting on Monday, July 21st at 6:00 pm at the Agricultural and Conference Center. You can help this effort by signing the petition, encouraging others to sign (via social media of all kinds, email, and/or asking us for paper copies) and showing up for the meeting. Please consider speaking during the public comment period (and even if you don't speak, your presence shows support). Read and **sign the petition [here](#)**.

Waste and Recycling Enthusiast Program (WREP)

Solid Waste & Recycling has a new program for those Chatham County residents interested in learning more about recycling, waste reduction, composting, environmental justice, and want to participate in community engagement. The Waste and Recycling Enthusiast Program (WREP) includes a series of classes, with the first session of the 2025 cohort starting in September. Applications opened June 1st. Learn more about WREP and how to sign up at www.chathamcountync.gov/wrep

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Chatham Habitat for Humanity

www.chathamhabitat.org/

Chatham Habitat for Humanity creates self-help opportunities for families to own affordable homes, improve their lives, and strengthen their communities and opportunities to volunteer. Of particular climate interest is a planned project, Roberts Run, which will be their largest Habitat community to date and which will feature 72 affordable townhouses. Habitat also actively incorporates solar panels into their homes to reduce energy costs for homeowners and to promote sustainable building practices



UPDATES, FOLLOW UP AND RESOURCES

ChathamCAN has started a waste and recycling interest group! Reply to this email if you're interested in getting involved.

See the ChathamCAN website for information on **Risk and Resilience**, click on the [Community Conversations](#) tab. Give us feedback and suggestions about our website by replying to this email.

Extreme Heat Alerts To register and receive email alerts, complete this [form](#) provided by NCDHHS. This system is a key tool to keep the community informed and protected during the hottest days of the year. Help prevent heat-related illnesses and protect public health in Chatham County and NC.

NEXT QUARTERLY GATHERING

Current plans are to focus on Alternative Transportation to coincide with a countywide survey by the Chatham County Planning Department - Likely date is the end of September.

WHAT WE'RE READING/WATCHING/LISTENING TO (send us your favorites!)

[Human Nature: Nine Ways to Feel About Our Changing Planet](#) 2025 by climate scientist, Kate Marvel.

Wise, heartfelt, funny (yes, she's funny!) and entirely human - a great read!

[N.C. Has Allowed a Likely Carcinogen Into Three Rivers Serving 900,000 People](#) by local journalist, Lisa Sorg in *Inside Climate News* June 29, 2025. Chatham County is impacted. Haw

River Assembly and Cape Fear River Watch are suing. Southern Environmental Law Center is representing them.

NPR's [Climate Solutions Week](#). One [episode](#) in particular stands out on jointly tackling the housing crisis and climate change.

From the *New York Times*' 50 States, 50 Fixes series, a planned community taking a "completely different" approach to development that does not include cars : [Living carfree in Arizona](#).

Betsy, Carmen, Lenore, Maura, Meredith and Vickie - organizing for ChathamCAN

P.S. Please forward this email to others who might be interested in being a part of ChathamCAN. Let us know if you'd like for us to remove you from our mailing list.