



January 2025

Hello ChathamCAN Community,

Mark your calendars now for our next gathering: **Risk and Resilience: Weathering the Climate Crisis in Chatham County** on **Thursday, 2/20/25** (more below).

As we enter 2025, are you making any climate resolutions? We'd love to hear about them. Reply to this email if you'd like to share. Many organizations offer suggestions: Project Drawdown [The Most Important Climate Solution is You](#); Sierra Club [Here are five ideas that can help you make a positive impact this year](#). In the past, noted climate scientist and communicator, Katharine Hayhoe has adopted two climate-friendly habits each year. She says, "This year, though, I'm prioritizing something deeper: **love**. Surveys around the world show people support climate action because of love—for their kids, future generations, the things and places they cherish. Spending time with the people we love, in the places we love, doing the things we love, is what gives us the motivation to act, and to care." This is a New Year's resolution we can all make!

## UPDATES AND FOLLOW UP

### Chatham County Board of Commissioners (BOC)

Click to read Commissioner Amanda Robertson's [remarks](#) at her inauguration. The Board of Commissioners held a 3-day retreat this month where "addressing the impacts of climate change" featured prominently in their priorities for the coming year. From Commissioner Robertson, "I am thrilled with what we accomplished today for climate change initiatives in Chatham going forward! It is now soundly a board priority and will be included in all areas going forward." Thank you Chatham County Board of Commissioners for stepping up to the challenge!

**See the ChathamCAN website** for updated information on food waste diversion click on the [Community Conversations](#) tab. Give us feedback and suggestions by replying to this email.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, CALLS FOR ACTION AND RESOURCES

**Earth Day at The Plant** Nita Dukes will be demonstrating how to make kids' gardens out of small cardboard boxes and holding a workshop to make seed orbs with flowers or vegetables. If you can help with preparations, contact Nita at [ms88fruit@gmail.com](mailto:ms88fruit@gmail.com)

## NEXT QUARTERLY GATHERING

**Risk and Resilience: Weathering the Climate Crisis in Chatham County**

**Thursday, February 20, 2024 Holmes Family Room - Chatham Community Library 6-8pm.**  
Panelists: Robbie Cox, Chair, Climate Change Advisory Committee; Anayance Estacio, Education Program Coordinator, Environmental Quality Department; Anne Lowery, Director, Environmental Health; Tandy Jones (invited), Chatham County Farmer. Commissioner Amanda Robertson will announce an opportunity for input into Chatham's planning for climate solutions. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

## **PARTNER SPOTLIGHT**


### **Chatham Environmental Quality Department**

[www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-a-h/environmental-quality](http://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-a-h/environmental-quality)

Two Divisions are housed in the department: Solid Waste & Recycling and Sustainability. The department director, Kevin Lindley (not pictured), is also Chatham's Sustainability Director. Shannon Culpepper (left) is the Recycling and Education Specialist and Anayancy Estacio (right) is Education Program Coordinator. Department programs and initiatives include Climate Change Advisory Committee, Waste and Recycling Enthusiast Program (WREP), and the upcoming Community Compost pilot.



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

- NYT opinion "[As a Climate Scientist, I Knew It Was Time to Leave Los Angeles](#)" (gift article) He now lives in Chapel Hill
- Robin Wall Kimmerer, author of *Braiding Sweetgrass*, has a new book! [The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World](#) 2024
- Climate Action Now app. Easy climate actions you can take every day (5 minutes or less!) <https://www.climateactionnow.com/>
- Excellent video: **Climate: Minutes to Midnight?** With Katharine Hayhoe, Michael Mann and Britt Wray  [Common Ground: Season 3, Ep.3 "Climate: Minutes to Midnight?"](#)
- Yale Program on Climate Change - help others find ways to take action [solutions hub](#)
- Resources for personal resilience - <https://www.unthinkable.earth/resources>

Despite the looming challenges of 2025, there are many opportunities for us to be involved and work for the future we want to see. We're so grateful you're part of this community!

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

*P.S. Feel free to 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.*