



October 2025

Hello ChathamCAN Community,

Lots going on with climate solutions in Chatham County and lots of actions to take!

Thanks for helping move solutions forward in Chatham County. Please join us for the next ChathamCAN community conversation in partnership with NC WARN for the screening of **The True Cost of Power: Duke Energy's Climate Deception**. The meeting will be held **Thursday, November 6th** (see details below and attached flyer). We will share stories about how climate change - including the recent devastation from tropical storm Chantal - is affecting us now and we'll learn about an important new initiative from NC WARN.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CALLS FOR ACTION AND RESOURCES

VOTE!

Municipal elections are underway for cities in Chatham County (even if you can't vote, encourage your friends in Pittsboro and Siler City to vote). Great news! The Sierra Club endorsed **Candace Hunziger** and **Tiana Thurber** in the Pittsboro election. From Town Commissioner John Bonitz, "Tiana and Candace have already distinguished themselves in a crowded field of candidates as the only two who are at nearly every Commissioners meeting and Planning Board meeting since they filed to run. Coincidentally, they've both personally endured impacts from stormwater flooding. And they also both bring impressive resumes of prior work experience. Most importantly, they share our values, and are driven by their hearts, with keen minds for the facts. I admire both Candace and Tiana for their passion and dedication to building Pittsboro's future the right way."

GIVE FEEDBACK AND INPUT

Chatham Park South Village Small Area Plan Proposal

Update Great news! At their meeting on 10/20, the Planning Board unanimously voted to urge the Pittsboro Board of Commissioners to stand firm on rejecting Chatham Park Investors' (CPI) proposal to substitute one massive plan in place of the 16 small area plans in the South Village originally proposed.

Survey We encourage you to give feedback to Pittsboro through this [survey](#) [hurry - the survey **closes on 10/29**] as they gather more input from the community on the small area plan, which will guide land use, transportation, utilities, parks and open space, environmental stewardship, and community character within the South Village area of Chatham Park. The survey invites residents, business owners, and stakeholders from

across Pittsboro and Chatham County to share their priorities, concerns, and ideas as the Board of Commissioners reviews and considers the draft plan. Critical issues to consider in giving feedback are: 1) preserving representative democracy / authority; 2) saving more farms and forests; 3) reducing future climate impact by growing compactly, with walkability and true "live-work-play".

Show up PBO Commissioners Meeting. Let's show up en masse Monday, November 10th when the Board of Commissioners weighs-in on the Chatham Park Investors Small Area Plan proposal at 6:00 pm at the Chatham Ag Center.

Pittsboro draft Climate Action Plan If you were unable to attend the in-person session to give feedback or if you attended but want to share additional ideas, go [here](#). To view the draft plan go [here](#).

Move Chatham Chatham County is conducting a study and inviting public input to better understand perceptions of current choices and future needs for all modes of transportation—automotive, public transit, cycling, and walking. Transportation is the biggest emitter of climate pollution in Chatham and the US. This is hugely important for our climate! Insights from this effort will help shape a forthcoming planning initiative aimed at developing a long-term vision for multi-modal travel throughout Chatham County and connection to its neighbors. We urge you to complete the [survey](#). **A well thought out sustainable transportation plan is vital as our county is growing exponentially and climate change is accelerating.**

EPA Hearing The city of Asheboro and its Wastewater Treatment Plant are discharging a harmful toxin, impacting the downstream drinking supply of 900,000 North Carolinians. Share your comments at the EPA's hearing on October 22, 2025 in support of clean water. Click [here](#) for more information.

ATTEND AND VOLUNTEER

Pittsboro Street Fair - Saturday, October 25 10:00am – 4:00pm. ChathamCAN will have a tent. Can you volunteer to take a shift? It's a great time to interact with people about climate solutions.

Native American Gathering November 8th Deep River Park Camelback Bridge. Deep River Park will host a Native American Gathering on Saturday, November 8, 2025, from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM, featuring Native dancing, music, storytelling, food, and more to honor the first Americans and explore indigenous culture. The event is held at the Camelback Bridge in Deep River Park and requires an admission fee of \$10 for adults, with children 12 and under admitted free; all proceeds go to the upkeep of the park.

UPDATES and FOLLOW UP

Chatham County Board of Commissioners joined by members of the Climate Change Advisory Committee held the first day of a 2 day retreat focused on climate change on October 17th. Various experts presented on issues specific to climate change in Chatham County. To see the agenda and presentation packet go [here](#). Topics included Urgency of Climate Change and the Effects We Can Expect to See in Chatham County; What is a Climate Action Plan (CAP) and a Sector-by-Sector Approach to Framing Climate Change Action; Climate Adaptation, Community Impact, Education and Engagement; and Sector: Agriculture

Waste and Recycling Interest Group with ChathamCAN Reply to this email if you'd like to join this newly formed group. 5 people are currently active.

NEXT QUARTERLY GATHERING

Our next Community Conversation will be held jointly with our partner, NC WARN as they launch a new campaign. The meeting will take place **Thursday, November 6th** from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at the Chatham Ag Center 1192 US Hwy 64 W Business, Pittsboro. We will screen their new 18-minute film, **The True Cost of Power: Duke Energy's Climate Deception** and have time for discussion and networking as usual. Come share how you've been impacted by climate change. Learn about NC WARN's new campaign, and take action with us that can impact state (and potentially national) climate policy now.: Light supper and Spanish interpretation provided. **Help us spread the word!**

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

NC WARN

<https://www.ncwarn.org/>

NC WARN is a 37-year-old 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization tackling the accelerating crisis posed by climate change by building people power for a swift North Carolina transition to clean power, and by promoting energy and climate justice.

Modest increases in energy efficiency, combined with local solar power and battery storage can allow the rapid phase-out of all gas- and coal-fired power plants in North Carolina. This shift is North Carolina's primary opportunity to help slow the accelerating climate crisis. This work must become everybody's movement in order to be successful – lifting up and engaging people across the racial and socio-economic spectrum.



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

[As cities seek ways to prevent floods, a California town has a success story to share](#) Christian Science Monitor Sept. 23, 2025

Want emotional support for climate anxiety? See <https://www.unthinkable.earth/> Founded by researcher, therapist and author, Dr. Britt Wray, this resource aims to advance the public conversation around climate change and mental health for the widespread benefit of human and ecological flourishing.

We need this in NC! Plug-in Solar (aka Balcony Solar) See this [article](#) from Canary Media or go to <https://www.brightsaver.org/>

From one of our favorites, Project Drawdown, a new science-based SHIFT [guide](#) for **personal** climate Also see the video: [Individual Climate Action with Impact: Five climate superpowers to SHIFT the system](#) **SHIFT your focus – change the world!**

Another way to share your climate story! Take the [89 Percent survey](#)

Feed, comfort, and entertain your best friend in closed-loop fashion (from SIERRA CLUB): [12 Pet Brands](#) That Specialize in Sustainability and a Circular Economy. One is from NC!

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.