

# GLOBAL WARMING: CHANGING CO<sub>2</sub>URSE

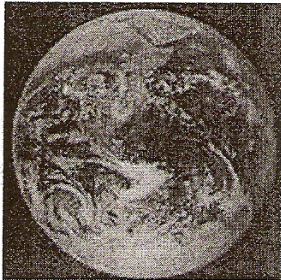
A FOUR-WEEK DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR THE WORKPLACE, FAITH CENTER, OR HOME

*“We are no longer passive victims of the climate system’s slow oscillations; we are now, as a collective, atmospheric engineers.”*

*- Alan AtKisson*

**GOALS:**

- ◆ To explore personal values and habits as they relate to climate change.
- ◆ To understand the history and science of global warming.
- ◆ To empower individuals to take action to curb global warming.



**SESSION 1..... ..OFF COURSE**

Communities around the world are experiencing the effects of global warming. This session explores personal responses to climate change and why society has been slow to respond.

**SESSION 2..... ..COLLISION COURSE**

To better understand the complexities of global warming, this session breaks down the history and science of global climate change, and identifies our participation in this ecological crisis.

**SESSION 3..... ..CHANGING COURSE**

Although global warming is a daunting issue, there are accessible and significant actions we can all take. This session explores new strategies for addressing climate change and considers personal action to mitigate the effects of global warming.

**SESSION 4..... .. SETTING A NEW COURSE**

What will it take to create a sustainable future? Explore our individual and collective power to shape an effective response to climate change, enabling future generations to meet their needs.

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*For more information on how to start a course in your community, please contact the Northwest Earth Institute at (503) 227-2807, or visit our website at [www.nwei.org](http://www.nwei.org).*

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*Motivating individuals to examine and transform their personal values and habits, to accept responsibility for the Earth, and to act on that commitment.*

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## COURSE READINGS

### Session One – Off Course

Excerpt from “Keeping Time” by Devin Corbin ♦ “Polar Bears and Three-Year-Olds on Thin Ice” by Donella Meadows ♦ “It’s Not the Heat, It’s the Stupidity” by Katherine Ellison ♦ “Don’t Make Me Get Up!” by Lou Bendrick ♦ “It’s the End of the World as We Know It” by Daniel Gilbert ♦ “In Katrina’s Wake” by Van Jones

### Session Two – Collision Course

“Global Warming -- Signed, Sealed, and Delivered” by Dr. Naomi Oreskes ♦ “Why You Can’t Ignore the Changing Climate” by Eugene Linden ♦ Excerpt from “It’s the System” by Alan AtKisson ♦ “Making Hay While the Sun Shines” by Andrew Simms ♦ Excerpt from “The Climate of Man III” by Elizabeth Kolbert

### Session Three – Changing Course

“How Do We Win the Planetary Endgame?” by Terry Glavin ♦ “Cutting Carbon Emissions” by Lester Brown ♦ “Beating the Heat” by Matt Sutkoski ♦ “The Energy Diet” by Andrew Postman ♦ “My Low-Carbon Diet” by Seth Zuckerman ♦ “New Combatant Against Global Warming: Insurance Industry” by Ron Scherer ♦ “The Regeneration Project” by Rev. Sally Bingham

### Session Four – Setting a New Course

“A Deeper Shade of Green” by Bill McKibben ♦ “Over to You” by Tim Flannery ♦ “On Earth Day” by Alex Steffen ♦ Excerpt from *Soul of a Citizen* by Paul Rogat Loeb ♦ Excerpt from *An Inconvenient Truth* by Al Gore ♦ Excerpt from Severn Suzuki speech

For more information contact:  
Northwest Earth Institute 317 SW Alder Street, Suite 1050 Portland, OR 97204  
(503) 227-2807, [contact@nwei.org](mailto:contact@nwei.org), [www.nwei.org](http://www.nwei.org)

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