

Steps to better respect boundaries...

Advocate - Let Your Voice Be Heard - Connect with Ct Fund for the Environment for action alerts. www.ctenvironment.org

Use More Active Transportation - Less Car - Transportation accounts for about 21 percent of greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful pollution. Try active transit... car pooling, walking, biking, bus, train... and advocate for more alternative transit resources. See goNHgo website.

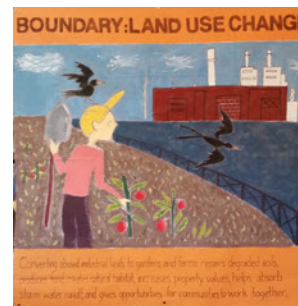
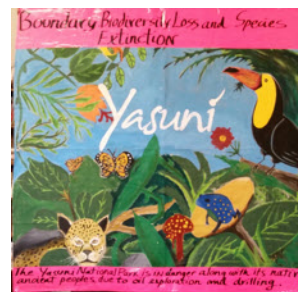
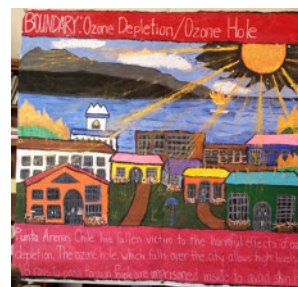
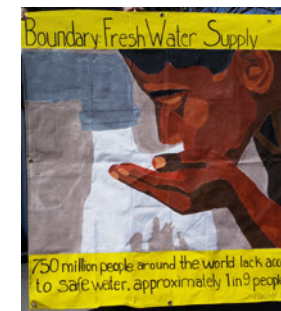
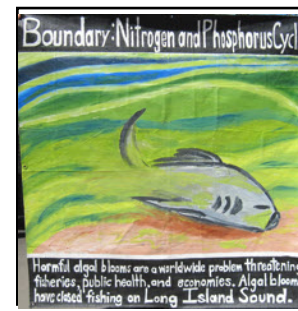
Create a healthy lifestyle - Choices that are healthy for humans are usually good for the planet - think organic foods, active transportation. See healthyclimatechallenge.org

Eat Less meat - More Healthy Foods. Red meat requires 28 times more land to produce than pork or chicken, 11 times more water and results in five times more climate-warming emissions. Try meatless Mondays etc. to start; eat more grains, fruit, beans; go vegetarian. See Meatless Monday website.

Reduce Greenhouse Gases - Switch to Clean electric Switch to solar and wind suppliers for home electricity... cuts 14% of GHG. See EnergizeCT/compare or go to Community Energy or Viridian Energy for 100% clean options.

Plant Trees and Native Species - Trees absorb odors and pollutant gases (nitrogen oxides, ammonia, sulfur dioxide and ozone) and filter particulates out of the air by trapping them on their leaves and bark. Check our Urban Resources Initiative

More information at: www.newhavenleon.org

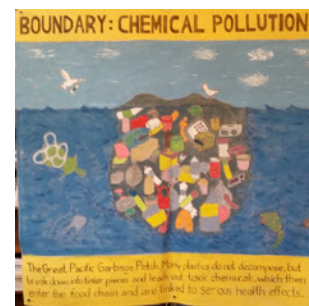


Planetary



Boundaries

Banners created by, clockwise bottom right: Yale OISS ISPY • Sound School • Yale Physics Students • Unidat Latina en Accion • Barnard School • Fossil Free Yale • Celentano School • Cooperative Arts and Humanities High School • New Haven Leon SCP • Center: Yale Traditional Chinese Painting Group



Respecting Limits

There is no doubt humans have modified the planet as economies and consumption rates have grown. But the gains achieved by this spectacular re-engineering have come at a price. It is now widely apparent that humanity's use of the biosphere - that sphere that embraces all air, water and land on the planet in which all life is found - is not sustainable.



A community is the mental and spiritual condition of knowing that the place is shared, and that the people who share the place define and limit the possibilities of each other's lives. Wendell Berry

To continue to live and operate safely, humanity has to stay away from critical 'hard-wired' thresholds in the Earth's environment and respect the planet's climatic, geophysical, atmospheric and ecological processes.

The scientists identified thresholds, which, if crossed, could generate unacceptable environmental change for humanity.

The nine boundaries identified were:

- climate change
- stratospheric ozone
- land use change
- freshwater use
- biological diversity
- ocean acidification
- nitrogen and phosphorus inputs to the biosphere and oceans
- aerosol loading
- chemical pollution.

97 out of 100 climate experts agree humans are causing global warming



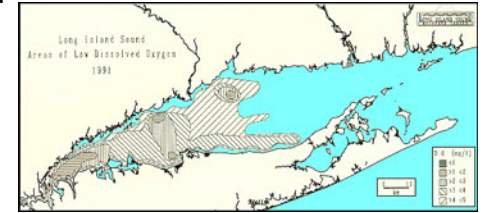
Doran et al 2009, Anderegg et al 2010

http://fika.fortconsensus

Local limits we've pushed in the New Haven area.

Ocean acidification, chemical pollution, nitrogen and phosphorus inputs

- Long Island Sound hypoxia, (too much algae and high levels of oxygen consumption, leaving the Sound desperately short on oxygen needed by the fish and aquatic life), lobster die off (Just 15 years ago, the lobster catch in Long Island Sound was over three million pounds; last year, harvested lobsters weighed in at just over 120,000 pounds).



Low dissolved oxygen in the Sound.

Air pollution - high asthma and respiratory disease rates in New Haven area from cars, trucks and power plant pollution, etc.

Climate change - Extreme weather events and rising sea levels in Connecticut are costing more and more in infrastructure repair, lost work, storm response, and tree removal.

Land use change - during rain storms water washes pollutants off driveways, roads and parking lots creating storm water overflows and dumping tons of pollution into streams,

lakes and into Long Island Sound.

If you keep going in the same direction, you will inevitably end up at where you are going.

— Chinese proverb

Chemical pollution - Connecticut, like other industrial states, continues to deal with problems and health threats related to toxic chemicals dumped on land and in the water.

Positive trends in Connecticut... more trains and train riders... more people biking... more taking bus... more community gardens and farms... more solar power... etc.

