WELCOME TO THE METROWEST NODE OF 350Mass!
Sustained, Coordinated, Relentless, Collective Climate Action

We’re so glad you are joining us! Below is some basic information to get you oriented and into action. We aim to encourage and facilitate constructive actions that we can take on the statewide, local, social, and personal levels. Anyone interested is welcome to attend and participate in our monthly meetings. A volunteer Planning Committee helps manage the node. Here are some people you can contact with questions:

| Co-facilitators and reps to Statewide Steering Team (SST) | Debby Marion debinnatick@gmail.com  
Paul Shorb paul.shorb@gmail.com |
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<td>SST Co-Coordinator</td>
<td>Sabine von Mering <a href="mailto:sabine.vonmering@gmail.com">sabine.vonmering@gmail.com</a></td>
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| Reps to Statewide Legislative Team (SLT) | Larry Stoodt schlangeme@rcn.com  
Paul Shorb paul.shorb@gmail.com |

ORGANIZATION: 350 Massachusetts for a Better Future (“350Mass”) is a volunteer-led, statewide network dedicated to fighting climate change. It’s official charter is here. 350Mass is organized into nodes (chapters) and we currently have 17 nodes throughout the state; you can find a list here.

TOWNS IN OUR NODE: Our Node boundaries are flexible, but we have welcomed people from Acton, Ashland, Bedford, Concord, Framingham, Hudson, Lexington, Lincoln, Marlborough, Maynard, Natick, Sherborn, Stow, Sudbury, Wayland, Wellesley, and Weston. (If you want to start a new Node, let’s talk!)

CAMPAIGN STRATEGY: Every year or two, 350Mass decides on a statewide campaign plan, so that our efforts are focused and effective. Each node gives its input to the Statewide Steering Team, which selects the campaigns based on the nodes’ rankings. The 350Mass campaign plan for 2019-2020, is called “The Road to a Green New Deal”. The focus will be on a combination of rapid decarbonization together with creating green jobs and ensuring economic justice. The exact shape of a Massachusetts Green New Deal will evolve over time, but it will have local and statewide aspects, and will include legislation.

BETTER FUTURE PROJECT: Better Future Project (BFP) is a nonprofit organization that helps organize and support organizations working on climate change. 350Mass is one of the organizations that BFP created, and they continue to support us. Specifically, BFP has full time paid staff who play
important roles in advising and training us; helping us with communications; putting out a weekly e-newsletter, organizing workshops, and many other functions. They have made us a much more
effective organization. Currently the BFP staff includes:

- Craig S. Altemose, Executive Director
- Alan Palm, Director of Organizing
- Cabell Eames, Legislative Coordinator
- Vignesh Ramachandran, Digital Organizer
- Jon Wishnie, Climate Justice Partnerships Organizer

The email for any of these folks is [firstname]@betterfutureproject.org.

Better Future Project has its office in The Democracy Center, at 45 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (in Harvard Square).

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Better Future Project puts out a weekly newsletter. The newsletter calendar will alert you to upcoming events, and the articles fill you in on recent happenings and future plans. To be sure you’re getting that, sign up [here](#).

The MetroWest node puts out a monthly newsletter, which we will send to you if we have your email address. It includes some material not found in the BFP newsletter, and vice versa, so please monitor both. The node also has its own website, [350MassMetroWest.org](http://350MassMetroWest.org), where we post upcoming events and articles of interest.

**MEETINGS:** The MetroWest node usually meets on the first Thursday of the month, alternating locations between Peace Lutheran Church, 107 Concord Rd., Wayland, and First Parish Sudbury, Unitarian Universalist, 327 Concord Rd., Sudbury. We start at 7:00 pm, with time before and after for informal conversation; we try to end by 9:00 pm. We usually provide some snacks; feel free to munchies to share. Recently, we've started going out to nearby restaurants for beer and munchies after the node meeting.

**ELECTORAL WORK:** 350Mass is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, which means we can’t get involved in working for particular parties or candidates. But we have a sister organization, 350 Mass Action, that can do that, with a corresponding MetroWest chapter. Contact sabine.vonmering@gmail.com.

**350.ORG:** 350.org has given their blessing to our use of the name, partners with us at times, and occasionally provides us with support or shares the expertise of their staff. We often respond to their calls for action. At the same time, we are a separate organization, financially and administratively. If they had local chapters, 350Mass would be their Massachusetts chapter.

**YOUR FEEDBACK & INPUT:** As a grassroots organization, we are volunteer-driven. Please contact any of the people listed up top -- or any other Planning Group member you know – with:

- Your reactions to how a meeting went. (e.g., what did you find helpful; what should we do differently?)
- What you’d like to learn more about.
- Ideas for where you’d like to contribute/fit in.
- Any other questions or comments.