

## Resolution on Global Warming and Climate Change

PA/DE American Society of Landscape Architects

Be it known that;

The American Society of Landscape Architects recognizes the phenomenon known as “Global Warming” as a critical trend in climate change of Planet Earth.

The effects of global warming are well documented through a collaboration of studies and a consensus reached by the international scientific community that the Earth’s atmospheric temperatures are rising as a direct result of human activities.

Carbon dioxide, a naturally occurring molecule is a “greenhouse gas” that has been released in increasing amounts into the Earth’s atmosphere over the past century as a result of human reliance on burning fossil fuels for energy.

Human reliance on finite fossil fuels has created the shapes of the modern landscape in which our human society lives. It is now clear that the effects of global warming are expected to affect life on earth in even more profound ways.

Severe weather; increased droughts; glacial melting; sea level rise; and plant, animal, and human migration and possible extinction are all identified as impacts of the increasing amount of heat retained by the Earth as a result of increasing levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

Landscape architects recognize and, in their designs for human activity seek to emulate the complex biological eco-systems of Earth’s nature. The profession of landscape architecture is uniquely prepared, and has a responsibility and an unparalleled opportunity to help remedy the threat of global warming and foster a sustainable biological diversity on Earth by helping humankind transition to a sustainable, “carbon-neutral” society.

Therefore, be it resolved that:

The Pennsylvania/Delaware Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects acknowledges the phenomenon of global warming as a priority for the Chapter, and recommends and encourages its membership to:

- Support an aggressive legislative agenda at national, state, and local levels for issues that can help create a carbon-neutral society, including: conservation, recycling at all levels, promotion and use of renewable resources, green development, public transit, alternative-fueled vehicles, and support of local agriculture and businesses.
- Work with accredited LA programs to include global warming studies as part of the landscape architecture curriculum and advanced degree research;
- Collaborate with allied design professions and organizations to put these policies in action in all education, legislation and advocacy efforts;

- Participate in the 2010 Initiative and similar efforts;
- Continue collaboration with the U.S. Green Building Council to adopt SITESS into the LEED process;
- Collaborate with allied disciplines to prepare for intensive societal stewardship of Earth's biodiversity.

Signed,

Name

Title

Date