



# Citizens' Climate Lobby Citizens' Climate Education



## ACTION SHEET, OCTOBER 2018

Monthly Meeting, Saturday, October 13, 2018  
10:00 a.m. Pacific / 1:00 p.m. Eastern

### Two Ways to Join

- To connect by video conference, go to <http://cclusa.org/meeting>  
**Note:** To improve audio/video quality, close all applications and other browser windows  
**Note:** Read this [zoom doc](#) to see how to turn on closed captions and adjust the font size
- To connect by phone: If you have unlimited calling, please call 1-646-558-8656; otherwise you can call toll-free at 1-877-369-0926. Enter 2017-2017-17 as the mtg ID.

If you have problems connecting, please contact Zoom's 24/7 support at 888-799-9666.



### CONFERENCE CALL GUEST: Former Congressman David Jolly

Even if Democrats take the House in November, legislation to price carbon will need to be bipartisan, and that leads us to this month's conversation with former Rep. David Jolly (R-FL). Before giving up his House seat to run for Senate, Jolly was an early member of the bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus and a cosponsor of the Republican climate resolution introduced by former Rep. Chris Gibson. Speaking in 2016, Jolly said, "I'm sick and tired of going nowhere in addressing large problems and I'd like to see our party accept the science and say we believe in conservative solutions."

### Actions

1. Organize for Call Congress Day and D.C. Lobby Day, and deliver a thank you to district staff
2. Write a letter to the editor linking climate and the campaigns
3. Communication exercise: Share information effectively

### Bonus Action

1. Phone bank for a carbon fee in Washington State

If your Action Sheet is printed and you'd like to be able to click the links below, you can download this Action Sheet at [cclusa.org/actionsheet](http://cclusa.org/actionsheet)

# Organize for Call Congress Day and D.C. Lobby Day

## LOBBY ACTION

Support the CCLers on the Hill for the November 13th Lobby Day by coordinating the biggest ever **Call Congress Day**, making plans for the lobby day, and thanking your district staff.

### Call Congress Day

Plan to make double the greatest number of calls in the history of your chapter on **Friday, November 9th**:

- Sign people up at [cclusa.org/text](http://cclusa.org/text) to receive a text alert reminding them to call.
- Ask everyone at your meeting to put the Call Congress Day in their phone calendar, and select 'Going' and 'Invite friends' to this Facebook Event [cclusa.org/call-congress-fb](http://cclusa.org/call-congress-fb).
- Ask one volunteer to send an email reminder to everybody on November 8th.
- See [cclusa.org/callcongressday](http://cclusa.org/callcongressday) for graphics, flyers, sample emails, and ideas for generating calls.
- So that we can (1) track the number of calls made and (2) give you a script and phone numbers, use the online action tool [cclusa.org/call](http://cclusa.org/call) and be sure to click "**DONE CALLING**" to report the calls.

### Continue to prepare for D.C. Lobby Day

- If you have collected constituent comment forms from districts other than your own, have a local volunteer bring them to the Letter Exchange at **Congressional Education Day** or mail them to the CCL D.C. office. Use [cclusa.org/exchange](http://cclusa.org/exchange) to prepare the letters for delivery.
- Continue your discussion from last month about supporting people to go to D.C. and formulating your lobby meeting plan. Registration, schedule, lodging and travel info is at [cclusa.org/ced](http://cclusa.org/ced).

### New this year! Thank your District/State staff

After the rigors of election season, this is a good time to simply express your appreciation to the staff in your local District/State Congressional office(s) for their public service. Create something from your group that you can drop off, such as:

- A card signed by everyone in your chapter
- An autographed photo of your members
- Baked goods or flowers

We suggest Friday, November 9th, or Tuesday, November 13th, as good dates for a drop-off (offices will be closed on November 12th for Veteran's day). Remember that the staff will be recovering from a hectic election, so keep your visit brief. While you are at the office, snap a photo and text it to your volunteers in D.C., and post/tweet the photo to your member of Congress's social media with appreciation.

Gratitude is the CCL way, whether your member of Congress won, lost or is retiring!

# Write a letter to the editor linking climate and the campaigns

## MEDIA ACTION

It's the final weeks of the election and the news will be full of campaign stories. Now is a great time to write to your papers and let them know that climate change is on your mind as a voter.

### Action

Take five minutes at your meeting to start drafting letters to the editor using these four **media themes** or your own local theme.

1. Bipartisanship is important to me, especially on climate
2. Climate is my primary issue, and I vote
3. The question I want to ask the candidates is ... (related to climate)
4. My personal and local story of being affected by climate change is ...

Remember to mention your members of Congress by name so that published letters get noticed by the media monitors in the Congressional offices. You may also want to write that your fellow volunteers are going to D.C. next month to deliver the same message.

### Other ways to get people involved

- Encourage new volunteers to try their first letter to the editor
- Discover new area newspapers and write letters to them using [CCL's online LTE tool](#)
- Ask a few people to read their draft opening out loud
- Pass around a sign up sheet on which people can plan to meetup and write in a coffee shop later
- If your chapter doesn't already have one, form a media team that sends letters to the editor every week

### When you get published

1. Share the letter with your member of Congress, if appropriate
2. Celebrate with your chapter and share it on social media
3. Let your chapter's field reporter know so that he/she can submit a field report

### Additional Resources

[Write a Letter to the Editor](#)

[Citizens' Climate University video on writing effective letters to the editor](#)

### **Bonus Action: Phone bank for a carbon fee in Washington state**

As you know, Washington State will have Initiative 1631 on the ballot in November. [I-1631](#) would put a price on carbon pollution and could be the first carbon fee in the United States! Washington CCL would love your help to push this one over the finish line. You can phone bank from home using your phone and computer, but having a little party is even more fun, so why not call alongside a few people from your chapter? On election night, you might be glad you did! Get started today using this [phone banking toolkit](#).

# Sharing information effectively

## COMMUNICATION EXERCISE

As climate advocates we often find ourselves in a position where we want to communicate information to someone. This could be in a lobby meeting, a meeting with a community leader or with our next door neighbor. If we aren't careful, we run the risk of having our passion for the topic turn us into people who are overbearing or talking at someone instead of with them. But when coupled with good listening, these conversations can open minds and build relationships.

### Practice exercise

With a partner, imagine a scenario where you want to share information with someone. Read the information below and then try out these three steps: (1) think of an opening question, (2) ask permission to share, and (3) share two sentences and ask a question to elicit their response to your ideas.

Ask a few volunteers to replay their conversation for the whole group.

### How to effectively share information

1) Activate their thinking on the topic first by asking them an open question (starts with who, what, where, when or how rather than a "why" question or one that can be answered with yes or no). For example:

- What do you think about the work of climate scientists?
- What do you think other members of our state congressional delegation think about global warming?
- Do you think a market approach or regulations are better?

2) Ask permission to share your ideas.

- I've been reading some of their work. Would you like to know my impressions of it?
- I like a market approach called carbon fee and dividend. Could I tell you why this appeals to me?
- Our group met with 500 congressional offices in June and compiled the responses into a report. Would you be interested to know what the top issues were for Republicans and Democrats each?

Note: Suppose you ask permission and they say 'no'. If this happens, you might change the topic (What would you like to talk about?), or change the time (When would be a better time to talk about this?), or try listening some more (Tell me more about what you think about this).

3) Assuming you get permission, share two sentences of information, then ask what they think about what they've heard using an open-ended question rather than a yes/no question.

- How much do you agree with \_\_\_\_\_?
- What do you think about \_\_\_\_\_?
- How does this fit with your own thinking or values?

### Additional resources

[Introduction to Motivational Interviewing](#)

[The Effective Communication Action Team](#) (The [Nov 7th call](#) will be on 'Sharing information effectively')