



Policy Action Alert

For those of you who have not been following this issue, in 2019 the NYS Legislature passed the **Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA)**. This legislation mandates that NY reduce carbon emissions by 40% by 2030 and 85% by 2050 based on 1990 levels, with the goal of being carbon neutral by 2050. A Climate Action Council was formed and over the last 3 years with the recommendations from several different advisory panels has been developing a framework of how the state will reduce emissions, increase the use of renewable energy, and ensure climate justice. The result of that work is a Draft Scoping Plan that was completed and released recently for public comment.

Forests are considered to play a very important role in this effort and there may be several beneficial programs and incentives for landowners to take advantage of, but this legislation is ambitious and not without cost and sacrifice to the residents and businesses of NY, requiring many lifestyle changes over time. NYFOA is following this closely and has begun the process of responding to issues relative to the pursuit of our mission and will continue to be engaged as legislation and regulations emerge. We intend to give voice to forest owners and seek to be a resource for legislators. We intend to call attention to who we are as an organization and our collective effort to mitigate carbon emissions through forest stewardship for the last 60 years.

In the meantime, a period of public comment that will include several public meetings across the state began on January 1st and finishes at the end of April. While NYFOA will be acting on behalf of the organization, every member is encouraged learn as much as they can and participate in the process as an individual by reviewing the scoping plan, submitting comments, and contacting your state representatives. You can download a copy of the Draft Scoping Plan at:

<https://climate.ny.gov/Our-Climate-Act/Draft-Scoping-Plan>

You can submit comments electronically by filling out a Public Comment Form at:

<https://nysenda.seamlessdocs.com/f/DraftScopingComments>