

Oxfordshire from the Ground 1: Communities

Over 30 community groups in Oxfordshire are active on climate change. Find out the who, what & where: www.climatex.org

Take Action

Get your community climate active - see our website: www.climatex.org for ideas and links to other organisations, such as Oxfordshire Rural Community Council & local campaign groups. Borrow DVDs, books, giant climate change snakes & ladders, presentations & posters. Low energy light bulb libraries can also be borrowed from ClimateXchange or from www.Eco-St.co.uk



Sustainable Charlbury

(SusCha) is a local response to the growing threat of climate change. They hold events, offer support and practical advice, and have grants for a thermal imaging service. See: www.sustainablecharlbury.org



Many groups are part of Community Action Groups working to increase awareness of waste issues and the ways to reduce the amount of resources that are thrown away. For more info see: www.cagoxfordshire.org.uk

St Margaret's Church

...ran a 'Living Green Experience' with film screenings, an eco-fair, activities and practical action for a greener community.

Sustainable Kirtlington

...held a series of talks, and a 'Footprint Fair'.

Low Carbon West Oxford

...a community tackling climate change and energy security following the summer floods in 2007. Its pilot project, 'Community Sustainability Trust' (CoST), is a national NESTA Big Green Challenge finalist.



Faringdon Eco-week

...featured talks, debates, swap shops and a world record-setting wind turbine hug. See: www.ecoweek.info



Wantage Area Climate Action

...have recently organised a 'Pledge & Plea' letter-writing campaign to the Prime Minister; ran an energy campaign, and activities for local groups.



Dorchester Carbon Project

...was started by a group of residents who felt that they couldn't wait for government to act so instead would tackle climate change themselves at a local level. The Project provides easy ways to help people lower their carbon footprint.

Brightwell cum Sotwell

The heat is on Brightwell cum Sotwell's thermal imaging study - showing buildings in a new light.

"We've come together about climate change, we've rediscovered community."

Blewbury Energy Initiative

The award winning Blewbury Energy Initiative ...aims to reduce energy consumption in buildings in Blewbury, and to encourage the effective use of renewable energy resources. See: www.blewbury.co.uk/energy



"The idea is for lots of us to do a little rather than a few of us doing a lot. That way it's sustainable".
- Suzie Howard, Abingdon Carbon Cutters

Challenge North Leigh

...is a community action group with a clear mission:

'To work with the North Leigh Community to encourage everybody to make a positive contribution towards becoming the leading energy efficient and environmentally aware village in Oxfordshire.'

They aim to reduce energy consumption by 10% over the next two years, with a £2,000 incentive from Scottish and Southern Energy.

'Involving and engaging a local community in discussion, debate and actions to mitigate the effects of climate change is challenging, rewarding and frustrating...It's about changing hearts and minds and promoting a positive, "can do" approach which will lead to permanent and lasting changes in behaviour, habits and attitudes.'

- Candy Kerpache, North Leigh
www.challenge-northleigh.co.uk/

Low Carbon Wolvercote

...continues to inspire other groups, holding events, parties... and even has its own song. See: www.climatex.org/wolvercote/

1st in a series of posters from the 'Oxfordshire from the Ground' exhibition, produced by Oxfordshire ClimateXchange. Find out more, & add comments & photos on our interactive version at: www.oxfordshirefromtheground.org

