What's Next?

We keep talking about **CLIMATE CHANGE.** How is that different from **GLOBAL WARMING?**

"Climate change" and "global warming" are often used interchangeably but have distinct meanings. Similarly, the terms "weather" and "climate" are sometimes confused, though they refer to events with broadly different spatial- and timescales.

Weather vs. climate

Weather refers to atmospheric conditions that occur locally over short periods of time—from minutes to hours or days. Familiar examples include rain, snow, clouds, winds, floods or thunderstorms. Remember, weather is local and short-term.

Climate, on the other hand, refers to the long-term regional or even global average of temperature, humidity and rainfall patterns over seasons, years or decades. Remember, climate is global and long-term.

Global warming

Global warming refers to the upward temperature trend across the entire Earth since the early 20th century, and most notably since the late 1970s, due to the increase in fossil fuel emissions since the industrial revolution. Worldwide since 1880, the average surface temperature has gone up by about 0.8 °C (1.4 °F), relative to the mid-20th-century baseline (of 1951-1980).

Climate change

Climate change refers to a broad range of global phenomena created predominantly by burning fossil fuels, which add heat-trapping gases to Earth's atmosphere. These phenomena include the increased temperature trends described by global warming, but also encompass changes such as sea level rise; ice mass loss in Greenland, Antarctica, the Arctic and mountain glaciers worldwide; shifts in flower/plant blooming; and extreme weather events."

From NASA- https://climate.nasa.gov/resources/global-warming/

SO WHAT CAN YOU DO HERE IN OUR COMMUNITY TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE?

Think about this as this years' series continues. Can you commit to actions inspired by them? Set goals for yourself and/or your business and let's see if we can start to have a collective impact.

- **Take the Climate Action Pledge**
  - www.walkingmountains.org/takethepledge
- **Get involved in a local climate action group**
  - Climate Action Plan for the Eagle County Community- read about our local goals at www.walkingmountains.org/climate-action-collaborative

- **Reduce your energy use**
  - Sign up for an energy assessment of your home or business through our local branch of EnergySmart Colorado at www.walkingmountains.org/project/energy-smart-colorado
- **Use the Waste Wizard for Your Recycling Questions**
  - Try it out here: https://www.walkingmountains.org/recycling-waste-reduction/ or download it on Iphones or Andriod through the app store.
- **Food-Eat Sustainably**
  - New Roots Organization https://newrootsco.org/
    - Fostering food resilience in the Eagle River Valley of Colorado
  - Grow your own food or support our local farmers and butchers!
    - Local Farmers Markets (summer):
      - Vail Farmers Markets and Art Show
      - Edwards Farmers Market
      - Minturn Market
      - Gypsum Farmers Market
- **Think about what you buy and wear**
  - Carefully read labels; look for recycled materials, organic cotton, natural dyes made from plants
  - Purchase locally made clothing and products, and check for equitable employment and working policies

Help to educate others on climate change

Climate Visualizations   https://climate.nasa.gov/resources/graphics-and-multimedia
Need a more relatable explanation of climate change?   https://ourclimateourfuture.org/
Visit one of the films from last year at www.timetochoose.com to learn other ways you can choose for the climate!

If you would like to check out/rent any of the films from the 2018-2019 Sustainable Film Series, or if you would like a digital copy of this sheet, please contact Melissa Kirr, Sustainability Programs Director, at melissak@walkingmountains.org or (970) 827-9725 x 133.