



Liberty Lake Comprehensive Plan Climate Element: Shaping Our Future for Resilience

By taking action to reduce emissions and enhance our resilience, we can mitigate the risk of extreme weather events and prepare for a better future.

What is a “Climate Element”?

In 2023, Washington State passed a law requiring cities to include a Climate Element in comprehensive plans. The Climate Element focuses on two key areas:

1. Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
2. Building community resilience to natural hazards and extreme weather impacts

How will Liberty Lake’s Climate Change in the Future?

In Liberty Lake, We Are Facing:

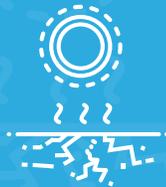
More Drought

What’s Happening:

- Less snow in the mountains meaning less water in summer

What It Means:

- More people and hotter weather means higher water demand
- Let’s protect our aquifer and use water wisely
- Work with neighbors to keep our water clean and sustainable



Hotter Summers

What’s Happening:

- Up to 26 days over 100°F each year by the 2080s

What It Means:

- Our growing zones may look like El Paso, Texas
- We’ll need more ways to stay cool and keep people safe
- Plant heat-tolerant crops and gardens



More Wildfires and Smoke

What’s Happening:

- More wildfire danger days and smoke from fires out West

What It Means:

- Use Firewise practices to protect homes and land
- Make sure everyone has access to clean air during smoke events



Stronger Storms

What’s Happening:

- Heavy storms that used to happen only once every 10 years will become more common

What It Means:

- More rain at once means more flood risk
- Heavier snow means needing stronger roofs
- Need for smart stormwater planning



Building a Climate-Resilient Liberty Lake

What can you do to make your family and your community more resilient? Together, we can prepare, adapt, and thrive. Here's how you can strengthen your family's safety and help build a more resilient Liberty Lake:

KNOW YOUR RISKS AND VULNERABILITIES: Understanding how climate change impacts our region is the first step toward resilience.

- Heat waves: Higher energy use and potential heat-related health risks
- Wildfire Smoke: Know how to stay safe when air quality drops
- Water Supply & Drought: Prepare for potential water shortages or restrictions
- Power Outages: Storms and high winds may affect power lines and grid stability

Action Step: Visit local government websites to learn about vulnerabilities

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS: Stronger communities bounce back faster.

- Check in on neighbors, especially the elderly
- Join or start a neighborhood emergency group
- Share contact info in case of emergencies

Action Step: Make a list of 3-5 nearby households you could contact and support during a climate emergency and share yours with them

KNOW WHAT TO DO: Prepare your home and family.

- Install solar panels and backup storage
- Keep air purifiers and spare filters on hand
- Build an emergency supply kit
- Sign up for local emergency alerts

Action Step: Conduct a quick home audit to identify how prepared you are

Want to learn more about the Climate Element?

Visit Our Online Open House!

For more information on the climate element and work done to date, visit the online open house via the QR Code.

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