The urgency of the climate crisis requires bold and meaningful action at every level of government.

Right now, we have the opportunity to drive important changes across all of Oregon in the 2023 Legislative Session. The volunteer-driven 350PDX Forest Defense Team is calling on our Oregon State legislators to support the following bills for a climate-stable future.

**HB 3016 - Establishing community green infrastructure Grant Program**

This bill would establish a Fund, administered by the Department of Land Conservation and Development, Grant Program, and Task Force for Community Green Infrastructure. “Green infrastructure” uses plant or soil systems, permeable pavement or other permeable surfaces or substrates, stormwater harvest and reuse or landscaping to provide environmental, economic and social benefits, including resilience to climate change, stormwater management, air quality benefits, noise abatement, energy savings and economic development opportunities. The bill also directs the Oregon Dept. of Forestry (ODF) to acquire and maintain a statewide urban tree canopy assessment tool and develop an Emerald Ash Borer assistance program. As extreme climate events like the 2021 heat dome become more frequent, all Oregon towns and communities need to invest in becoming more resilient. This Green Infrastructure bill would make that possible.

**SB 522 - Modernize the Oregon Global Warming Commission**

This bill will strengthen Oregon’s greenhouse gas emission targets and make important administrative changes to the Commission, including updating its name to the Oregon Climate Action Commission, which better reflects our understanding of climate disruption and the action needed to reduce emissions and create resiliency in the face of those disruptions. The bill also adds two new voting members to the Commission: one representing Environmental Justice communities & one representing youth, adds additional agency representatives as non-voting members to better coordinate the state’s efforts, and clarifies the role of the Commission in overseeing the progress being made by state agencies in meeting climate goals. **We are in a climate emergency and this bill helps give the government the information and tools needed to make better decisions and take more decisive action to address climate change.**
The 350PDX Forest Defense Team works to fight climate change by advocating for forest management practices that increase carbon sequestration and storage, decrease forestry sector carbon emissions, and improve community and ecosystem resilience in the face of the changing climate.

Learn more at 350pdx.org/forestdefense