

Climate Action Committee – Newsletter Update – December 2024

Aligning your Money with your Values

Recently, Tom Rawson and Sia Stewart, both members of the climate action group Third Act, spoke at the monthly Climate Action Committee presentation at the Truro Public Library, addressing how we can personally divest from fossil fuels. The video of their presentation, which has a lot of helpful how-to information, can be found on the [library's YouTube channel](#); it will be available to view at the end of December. At the end of the video are links to the slides they used and to resources.

Sometimes when we think about climate change, it's hard to know how to make a positive difference. One important thing we can do is choose banks, credit cards, and home/auto insurance companies that align with our values. Fossil fuel companies need investments and continue to get tax breaks, but we don't need to further their profits and their destructive practices by investing in them ourselves. Credit card companies, banks, and insurance companies invest the money we give them, and many invest in fossil fuels. There are ways to find out what the companies you use invest in and if those investments don't align with your values, switching to others is quite doable.

By watching the library's YouTube video on *Aligning your Money with your Values* you can get step-by-step guidance.

You may be concerned about whether climate-friendly investments will give you a good return. Research is beginning to show that investments in climate-risky funds are increasingly financially risky. If investing in environmentally friendly companies doesn't earn you as much money as your current investments, then it may be an ethical dilemma. Being environmentally conscientious is not always easy.

I heard someone recently say that learning about gardening or turning off lights is much easier than learning to divest. If you're struggling with this or are procrastinating, watch the video! When you get to the resource link, there is even an organization that can connect you with one-on-one or group help in navigating the process. You might also consider talking with friends about supporting each other through this. And again, keep in mind it is all quite doable!

There may be no perfect way to invest our money, but some ways are definitely better than others when it comes to the impact on our planet and climate.

Georgia Neill - Climate Action Committee Volunteer

If you want to learn more about the Climate Action Committee or become a member or volunteer, contact liliflanders@gmail.com. Full- or part-timers welcome!