



Climate Change is Here.

A statement from the Rabbinic Team of EcoJudaism

Climate scientists and meteorologists are clear. Climate change and most specifically the increase in atmospheric temperatures caused by fossil fuel emissions, are contributing to the present extreme weather situation we are facing here and across Europe.

Extreme weather may be something we will experience more often, and in a more intense way. This is a time for us all to be absolutely clear about the effects of climate change on our lives, livelihoods and communities. The knock on effects on health, employment and prosperity will not be long in coming.

Therefore, we, as Rabbis of communities across the denominational spectrum who together lead **EcoJudaism**, call on the community to work with us in raising the profile of getting to net zero as soon as possible and certainly by 2050.

There are two ways you can act now.

Firstly, *encourage your Synagogue to join our key project **EcoSynagogue** as soon as possible.* This way, your Synagogue community will join a pathway towards lowering fossil fuel emissions and becoming more sustainable. This will also encourage members of your communities to consider how they can adapt their lives to bring about a more sustainable planet.

Secondly, *write to your local Councillors and Member of Parliament.* Check what they are doing when it comes to supporting a net zero target. Are they fully supportive of defining this situation as a 'climate emergency', and what steps do they support being taken in their borough or constituency. If steps are already being taken – you can show your support and ask how you can get involved locally. There may be a local Sustainability group for instance.

As we learn from the great sage Hillel, '**If not now, when?**' These are critical words for us today. We at **EcoJudaism**, all year round, want to bring the community on a journey to sustainability. But at the same time, extreme heat such as this week, requires greater urgency of action, and a raising of our voice.

Join us to protect our climate. Let's do this together.

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