

BEACON

BCAN Climate justice
& intersectional issues:
beaconcan.org

Fareground Nourishing
food & community
for all: fareground.org

COLD SPRING

HR Sloop Clearwater
Protecting the river:
clearwater.org

PEEKSKILL

NEWBURGH

Community Voices
Heard Racial, social, &
economic justice:
cvhaction.org

CORNWALL

For the Many
Housing justice:
forthemany.org

1965 Storm King
Mountain preserved
against power plant



Let's build the future we want

As we face intersecting crises, we're all feeling strong feelings: motivated, angry, scared, hopeless, and hopeful. The good news is that we live amid a legacy of activism in our region, and we have the agency to make change.

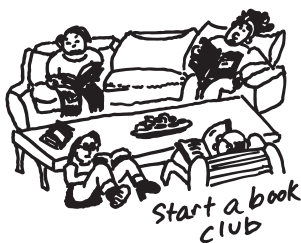
There's a lot to worry about: the looting of the federal government by billionaires, mass deportations of our immigrant friends and neighbors, the climate emergency, our country endorsing genocide, the rising costs (financial, emotional, and otherwise) of just existing in America right now.

Change has to start somewhere. Why not with us, right here, right now?

WHAT GETS YOU FIRED UP?



Correct falsehoods
when you see them



WHAT DO YOU BRING TO THE TABLE?

Tap into your interests & skills

What changes do you want to see in your community? How can you create momentum to solve problems? Are you a strong public speaker, a great writer, an artist, a spreadsheet wizard, or a baker? We all have skills to offer.

We can't wait for change to come from Washington. Choose an issue you're passionate about, and find a local angle. An act of change where you live can inspire change throughout our region: BCAN successfully campaigned in Beacon to prohibit gas hookups in new buildings. Now, New York is advancing a statewide ban.

Team up

Get to know your neighbors. They're probably fired up too! We can make the greatest impact working together as a community. Many activists—including elders and lifelong residents—are already working hard and would love our support. Find them and plug into what they're doing. (The list of organizations on the other side of this page is a great place to start!)

Maintain your motivation and prevent burnout by “building a bench” of people to support each other with complementary skills, interests, and resources.



Join a local org



Mutual aid



Form a tenants' or labor union

Take action

We can take so many actions within our community: volunteer, participate in mutual aid, protest, and keep our elected officials honest.

We also need time to have fun and bond with fellow activists: have meals together, watch a movie or read a book together, or even just throw a party!

WHAT CAN YOU DO TOGETHER?



Get to know your neighbors



Show up at city council meetings

WHERE CAN YOU CONNECT?

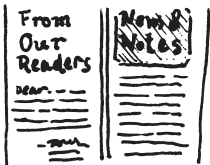
Make a plan

We're motivated to fight for change. Every person who joins the fight for justice adds momentum to our movement.

What needs doing? What are you good at? What brings you joy? Find the answers, and there is your starting place. Lean into your community and take action. Now is the time to take your next step toward the future you want to see.



WHAT ARE YOUR
NEXT STEPS?



From
Our
Readers

New &
Notes

Write letters
to the editor



VOTE

Run for office



Make a zine

Learn more at
beaconcan.org/zines



Activism in our region

In addition to spearheading Beacon's ban on new gas hookups, BCAN demanded Good Cause Eviction—rules that keep renters in their homes—and the city passed strong protections.

But we're just one organization in our region picking and winning righteous fights—other activists have been busy too. This map celebrates some of those past wins and a few organizations doing great work in our backyard. See a longer (and growing) list at beaconcan.org/zines.

Although we're using familiar place names for clarity, the original stewards of this land referred to the river as "Mahicannituck"—the water that is never still.

2024 J. Karolys and Son, LLC. of Saugerties forced to pay for polluting thanks to activists

Mid-HV Democratic Socialists of America
Fighting for systemic changes that empower working people: mhvdsa.org

The Arc Supporting children with disabilities: arcmh.org

Catskill Mountainkeeper
Protecting the environment in the region: catskillmountainkeeper.org

Catskill Animal Sanctuary
Rescuing farm animals & championing vegan living: casanctuary.org

2015 Activists stop Niagara Bottling facility from being built on Cooper Lake

SAUGERTIES

Ulster Immigrant Defense Network
Supporting needs of local immigrants: ulsterimmigrantdefensenetwork.org

New Yorkers for Clean Power
Shifting to an equitable clean energy economy: nyforcleanpower.org

KINGSTON

1924 Creation of Kingston's first housing reform ordinances

Women in Black New Paltz
Women committed to peace with justice: womeninblack.org

NEW PALTZ

Citizen Action Social, racial, economic, & environmental justice: citizenactionny.org

2022 Activists stop expansion of the Danskammer gas plant

Fishkill Creek Watershed Alliance Protect, preserve, & restore: fishkillwatershed.org

Prison Books Project
Providing free books to incarcerated persons: prisonbooksproject.org

NEWBURGH

Community Voices Heard Racial, social, & economic justice: cvhaction.org

CORNWALL

For the Many Housing justice: forthemany.org

1965 Storm King Mountain preserved against power plant

ALBANY

1991 Albany passes LGBTQ+ anti-discrimination ordinance

KINDERHOOK

Soul Fire Farm
Afro-Indigenous centered community farm: soulfirefarm.org

Housing Justice for All
Housing as a human right: housingjusticeforall.org

Environmental Advocates
Protecting air, land, water, & human health: eany.org

ATHENS

HUDSON

Friends of Hudson Youth
Strengthening the municipal youth agency: hudsonyouth.org

National Young Farmers Coalition Justice & collective liberation of food and farm systems: youngfarmers.org

1800s Successful abolitionist networks of the Underground Railroad

Beckhook Pride Corporation
Advocating for the LGBTQIA+ community: beckhookpride.com

RED HOOK

HV for Public Power Replace CenHud with a public benefit corp: hudsonvalleypowerauthority.com

RHINEBECK

Sustainable HV Leveraging progress against climate change: sustainhv.org

Defend the Valley Defending natural & human resources in the region: defendthevalley.org

Trans Closet HV Combatting clothing & economic insecurity in the trans community: transclosethv.org

Queer Family Network Helping families support their queer children and family members: queerfam.org

1969 Pete Seeger and Clearwater help pass regulations to protect river

POUGHKEEPSIE

Beacon Prison Rides Free rides from Metro-North for families visiting prisons: prisonridesproject.org

2023 Beacon becomes first community to ban fossil fuels in new buildings

Beacon Bicycle Coalition Safe streets for cyclists: bikebeacon.org

FISHKILL

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