

OCTOBER PROGRAM THEME – THE ENVIRONMENT IN POLITICS

WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS?

Environmental politics is the study of political theories and ideas related to the environment, the examination of the environmental stances of both mainstream political parties and environmental social movements, and the analysis of public policymaking and implementation affecting the environment at multiple geo-political levels.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Politicians propose, support, and create laws or policies that govern the land and, by extension, its people. These laws and policies can affect the environment in beneficial or harmful ways. For example, subsidies towards non-renewable vs. renewable forms of energy can change our rate of production of greenhouse gases, which affects the rate of climate change.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO BE MORE INFORMED?

- Look at the stances of the political leaders in your state. For North Carolina leaders, you can find their stances at [On The Issues](#).
- Visit North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper's [official website](#) to read about his stances on the environment.
- Environment North Carolina is a Democrat-affiliated political action group centered around environmental issues in North Carolina. Learn more about their [current projects](#).
- ConservAmerica is a Republican-affiliated political action group for nationwide environmental issues. Learn about their [mission](#).
- Read about current and past news about environmental health in North Carolina at [North Carolina Health News](#).

WHAT COULD MY EVENT LOOK LIKE?

- Have your residents come together and call local Representatives and Congress members to raise awareness for an environmental issue in our community! This could also be partnered with a voter registration drive!
- Host an event where you give out “political report cards” concerning the environment for the upcoming local election!
- Raise awareness for an environmental cause that you are passionate about!

