

English

Climate Change Affecting Vermont

Vermont is a special state with an environment that is loved by many, but our unique environment is endangered. Climate change is a danger to Vermont's unique environment in many ways, some of which are rising heat, disappearing wildlife, and our economy. If we do not stop these things from hurting our environment our little green state will not be familiar

Climate change is most commonly known for making temperatures rise. Vermont is also known for its cold snowy winters but sadly these things contradict each other. Temperatures have increased by around 2°F in the summer and more than 4°F in the winter since 1900. Winter, on average, has shortened by 3 weeks since 1960, with winter coming about 1 week later and spring coming about 2 weeks sooner. Winter is one of Vermont's most important characteristics.

Vermont's wildlife is also a big part of its environment, but climate change is also changing this. Winter ticks feed on moose and other animals' blood all winter, then drop off and lay their eggs. Without a snow cover, they survive and when winter comes there are more of them to latch on to animals. Because of this, many calves are dying from blood and fur loss because of itching, which causes hypothermia. Ticks are not the only unwelcome creatures that are taking over. Unlike others, invasive species are made to adapt quickly to a changing climate. Due to this invasive species populations are growing.

Vermont's skiing and snowboarding industry is a big part of its economy and environment. Climate change will shorten the ski season by 1 month at the most, and 2 weeks at the least by 2080. The skiing and snowboarding conditions may also get worse. This will result in the ski industry losing money and people losing jobs to add to the high unemployment rate. Tourism will also decline in the summer because of rising heat. People will no longer look to

Vermont to get away from the immense heat of places like Texas and Florida

In conclusion, due to climate change, some things that make Vermont, Vermont may in the future be gone and it will no longer be the unique state that it is. Though it will take a global effort to stop this, doing simple things like using solar power would take us one step closer to saving Vermont's unique and loved environment.