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Save our planet

The planet does not need humans, but we are dependent on it. If we make our planet inhabitable, our planet will live on without us or die and kill animals as well as humanity.

Focusing mainly on Vermont, we are losing our snow and maple, balsamic fir, and oak trees. If we don't stop burning fossil fuels and producing greenhouse gasses, we will lose our beautiful snow and syrup. But if you are one of those people who, god forbid, do not like snow, you can focus on the ticks numbers that are steadily rising. If we keep doing all the bad stuff we are burning and releasing into the atmosphere, we will completely deplete the ozone layer. There are 7.9 billion humans on this Earth, what we like to call, "our Earth". We are seriously overpopulated and we need to stop making so many kids.

Growing up in Vermont, I have loved the harsh winters, the mild summers, and the gorgeous fall colors. But in the next 45-55 years, we might not be able to see those beautiful and unique things that Vermont has to offer. I love being able to ride bikes with my friends, and share the beauty of this place. I love playing soccer on the Boys Calais team, with all my friends. One day, when I was in Cape Cod, walking with my friend. She and I were walking down a path by the beach. It had little wooden pegs where scientists predicted the ocean level would rise to. One of the pegs was at least 20 feet up the beach where the scientists had predicted where the sea level would be. It said 2040. If the sea level rises that much, it will destroy the beach plums and the thorny roses. We need to stop killing our beautiful planet. Because if we don't, we will kill the only place that we have to live. It needs to stop. I know that so, so, so many people out there want to stop global warming. I know that great people like Greta Thunberg and John Muir have inspired me and many others to be climate activists.

So back to what we will be expecting to see in the next ten to twenty years climate wise in Vermont. By about 2030 it will be a good chunk warmer in the winter, and our summer days will be very hot. By about 2035-2040 we will have very little snow during the winter, and a longer summer. I am seriously worried that if we keep burning things that we take for granted, like trees, brush, and pellets, we will seriously damage our little state. About 39% of Vermonters burn wood for heat, and I have to admit that I am one of those people. The smoke that is released from wood burning depletes the ozone layers which lets more radioactive solar rays into the atmosphere. That would severely damage our temperature and growing season. It worries so many people.

I ask you to please help our planet that needs us to stop destroying it. And if we don't, we can't do the things that we love so much, like camping, hiking, biking and adventuring. The amount of animals that are dying is astonishing. So many birds, mammals, and amphibians are losing their homes due to pollution, man-made forest fires, and other human-made causes. Rainforests like the Amazon are being cut down to make room for cattle, which in turn defecate and release methane into the atmosphere. Now I know a lot of us love red meat, like beef, and love to drink milk. But what if instead of eating cow meat, we started to eat a lot more venison, moose, and muskrat.

Maybe you could start a smallholding where you have your own ducks and geese. Maybe you grow crops like the mangelwurzel, which is a gigantic beet that you could grow for less money. You could give your chickens the tops of the kale plants that have flowered. You could grow sunflowers for seed, and also give that to your chickens instead of chicken feed.

My point is that you could live sustainably off the land instead of buying everything from your local shop rite. You can make your own garden beds and grow plants for a food stand that you could start for a sustainable money source.

But if you think that starting a smallholding is a bit too big of a jump, you could just start by buying less from the grocery store, maybe starting to support the smaller businesses in your town. Because if people don't support them, the big businesses will kill them. Another thing you could do would be to start a little business where you sell organic and cruelty free products that you grow in your own garden. Onions are a great crop to grow in Vermont. So are potatoes, carrots, leeks, turnips, and rutabagas. A lot of root vegetables grow very well in Vermont because we have a mild climate. It never really gets above 90 degrees fahrenheit. This means that the potatoes do not turn green or rarely get mold or blight. Last year, I think we got about two wheelbarrow loads of potatoes. (for a more accurate count, about nine hunger mountain coop paper bags).

Then I had this idea. What if I try to get my community to try to be more self-sufficient, maybe start a smallholding, or just try to get or grow more organic food. It is a good idea to try to start getting bags that are biodegradable, start using straws that are made out of bamboo so that you can use them more than once. The point that I am trying to tell you is that we need to start treating our planet better, because if we do not, we will lose our beautiful home, our Earth.