

Let's strike a new deal that works for US

Most Appalachians—whether white, Black or brown; whether they live in cities, small towns or the backwoods—care deeply about their communities. For too long, absentee corporate CEOs and a handful of their politicians have rigged the rules against us, draining the natural wealth from our region while we suffer from poverty, low wages and high unemployment.

Reimagine Appalachia is dedicated to making sure that no matter what we look like or the size of our bank account, everyone who lives here can have a good job, is cared for, can put down roots for the future, and leave healthy land for their children. Today national conversations are taking place around climate change and federal stimulus packages designed to create jobs and upgrade our nation's infrastructure. We are demanding those plans not only include Appalachians but make us a priority. The blueprint we created shows the way forward.

Our nation is in crisis. The pandemic and the economic collapse of 2020. The long-term challenges of economic inequality, racism, and climate change. There is little question that the United States needs change—real, lasting, structural change.

The people of Appalachia's Ohio River Valley—spanning West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, and Pennsylvania—must have a say in how that change happens. It is an opportunity to bring much needed resources into the region.



(1) Maximize good union jobs • Provide fossil fuel workers with genuine opportunities doing the work • Ensure access to union jobs for Black, Indigenous, women and low-wage workers • Ensure community benefits from federal investments via public input and community oversight (2) Restore our damaged lands and waters • Modernize the electric grid • Grow manufacturing by making it cleaner and more efficient • Build a sustainable transportation system • Revive the Civilian Conservation Corps (3) Promote union rights, better pay, benefits and local ownership models for working people across all industries in the region

We believe

The people of the Ohio River Valley have the ingredients to lead the United States into economic recovery.

We have the skills, the grit, the natural resources, and the commitment to each other. Whether we're white, Black, or Brown, live in big cities or small towns, we love our neighbors and our families.

We can rebuild our economy by (1) expanding opportunity through public investments, (2) building a 21st Century economy with investments that create jobs by greening the economy; and (3) rebuilding the middle class including by strengthening workers' right to form unions in all sectors and boosting local ownership.

Join our campaign

Reimagine Appalachia is a new campaign for lasting economic fairness. It is by and for the people of Appalachia. It includes policy experts, grassroots groups, and community leaders from across the region, including the organizations that have endorsed our blueprint.

The work of Reimagine Appalachia is time sensitive. Federal policymakers are already designing stimulus and infrastructure packages to lift us out of the COVID recession, work that is likely to intensify after the presidential election. In addition, long-overdue debates about climate legislation and racial justice are intensifying. The people of Appalachia need to be at the table making these decisions—or we'll be on the menu.

We're asking you to join us. Share your hopes, visions, and ideas for Appalachia. Visit ReImagineAppalachia.org to learn how you can add your voice and help make the vision a reality.

List of current endorsers

Appalachian Citizens' Law Center (ACLC) Appalachian Voices Appalshop Art of Pieces Ashtabula County Young Democrats Athens County's Future Action Network BCMAC-Beaver County Marcellus Awareness Community Black Women Rising Breathe Project Center for Energy & Sustainable Development, WVU College of Law Children's Defense Fund-Ohio Climate Reality Pittsburgh Communities First Sewickley Concerned Ohio River Residents Congress on Faith and Justice Earthworks

FracTracker
Freshwater Accountability Project
Institute for Sustainable Power
Izaak Walton League of America- Allegheny
County

Foundation for PA Watersheds

Kentucky Center for Economic Policy Kentucky Resources Council, Inc. Kentucky Waterways Alliance Keystone Research Center Mid-Ohio Valley Climate Action Mountain State Justice National Association of Social Workers West

Virginia Chapter
National Wildlife Federation
New Morning Energy, LLC

Ohio Environmental Council Ohio Interfaith Power & Light Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition PASA Sustainable Agriculture PennFuture Pennsylvania Budget and Policy

Center
Pennsylvania Council of Churches
Planned Parenthood South Atlantic

Plant-Based Pittsburgh Policy Matters Ohio Powhatan Point Church of the

Nazarene Protect PT (Penn-Trafford) ReImagine Beaver County ReImagine Butler County

Revolt Energy RiverWise Slippery Rock University Sustainable

Enterprise Accelerator Solar United Neighbors SWPA Environmental Health Project The Battle of Homestead Foundation Thrive At Life: Working Solutions

West Liberty University
West Virginia Center on Budget &
Policy

West Virginia Environmental Council West Virginia Headwaters

Waterkeeper West Virginia Interfaith Power and

West Virginia National Organization of Women West Virginia Rivers Coalition WV Citizen Action