

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.

REIMAGINING APPALACHIA A NEW DEAL THAT WORKS FOR US WOULD: Expand opportunity through public investments Build a 21st century sustainable Appalachia Rebuild the middle class

(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

Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments Appalachian Citizens' Law Center (ACLC)

Appalachian Headwaters

Appalachian Mountain Advocates

Appalachian Voices Appalshop

Art of Pieces

Ashtabula County Young Democrats Athens County's Future Action Network

Battle of Homestead Foundation

BCMAC-Beaver County Marcellus Awareness Community

Better Path Coalition Bike Pittsburgh Black Women Rising Breathe Project

Center for Energy & Sustainable Development,

WVU College of Law

Central Appalachian Network Children's Defense Fund-Ohio

Chindren's Defense Fund-Onlo
Clean Air Council
Climate Reality Pittsburgh
Coalfield Development
Communities First Sewickley
Community Farm Alliance
Concerned Ohio River Residents

Congress on Faith and Justice Data for Justice Defensores de la Cuenca

Dream Corps

Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

Earth Conservancy Earthworks

Ensemble Wind and Solar

Evangelical Environmental Network Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2) Foundation for PA Watersheds For West Virginia's Future

FracTracker

Freshwater Accountability Project

Global Institute for Sustainable Prosperity (GISP)

Green Building Alliance Green Party Allegheny County Group Against Smog and Pollution Institute for Sustainable Power

Izaak Walton League of America-Allegheny County Kanawha Valley National Organization for Women

Kentucky Conservation Committee Kentucky Center for Economic Policy Kentucky Interfaith Power & Light Kentucky Resources Council, Inc. Kentucky Waterways Alliance Keystone Research Center

Landforce

Marcellus Outreach Butler County Mid-Ohio Valley Climate Action Moms Clean Air Force- West Virginia

MomsRising

Mountain State Justice

National Association of Social Workers, Ohio Chapter

National Association of Social Workers,

West Virginia Chapter
The Natural History Museum
New Morning Energy, LLC
National Commonwealth Group
National Wildlife Federation
Natural Resources Defense Council
Ohio Environmental Council
Ohio Interfaith Power & Light
Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition

One Worker One Vote Optimize Renewables LLC PASA Sustainable Agriculture

PennFuture

Pennsylvania Budget and Policy Center Pennsylvania Council of Churches Pennsylvania Solar Center

Planned Parenthood South Atlantic

Plant-Based Pittsburgh Plant Five for Life Policy Matters Ohio

Powhatan Point Church of the Nazarene

Praxia Partners

Protect Allegheny County Protect PT (Penn-Trafford) Radical Joy for Hard Times Reconnecting McDowell ReImagine Beaver County ReImagine Butler County

Revolt Energy

River Valley Organizing

RiverWise

Slippery Rock University Sustainable Enterprise Accelerator

Solar United Neighbors Sprout Farms Corp

SWPA PA Cancer and Environment Collaborative Network

SWPA Environmental Health Project

Spectrum Family Practice
Student Conservation Association
Sustainable Monroeville
Sustainable Pittsburgh

Thrive At Life: Working Solutions
Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership

University of Pittsburgh- Graduate School of Public and

International Affairs

Vegan Spirituality- Southwest PA Vincentian Ohio Action Network

West Liberty University

West Virginia Center on Budget & Policy West Virginia Environmental Council West Virginia Headwaters Waterkeeper West Virginia Interfaith Power and Light West Virginia National Organization of Women

West Virginia Rivers Coalition

West Virginia University Center for Resilient Cities

Women for a Healthy Environment

WV Citizen Action