



RISING TO THE CHALLENGE:

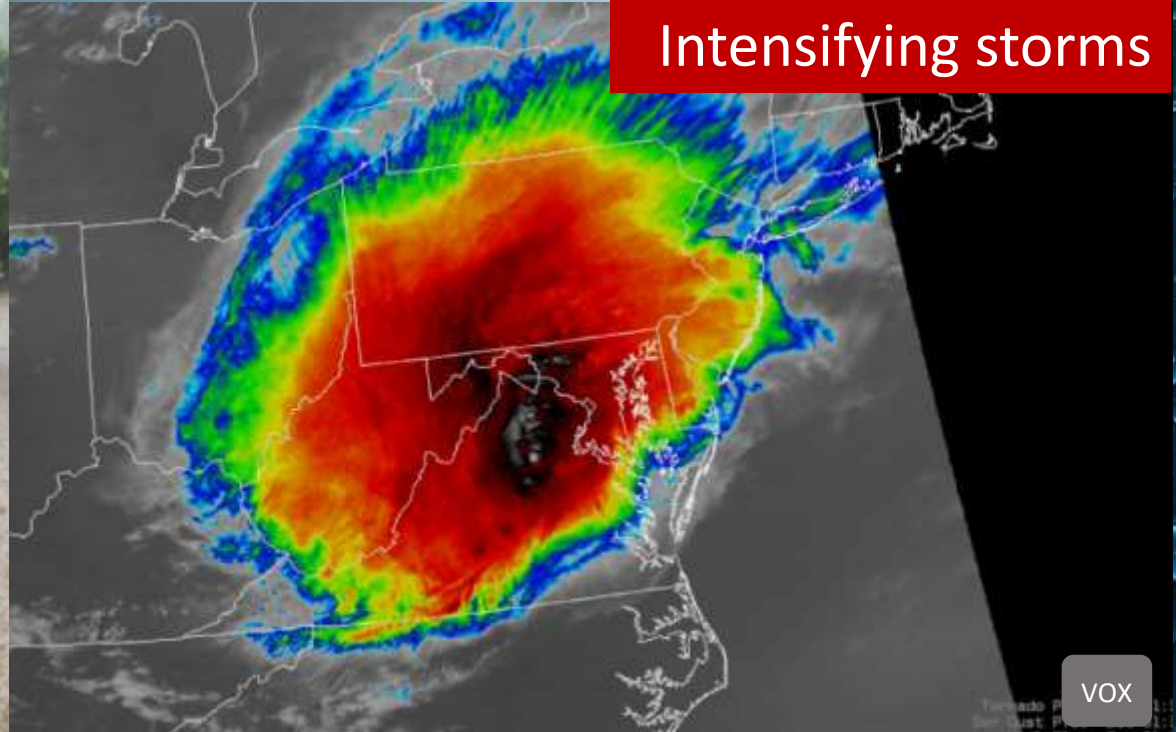
Building Community in the Face of Climate Change

Flooding & Safety

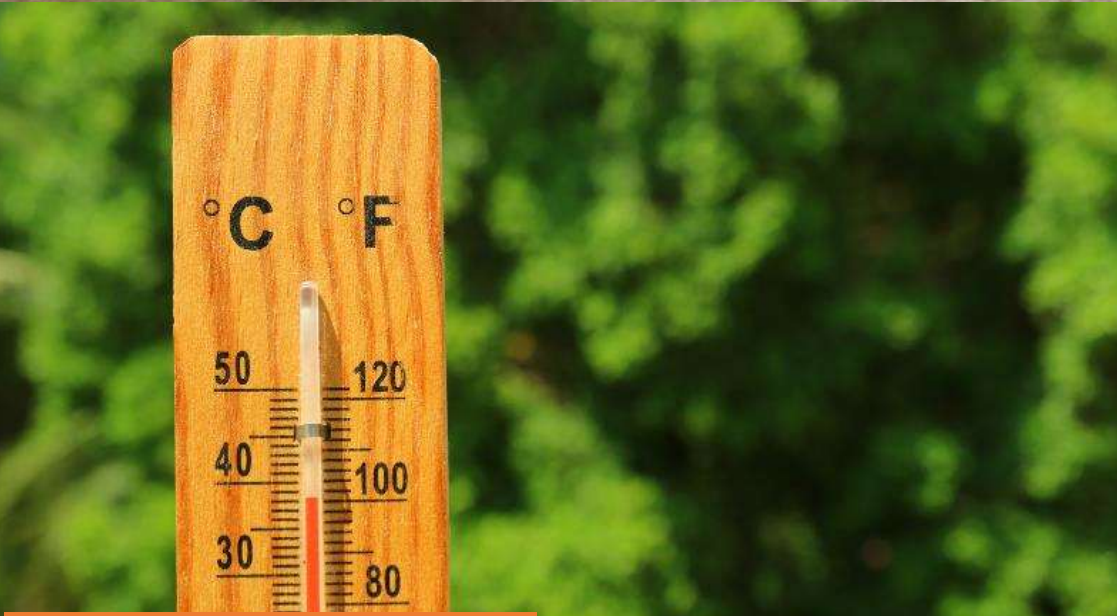


WTOP/DAVE DILDINE

Intensifying storms



VOX



Oppressive heat



BAY JOURNAL

Rising sea levels

Open in News ↗



AIR QUALITY

313 - Hazardous

Air quality index is 313, which is worse than yesterday at about this time.



HOURLY FORECAST

Now	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM



Assessing Attitude Changes

Q. How concerned are you by the local effects of the changing climate?

	2021	2023	<i>Difference</i>
Very concerned	45%	74%	+29%
Somewhat concerned	43%	20%	-23%
Not very concerned	8%	4%	-4%
Not at all/Don't know	4%	2%	-2%

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NEW
REPORT

RISING TO THE CHALLENGE: A NEW CLIMATE REALITY IN THE POTOMAC RIVER REGION

Report Series

PART 1

Our changing climate

PART 2

A River Rising

PART 3

Community Impact

PART 4

Vulnerable habitats

PART 5

Agriculture & Fisheries

PART 6

Climate solutions

Key Findings

Extreme storms and longer droughts are the new norm

By 2100, much of Washington, DC could be permanently underwater

Summers could be insufferable in our region by mid-century

The Potomac River is rising rapidly – at twice the global rate

Climate triggers are increasing Lyme disease, asthma, and allergy

Brook trout, hemlock trees, and wood thrush may not survive



Nature to the rescue! Here are 4 ways our community is strengthening nature's defenses.

Sea level rise and stronger storm surges have been a wakeup call for shoreline communities – and encouragingly, many are taking action to create a safer, more resilient future.

It's simple, really.

We can prepare our communities for the future and reduce pollution by working with nature, not against it. Here are 4 ways our community is driving change through nature-based solutions:



KEEP OUR WETLANDS WORKING FOR EVERYONE

Mattawoman Creek protects us from flooding, provides us with beauty and fish, and safeguards deep cultural heritage. Now it's time for us to preserve its past and future.

STOP THE AIRPORT EXPANSION!



RISING TO THE CHALLENGE
A New Climate Reality in the Potomac River Region



PART 3B

People, Health, and Justice

In Part 3b of our climate series, we explore the science, the stories, and the solutions that confront environmental justice and public health inequities in the Potomac River region.

 PUBLISHED SEPTEMBER 6, 2021

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 PRESS/MEDIA



Milder winters, wetter weather, deforestation, and urban sprawl are creating the ideal climate for ticks

You consult your veterinarian about the best tick protection for your dog. You tuck your pants into your socks while hiking through tall grasses and diligently do a tick check after each woodland excursion. [🐦 Unfortunately, when it comes to the war on tick-carried diseases, the climate crisis is on the side of the disease.](#)



INCREASED FLOODING IS CAUSING FUNGAL SPORES (FROM MILDEW, MOLDS, RUSTS, AND YEASTS) TO BECOME MORE PREVALENT.



You know, public health costs are tremendous in lower resource communities because of higher rates of chronic diseases. So investing in communities of color to mitigate these extreme weather events, which are becoming more and more frequent, will ultimately be worth it for municipal governments as it will help save money on the back end.



ABEL OLIVO

Executive Director, Defensores de la Ceunca (Defenders of the Watershed)



Buzzard Point: “Clean this Place, Don’t Displace”

“

We have to fight to ensure this neighborhood remains mixed income and culturally diverse, 30 to 100 years from now.



KARI FULTON

Near Buzzard Point Resilient Action Committee (NeRAC)

Brandywine, MD: An on-going fight to be seen and heard

Brandywine, Maryland is an unincorporated community with no town council or mayor. Its population is 74% Black. According to the CEEJH website , “This lack of political representation has led to Brandywine being exploited by County leadership and state officials to act as a dumping ground for industrial hazards and locally unwanted land uses (LULUs) and a sacrifice zone for the rest of Prince George’s County, the state of Maryland, and the Washington, D.C. region.”





Mount Clinton, VA: Finding solutions in the land

The [New Community Project Climate Farm](#) is an example of climate justice solutions led by those most impacted by climate change – in this case, immigrant climate refugees with traditional ecological knowledge of regenerative agriculture methods from their home countries. This intersectional project is a 6-acre agricultural research center for carbon farming and food production methods suitable to Rockingham County in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.

HOW CAN WE PROTECT THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT WE CALL HOME?

ADDRESSING THE ROOT PROBLEMS IS KEY!



The next step: We must turn things around.

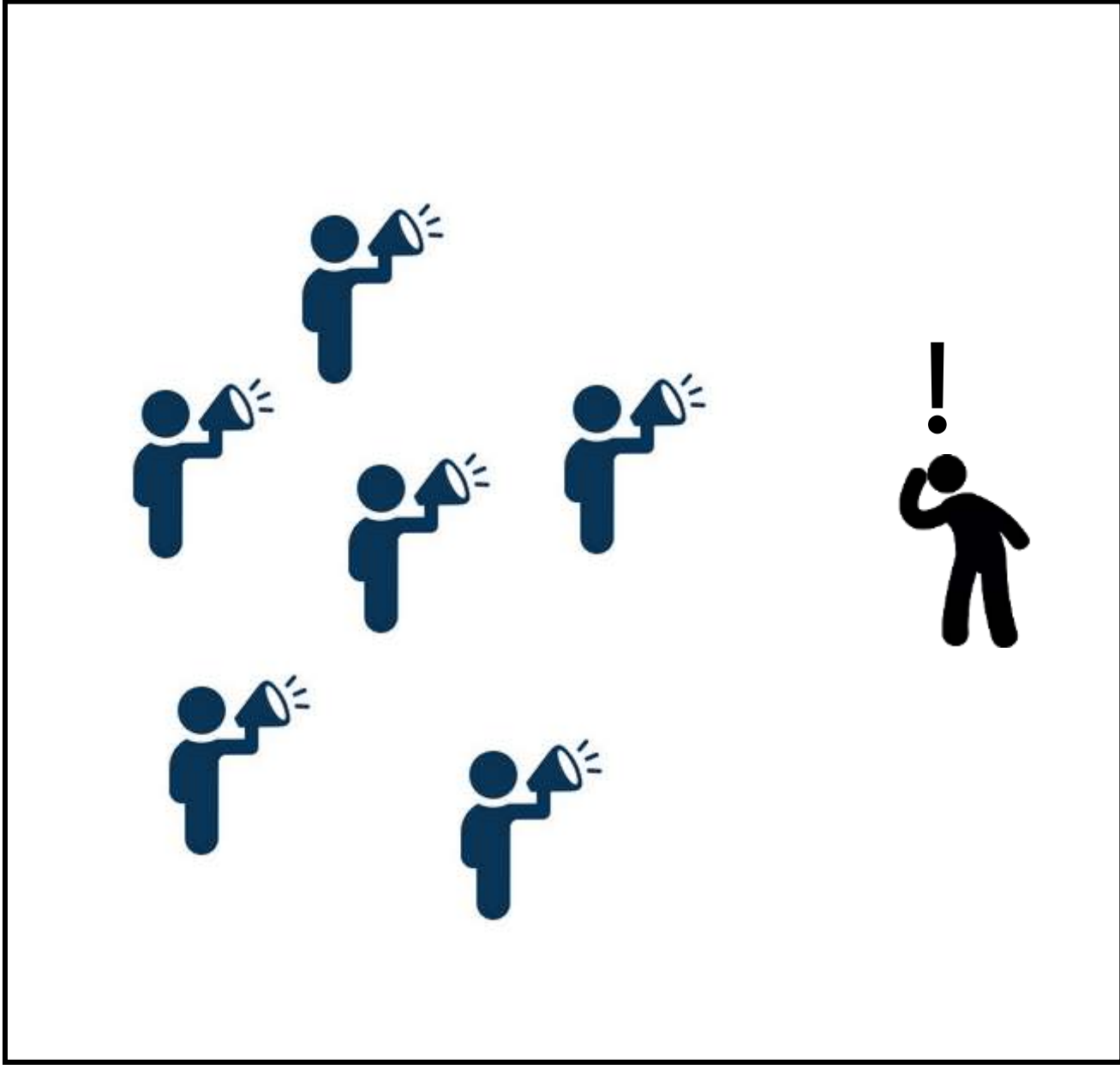
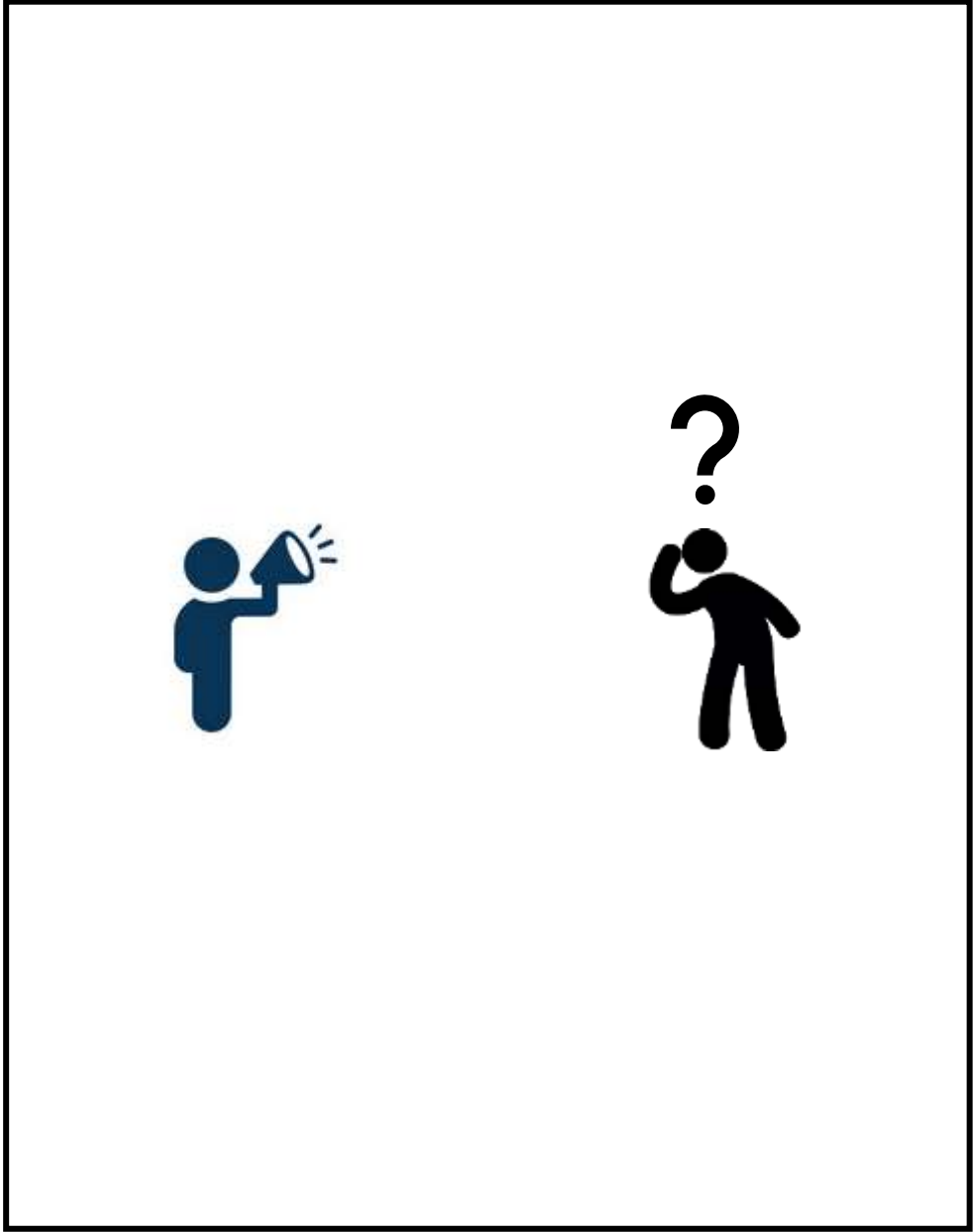
The climate crisis is the challenge of our lifetime. Together, we have the power to overcome it.

We can protect the Potomac River – and the wildlife and communities that depend on it – by addressing the root cause of greenhouse gas emissions: unsustainable, fossil-fuel based systems.









HOW POLITICS GOT SO POLARIZED

In a new era of hyperpartisan identities, can anything bring "us" and "them" together?

By Elizabeth Kolbert
December 27, 2017



Deep dive into Meta's algorithms shows that America's political polarization has no easy fix



COMMUNITIES VS CLIMATE CHANGE

The power of local action

Responsiveness: Local action can be **responsive** to conditions on the ground. It can also be flexible as conditions change, in ways that national and international action cannot match.

Legitimacy: Local action has an inherent **legitimacy** with local people. The transitions that climate change necessitates can be negotiated at this level without creating the pushback that might come from more top-down approaches.

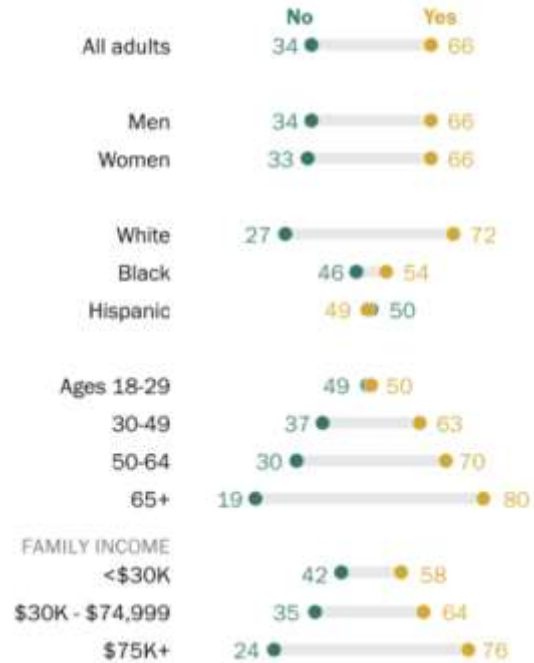
Power over adaptation: Local action is better placed to facilitate **adaptation** to specific consequences of climate change than national or international actions, because the consequences will be different in every local area.

“We’ve come through 75 years where having neighbors was essentially optional: if you had a credit card, you could get everything you needed to survive dropped off at your front door. But the next 75 years aren’t going to be like that; we’re going to need to return to the basic human experience of relying on the people around you.”



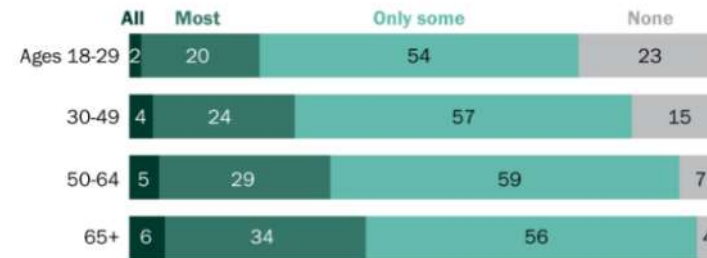
About two-thirds of Americans who know their neighbors would trust them with their house keys

% saying they feel comfortable asking to leave a set of keys with their neighbors for emergencies, among those who know at least some of their neighbors



Older Americans are more likely to know their neighbors than younger ones

% saying they know ___ of their neighbors, by age



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Feb. 26-March 11, 2018.

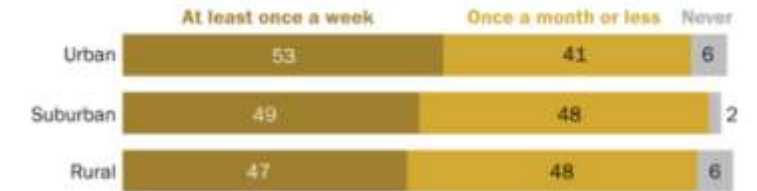
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Rural residents are more likely to know most or all neighbors – but not to interact with them

% saying they know all or most of their neighbors



% saying they have face-to-face conversations with any of their neighbors, among those who know at least some of their neighbors



Note: Shares of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Feb. 26-March 11, 2018.

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Key Findings

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We're going to try something. Every second Saturday of the month (weather permitting), we are going to host an open house/open yard potluck, picnic style get together at our home.

Come anytime after 3 pm for as long or as little as you want. Just bring something to share.

RSVP if you want but we'll be here so feel free to just come over.

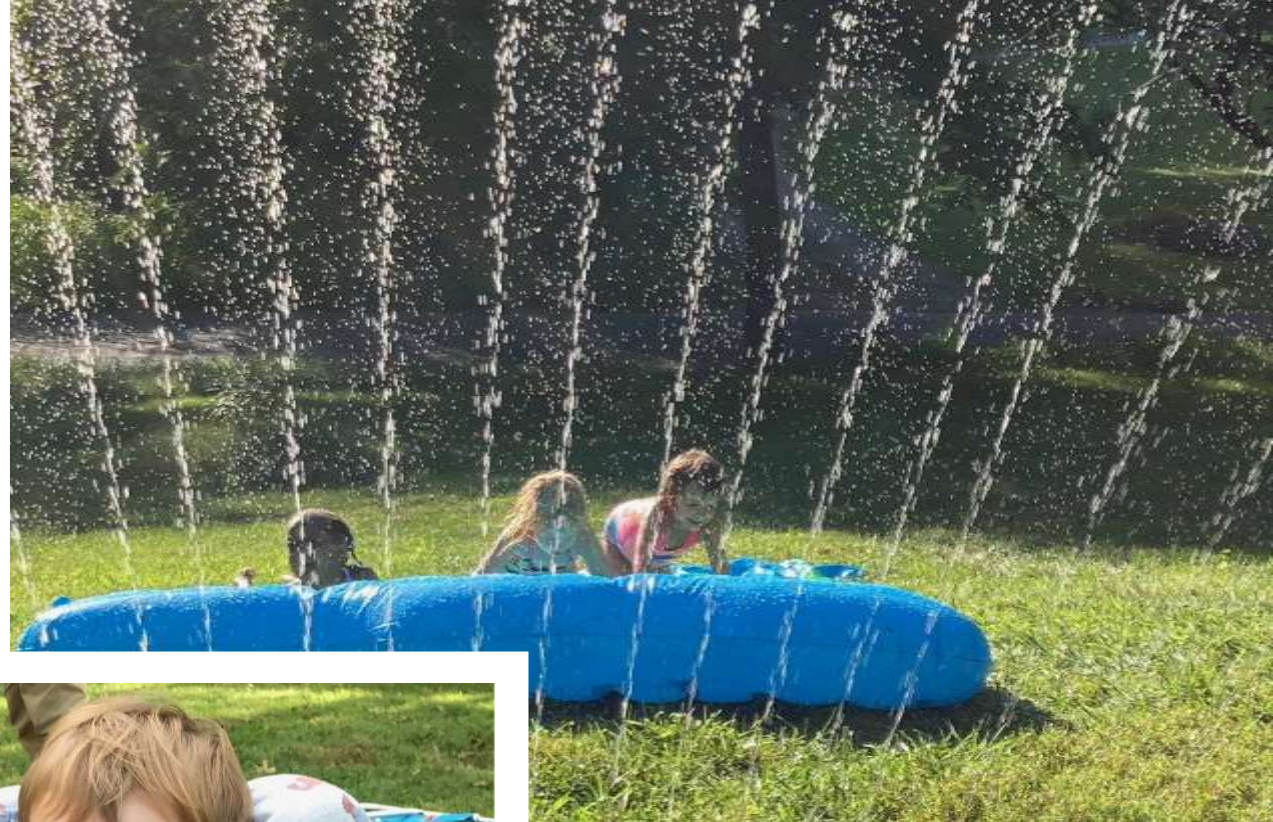
The first one will be on August 13th. [REDACTED]

We'll send reminders a couple weeks ahead of time and will also send emails if we have to cancel because of weather.

Hoping this makes it easier to see all you wonderful people more often and get to know those of you we haven't met yet!

Peter, Katie, Cecilia, and Rosie









Questions?



Katie Blackman

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Rising to the Challenge

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