

# **Wilmington Joins “Global Work Party” to Solve the Climate Crisis**

## ***Over 180 countries join 10/10/10: a day of practical climate action***

Wilmington -- From UNC Wilmington to the roof of the president’s house in the Maldiv Islands, people from over 180 nations joined today in the largest day of carbon-cutting the planet has ever seen.

In Wilmington, North Carolina, over 40 people, including students, professors, scientists and community members, gathered today to take part in a Global Day of Climate Action. Departing from campus on bikes, the mass made its way downtown to hear Susi Hamilton (NC House Candidate) and Jim Leutze (NC Senate Candidate) express how their platforms will address climate change. The group then made its way on bikes to a local community garden to get to work on local sustainable gardening.

“The people of Wilmington, North Carolina and the students of UNC Wilmington joined today to confront the problem of corruption in politics. The influence of oil and coal money has led to disasters like the BP oil spill and has stood in the way of a safe and proactive climate policy. It’s time for change and it’s time for action. Politicians need to work for people, not corporate polluters,” says Brady Bradshaw, a student at UNCW.

From dawn down under, when bicycle mechanics in Auckland New Zealand fanned out across the city repairing thousands of cycles, to nightfall on the west coast of the U.S. when thousands gathered in Seattle for a giant concert after a day of planting community gardens, the Global Work Party involved almost every country on earth.

“People were doing very practical things today,” said [350.org](http://350.org) founder Bill McKibben. “But they also were sending a pointed political message. When they put down their shovels, many picked up their cell-phones to call their leaders and say: ‘We’re getting to work, what about you?’”

Additional highlights of the day included:

Community members retrofitted low-income homes in New Orleans

The City of Paris committed to reducing its emissions 10% in 2010  
Participants in Portland, Oregon joined a bicycle protest “Roll Against Coal”

Women attended a solar oven workshop in Karachi

In Oakland, people revitalized a community garden and launched a clean energy tour to educate voters about Proposition 23, an effort by oil companies to block California's climate law.

“So many of our politicians are listening to the coal and oil companies that fund their campaigns instead of their own constituents,” said Phil Radford, Greenpeace USA Executive Director, “It’s time our leaders get to work for people and the planet, not polluters.”

A huge variety of people helped organize the day’s events, from small grassroots groups like Nepalese Youth for Climate Action to international environmental giants like Greenpeace and Oxfam.

“Hopefully it will spur some action at the next UN meeting in Mexico this December,” said McKibben. “Maybe now that they’ve seen us hammering in solar panels, they’ll decide to hammer out a treaty.”

### **About [350.org](http://350.org)**

Founded by American environmentalist Bill McKibben, [350.org](http://350.org) is an international campaign that works to build a global climate movement. On October 24, 2009 they organized what CNN called the “most widespread day of political action in the planet’s history.” [350.org](http://350.org) is named after the goal of reducing the concentration of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere from its current level of 390 parts per million to below 350 ppm, the safe upper limit according to the latest science.

### **About Greenpeace:**

Greenpeace is the leading independent campaigning organization that uses peaceful direct action and creative communication to expose global environmental problems and to promote solutions that are essential to a green and peaceful future.