

Forging City-Community Partnerships for Climate Action

Lessons from the Social Sciences and Chicago



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Key Ideas from Yesterday

- Wicked problems
- Social infrastructure
- Deliberative mechanisms
- Inclusion: need diverse communities at the table
- Acceptance of diverse perspectives
- Community-based planning
- Neighborhood networks
- Translational leaders

... PROCESS MATTERS for Climate Action

- A “wicked problem” can only be solved through collaborative problem-solving, innovation, and experimentation
- Resilience is strengthened through collaboration
- Policies need broad support
- Why today? Municipal debt, understaffing necessitates even more decentralized action

Emerging Engagement Approach: Collaborative Governance

Emphasis	Process determines outcome: Municipal-community partnerships
Community Relationship	Shared ownership and leadership; communities are experts and co-analysts/co-producers of baseline knowledge and solutions
Focus	Climate change adaptation, some mitigation, “sustainable well-being”
Actions	Participatory planning and implementation programs: behavior change embedded in capacity-building leadership development

Historical Precedent: Civic Environmentalism

- *Model:* state nurtures asset-based community development and consensus-building
- *Mid-90s:* continued environmental progress seen as linked to civic revitalization and community capacity
- *Focus:* nonpoint source pollution, ecosystem protection, land management, environmental justice

EPA



Community Culture and the Environment

A Guide to Understanding a Sense of Place



CARE: Celebrating 100 Grants

Classic Reasons to Focus on Process

- People need to implement policies: climate change requires active “eco-citizenship”
- Continuity: administrations change
- Participation leads to buy-in, ownership, and motivation
- Collaborative Governance has shown real results:
 - Public Health
 - Community Policing

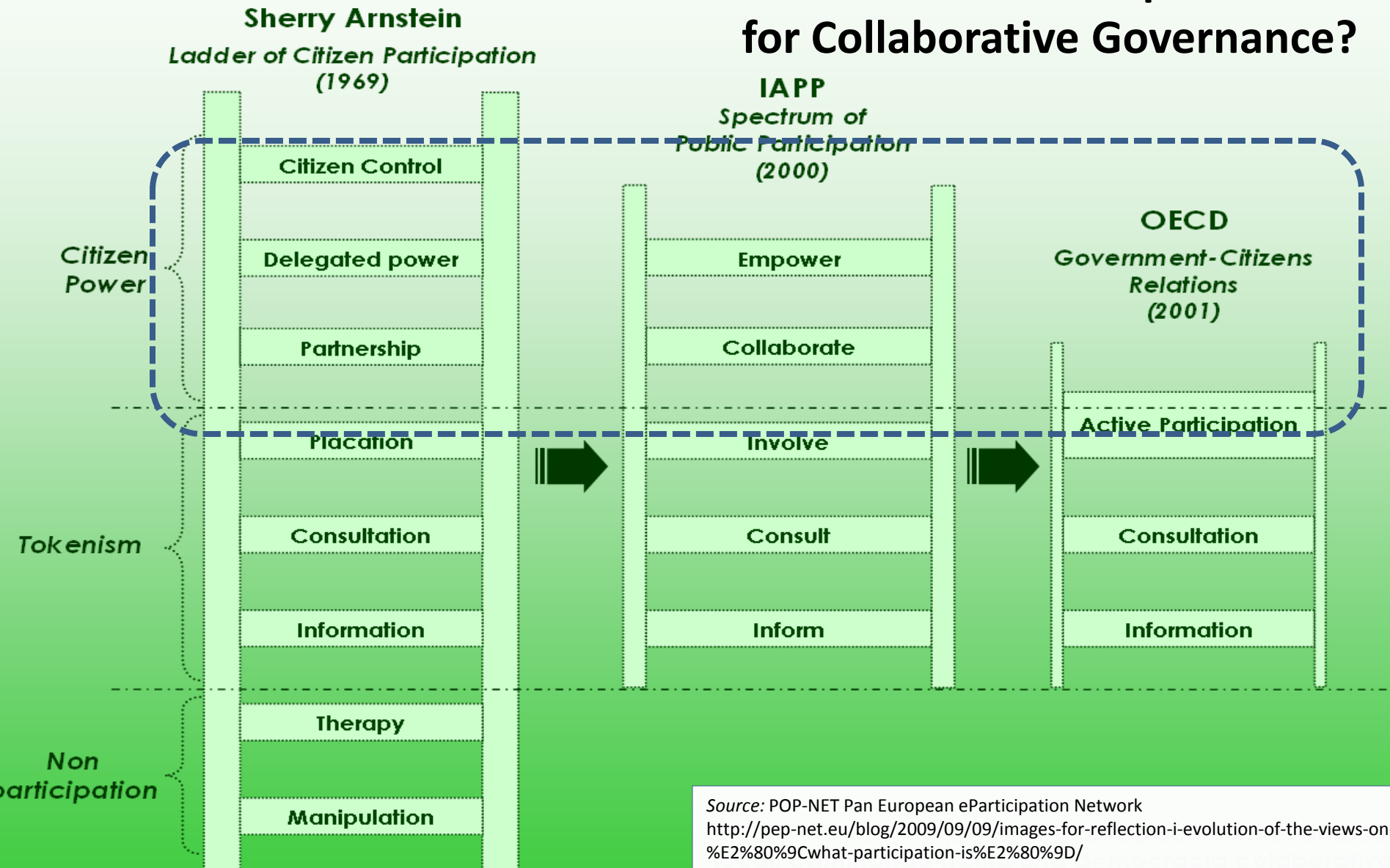
“Collaborative Governance” – What’s in a Name?



Collaborative Governance
Active Civic Participation
Asset-Based Community Development
Democratic Deliberation Civil Society Participation
Grassroots Innovations Participatory Planning
Bottom-Up Neighborhood Planning and Development

Additional Justice Approach

What is Participation for Collaborative Governance?



Chicago Climate Partnerships



Research to Action



Creative Engagement Methods

What 3 Words Come to Mind When You Hear Climate Change?

Visual Collages of Climate-Friendly Practices

Object Elicitation

Place Yourself On the Line

Climate-Friendly Practices Checklist

What Does Climate Change Look Like to You?

Participatory Photography

Story Collecting/Telling

Green Asset Mapping

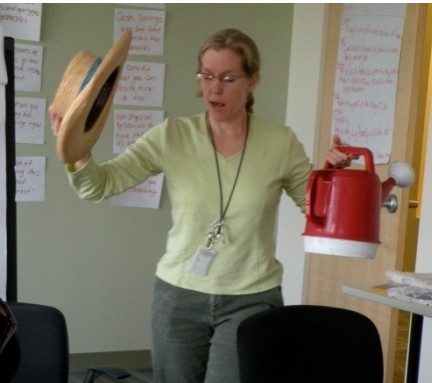
Community Curation

Participatory Mapping Home Interviews Community Concerns Checklist

Participatory Action Research

Data Visualization Photography/Video

Community Review of Findings





CHICAGO COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION TOOLKIT
 climatechicago.fieldmuseum.org

Popular Education & Asset-Mapping Tools



GUIDE TO A CLIMATE-FRIENDLY DIET

Did you know you can help reduce climate change simply by changing some of your eating habits? The American food system is responsible for a lot of the carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases we produce overall. This means that the meals we eat have a big impact on our climate. Since we all eat,

HERE ARE A FEW STEP

EAT LOCAL & SUSTAINABLE

In addition to considering where your food comes from, consider how it was made. Sometimes, producing locally emits more carbon than shipping from away. For example, "conventional" agriculture of chemical fertilizers that deplete soil and 1 amounts of resources and energy to produce conventional agriculture include chemicals which disrupt plant and animal life, and into (turning over the soil), which uses a lot of fuel ways of growing food, including organic agriculture use of water, sunshine, and farming methods over many centuries (see box below).



Mapping Green Assets: A Workshop for Identifying Community Strengths

Category	Examples
Libraries	School, public, university library working on the Go Green project
Businesses	Goodwill store, vegetarian restaurant, yoga studio, car sharing company, repair shop, bike shop, recycling center, health food store, fair trade store, sustainable food restaurant/cafe
Religious Institutions	Church, synagogue, mosque, or religious leader
Community Organizations	Garden club, farmers' market, block club, ethnic association, Sierra Club chapter, daycare center, YMCA
Guidelines	Private yard, community or corporate garden, master gardeners, beekeepers, plant experts
Government Agencies	Historical Society, public transit, aldermen
Public Parks/Park Districts	Park (publicly owned or pocket park), Park District, naturalists
Health Organizations	Clinic, hospital
Schools/Colleges/Universities	Elementary school, community college, active PTA, green student groups
Natural Areas	Forest preserves, waterways, trails, beaches, bird nesting areas, native landscapes
Public Art/Public Space	Murals, town centers, meeting halls, boulevards
Other Green Assets	Local media, writing group, theater, block club

Focus on Assets

Tangible Assets

- Active libraries/art centers
- Nature preserves
- Entrepreneurs invested in the community
- City-wide partnerships
- Construction/gardening skills
- High percentage of home ownership

Intangible Assets

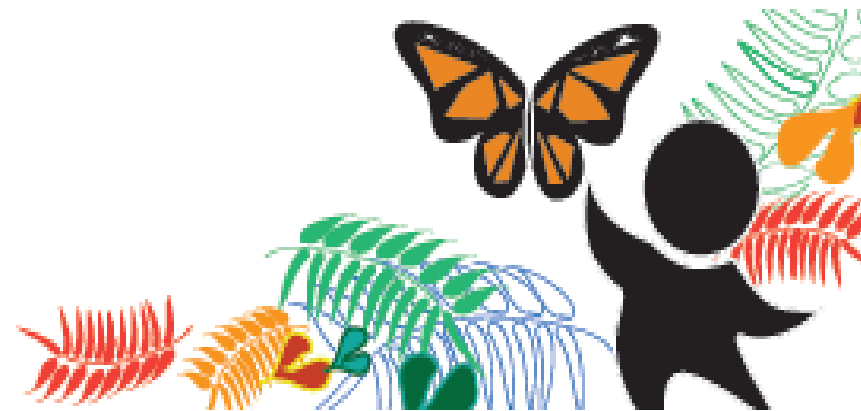
- Home country-town/family traditions: re-use, gardening, water conservation
- Awareness of climate change through Hurricane Katrina, local weather events
- History of collaboration to address big challenges

Concerns

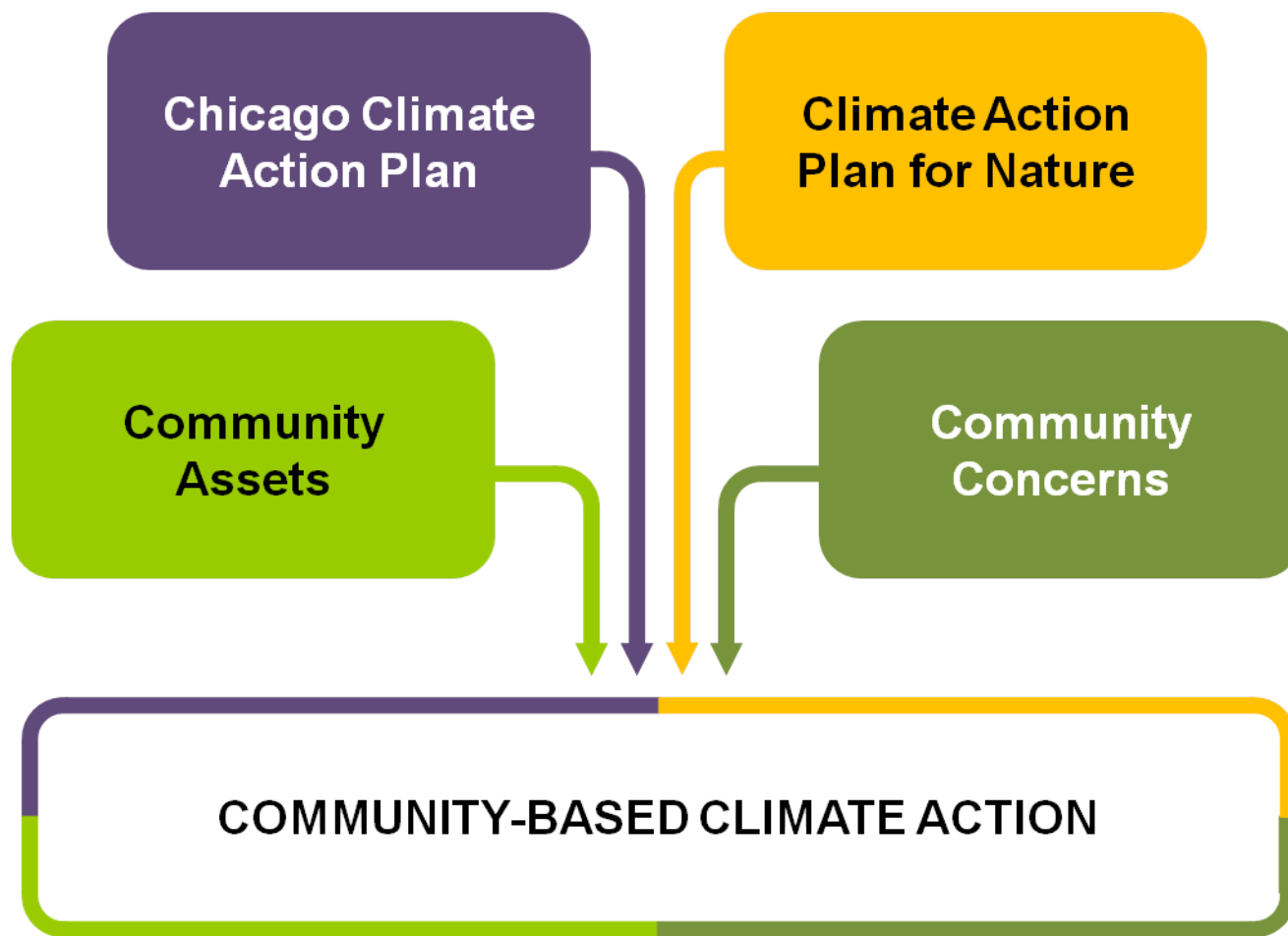
- Access to healthy food
- Youth opportunities
- Air quality
- Beautification
- Economic development
- Revitalizing cultural traditions

Barriers

- Green as gentrification
- Community image
- Suspicion of outside institutions (city, universities)



Regional Plans, Tailored Community Action



This approach is carried out within broader community efforts for social and environmental change.

Community Action Projects

Project	Community	Climate Strategy
	<p>Youth Local Economy Community Image Stakeholder Collaboration</p>	<p>Climate-Friendly Gardens Climate Change Education Water Conservation Stewardship</p>
	<p>Mexican Culture Environmental Justice Immigration Youth</p>	<p>Climate-Friendly Gardens Climate Change Education Water Conservation Stewardship</p>

City-Community Collaboration



Collabor-Action Network



Community of Practice



*Accelerating sustainability initiatives in
Chicago's 77 communities.*

6 Key Components of Chicago's Collaborative Governance Approach

Democratic Deliberation	Facilitation techniques help diverse voices be heard—for planning and implementation
Assets Focus	Building on strengths motivates participation, spreads innovations, and maximizes creativity and impact
Popular, Visual Education	Connect local experiences to structural phenomena so issues become personal; visual/sensory engagement is key
Local-Global Connections	Local connections are key, as are connections to communities' global affinity groups
Community Narrative/Identity	Climate change and action needs to become a part of personal and community stories and aspirations—beyond saving money, social capital/norms
Tools & Train-the-Trainer	On climate and process (including facilitation)

Maintenance & Scale-Up – Without Us



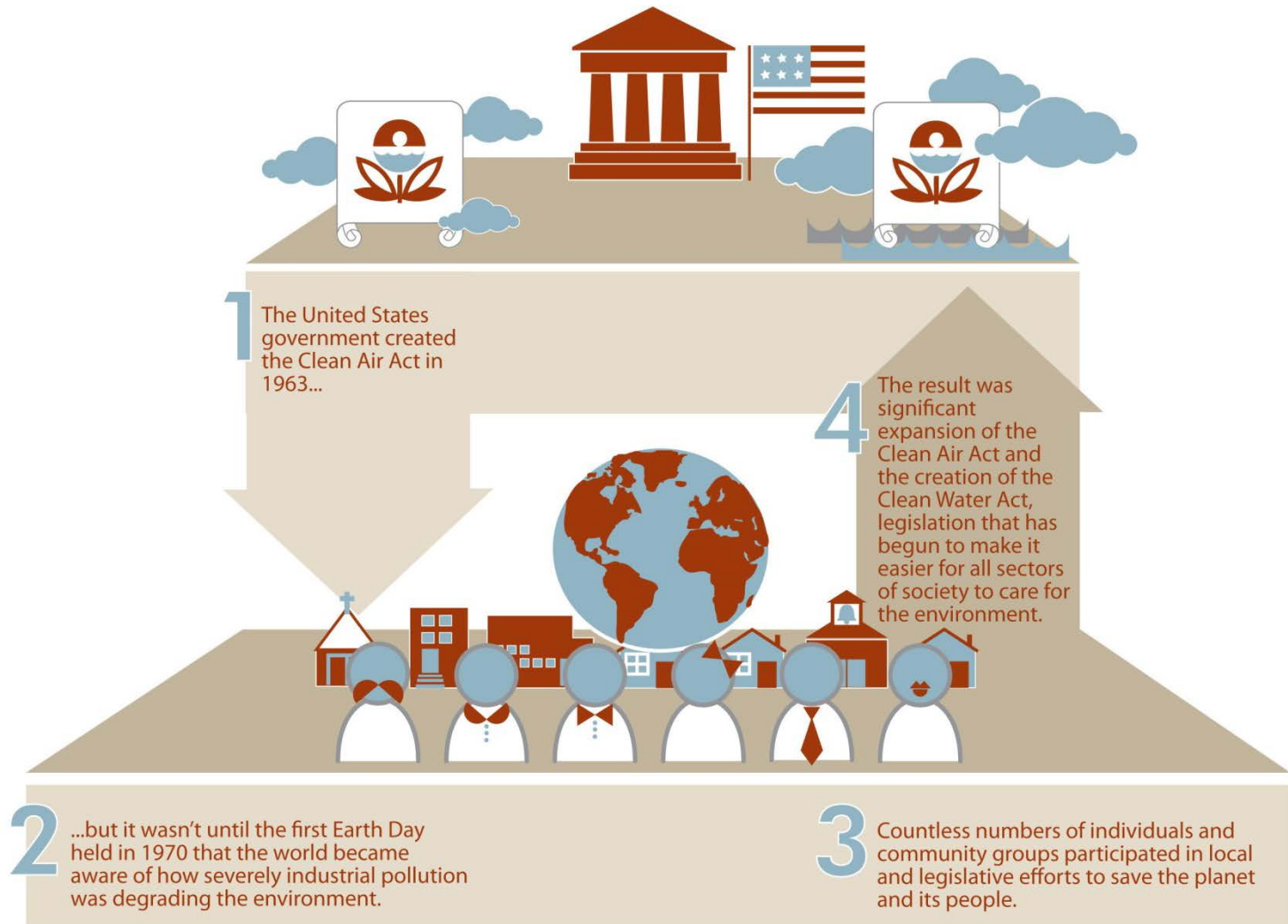
Illinois EPA Awards Grants for Stormwater Management Programs

Earth Day is celebrated through water pollution prevention

Urban Juncture, Inc., Chicago	\$404,656	<u>Bronzeville Cookin'</u> Demonstration Roof and Parking Facility	Green roof, rooftop cistern and permeable parking at redeveloped warehouse, will address stormwater and pollutants in the Chicago River.
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Impact Model – and Challenge



“Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir men's blood...”

-Daniel Burnham, Legendary Urban Planner

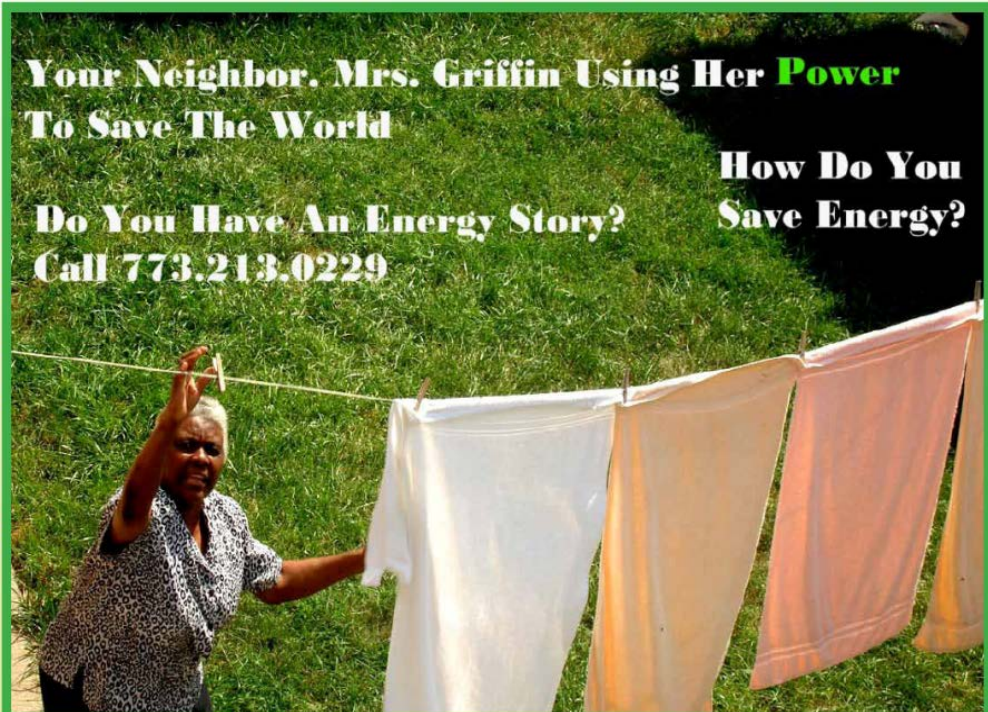
“The world seems to be looking for the big solution, which is itself part of the problem, since the most effective solutions are both local and systemic.”

- Paul Hawken, *Blessed Unrest*

**Your Neighbor, Mrs. Griffin Using Her Power
To Save The World**

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**How Do You
Save Energy?**



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