

TAKE ACTION

Write a Letter to the Editor

The opinion section of a publication is often one of its most widely read sections. By writing about the climate crisis, your insights and opinions on the topic will be out there for hundreds or thousands of people to read. It's an incredible tool for reaching and educating the public. And influencers, including business leaders and elected officials, pay attention to opinion pieces, which function as a direct line to local voices.

Here are some guidelines for writing a letter to the editor (LTE):

1. **Find an article in the paper you can respond to – or craft your own specific message.** A LTE is generally a short (100–200 words), to-the-point message written in response to an issue that has been in the paper recently or is otherwise current news.
2. **Write and edit your LTE.** We invite you to personalize the sample letter to reflect your own situation
3. **Submit it to your local newspaper or other publication.** Be sure to look up your target paper's letter submission process and carefully follow the instructions.

Sample LTE:

Average global temperatures have risen since 1901, with 15 of the 16 hottest years on record occurring in the twenty-first century. And the science shows that the climate crisis is already posing risks to our health and harming our economy.

On November 4, 2016, the Paris Agreement entered into force and provides a framework to smoothly transition to a low-carbon, sustainable future. But it's imperative that countries, local communities, and every level of society in between support the laws, policies, and initiatives needed to solve the climate crisis.

It's time for our leaders to honor – and strengthen – their commitments to climate action. It's time to drop dirty fossil fuels and power our lives and economies with affordable clean energy. Because now a bright, sustainable future for our planet is finally in sight – and it's time to make it a reality.