



Resilient Communities Workshop

April 14-15, 2015
Sonoran Institute Office
Phoenix, Arizona

Western Lands and Communities invites communities from across the Intermountain West to apply to attend the Resilient Communities Workshop. The Resilient Communities Workshop is a two-day training that gives community leaders the knowledge and tools necessary to build their community resilience. We will select two teams with up to four individuals. Workshop participants will build a better understanding of how climate change will impact their community, and the areas in their city or town that are most vulnerable to climate impacts. Case study examples of what other communities are doing will help participants develop a plan of action for implementation in their own community.

Using the Resilient Communities Starter Kit as a guide, the Resilient Communities Workshop will step community teams through the process of identifying the areas in your community that are most at risk to climate impacts exploring actions that can be taken to address these vulnerabilities.

Communities across the West are regularly facing challenges related to climate change such as prolonged drought, wildfire, extreme heat, and flash flooding events. These types of events are not only financially costly, but often have implications on the health and safety of a community. To help communities plan for climate impacts, Western Lands and Communities (WLC), a joint program of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and the Sonoran Institute, developed the Resilient Communities Starter Kit. The Resilient Communities Starter Kit is a manual to help communities prepare for climate related impacts and build their resilience to these events.

The workshop will be held at the Sonoran Institute Office in Phoenix, Arizona beginning at 9:00 am on Tuesday, April 14 and concluding at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, April 15.

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

The workshop will consist of presentations, interactive activities within community teams, and larger group discussions. The following provides an outline of the types of information that will be covered during the two days.

Day One: Tuesday, April 14, 2015

The first day of the workshop we will provide an overview of basic climate topics. In addition you will work in your team to identify key climate impacts that your community is currently experiencing or could experience in the future. We will then use the impacts identified to better understand the parts of the community that will be most vulnerable to these impacts.

Day Two: Wednesday, April 15, 2015

The second day of the workshop will focus on the actions and strategies that can be taken to address key vulnerabilities that were identified on day one. Each community team will develop a community plan of action.

After participating in the workshop, community teams will:

- Gain a deeper understanding of resilience, climate adaptation, and other related topics.
- Identify key current and future climate impacts, such as drought, wildfire, extreme heat, flooding, and others.
- Identify parts of the community that will be most impacted by climate change.
- Network and learn from another community who is tackling similar issues.
- Create a community plan of action to help mitigate your most critical climate impacts.

COSTS

All training materials, travel, lodging, and meals between and including breakfast on Tuesday and lunch on Wednesday will be covered for participants by Western Lands and Communities.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications are due by close of business on Friday, February 27, 2015.

We will evaluate applications based on the submitted materials. Greater consideration will be given to communities that are dealing with issues related to drought and/or wildfire and have a strong, well-composed team. Please submit one application for each community team. For any questions about the application process, please contact Hannah Oliver at 602-393-4310 ext. 316 or at holiver@sonoraninstitute.org.

WHO CAN APPLY

The workshop is open to all cities and towns located in the Intermountain West. Two teams will be selected to participate, with up to four individuals on each team. Teams must demonstrate a commitment to addressing climate issues and vulnerabilities in their community

SELECTION CRITERIA

Teams will be evaluated based on:

- Intermountain West location, which includes the eight states located between the Rocky Mountains and the Cascade and Sierra Nevada mountain ranges ;
- Strong team composition;
- Communities that demonstrate official support to start a resiliency effort and have the leadership in place to ensure the project moves forward; and,
- Climate concerns include drought and/or wildfire.

Creating a leadership team is critical to a successful application because a broad spectrum of community leaders is necessary for successful decision making. Teams should therefore include a broad range of perspectives and expertise from different departments. However, greater consideration will be given to

applicants whose team includes a decision maker such as a mayor or County commissioner. The list below includes several types of representation to consider in building a well-rounded team.

- Decision Makers
- City Planning / Land Use
- Public Works
- Sustainability Office
- Emergency Management
- Environmental Services
- Forestry Department/Division

HOW TO APPLY

Applications are being accepted now through Friday, February 27, 2015.

To apply, submit the following materials no later than 5:00 pm on Friday, February 27, 2015 by emailing materials to Hannah Oliver, holiver@sonoraninstitute.org. Each community team should discuss the questions and fill out the answers as a group. Please submit written responses in a separate Word document and submit questions 6 and 7 within the form-field responses:

1. (300 word limit) Describe your community. Give a brief background of your community and tell us about some of your assets and challenges.
2. (750 word limit) Clearly state a climate-related challenge your community faces and how participation in this training will help your community address it. You may also describe a specific opportunity which might benefit from participation in the workshop. Describe the effort and how you think the training could support a successful outcome.
3. (250 word limit) Describe the expected outcomes that will be most valuable for your community to achieve through the workshop. This can be a bulleted list.
4. (150 word limit) Describe why your community is ready to address climate impacts.
5. Are any members of your team currently working with the Sonoran Institute or Lincoln Institute of Land Policy? If so, please describe briefly.
6. Rank the following topics based on your community's needs and interest (1 = lowest, 5 = highest)

Overview of Climate Topics (Resilience, Climate Adaptation, Climate Mitigation)	
Identifying Climate Concerns	
Communication Strategies around Climate Change	
Identifying Community Vulnerabilities related to Climate Impacts	
Building Community Support	
Exploring Strategies and Actions to Address Climate Concerns	
Developing a Plan of Action	
Implementation	

Evaluation	
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7. Team Participants. Your team should be diverse and ideally include both decision makers and advocates.

Team Leader and Primary Contact:

Name:	Organization/Title:
Address	
City/State:	Zip Code:
Email:	Phone:

Team Participants:

Name:	Organization/Title:
Address	
City/State:	Zip Code:
Email:	Phone:

Name:	Organization/Title:
Address	
City/State:	Zip Code:
Email:	Phone:

Name:	Organization/Title:
Address	
City/State:	Zip Code:
Email:	Phone: