

What causes climate change?

Greenhouse gas emissions trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere, which has increased the planet's average temperature. This has caused changing weather patterns which we refer to as climate change.

How will it impact Ireland?

Wetter winters, dryer summers, and more frequent and intense storms are some of the ways Ireland will be impacted. Flooding will become more likely in coastal areas. Changing migratory patterns of fish will also impact the fishing industry, and unpredictable weather patterns will impact the dairy and grain industries.

Is climate change caused by human activity?

Yes - human activity is responsible for the increased levels of GHGs in the atmosphere. This is caused by the burning of fossil fuels (such as diesel and petrol) through energy, transport, international shipping, and agriculture. There is unanimous agreement among scientists that climate change is driven by human activity.

What can people do?

Reducing our carbon emissions is one of the most effective ways we can combat climate change. In our day-to-day lives, this could mean:

- Cycling, taking public transport, or carpooling
- Saving energy at home or switching to renewables
- Reduce, reuse, repair, recycle - in that order

We can also help our local environment and nature:

- Plant a native tree species or native seed bombs
- Organise a beach or river clean-up event
- Let your lawn grow for No Mow May

Having conversations about climate action is just as important. You can make a difference by simply opening up the discussion with friends and family, contacting your local TD or councillor, or working out ways to reduce your carbon emissions with others.

If you're unsure what to believe about climate action, some trustworthy sources of information include:

- Environmental Protection Agency (www.epa.ie)
- United Nations (www.unfccc.int)