

Earth Day 2020 Sustainability Film List

1.5 Stay Alive (2015, 53 minutes). Part music video and part documentary, **1.5 Stay Alive** brings an urgent message from the Caribbean to the international community: limit global warming to 1.5°C, so that their islands are not overtaken by the sea. Popular Caribbean musicians express their experiences with rising seas by composing and performing songs about climate change, and their visions of how to confront it. [Full movie on youtube.](#)

Acid Test by NRDC (2009, 22 minutes). Ocean acidification is the “other” problem caused by burning fossil fuels and poses a fundamental challenge to life in the seas and the health of the entire planet. [Full video on youtube.](#)

American Outrage (2008, 55 minutes). Two elderly Western Shoshone sisters battle the U.S. government for land rights after their livestock herds are seized and they are sued for trespassing. [Full video on youtube.](#)

An Invitation for Wildness (2016, 20 minutes). In the small town of Riverton at the bottom of New Zealand’s South Island is Robert and Robyn Guyton’s amazing 23-year-old food forest. The 2-acre property has been transformed from a neglected piece of land into a thriving ecosystem of native and exotic trees where birds and insects live in abundance. Robert and Robyn are a huge inspiration, not only for their beautiful approach to healing the land and saving heritage trees and seeds, but for the way they’ve impacted on their local community. [Full video on youtube.](#)

Before the Flood (2016, 96 minutes). Leonardo DiCaprio explores climate change and discovers what must be done to prevent catastrophic disruption of life on our planet. [Full movie on youtube.](#)

Bidder 70 (2012, 73 minutes). This film profiles University of Utah economics student Tim DeChristopher, who derailed a Bureau of Land Management auction for gas and oil drilling rights, and preserved pristine Utah Wilderness. This act of civil disobedience led to his felony conviction and incarceration. Produced and directed by Beth and George Gage. [Full movie on PBS.](#)

Big Sky Big Money (2012, 54 minutes). Investigative reporting that shows how the Supreme Court decision on Citizens United, the rise of “super PACs” and the rules governing 501(c)(4) advocacy groups have led to American electioneering that is out of control by telling the story of a pivotal 2012 Montana United States Senate race. [Full movie on PBS Frontline.](#)

Bill Nye's Global Meltdown (2015, 44 minutes). With tongue planted firmly in cheek, "Science Guy," Bill Nye's on-screen grief counseling - - administered by Arnold Schwarzenegger, as a sage therapist - - serves to categorize the varied ways that different businesses, governments and people are responding to climate change. [Full movie on Schooltube.](#)

Blue Gold World Water Wars (2008, 90 minutes) Follows numerous worldwide examples of people fighting for their basic right to water, while our limited supply of fresh water is being polluted, diverted, pumped, and wasted. [Full movie on youtube.](#)

Brilliant Darkness: Hotaru in the Night (2015, 12 minutes). Explores firefly conservation efforts in Japan and the US. The film considers the challenges, implications and significance of night and its crucial role in animal biology and life cycles. [Full video on Vimeo](#).

The Burden (2015, 40 min). Tells the story of fossil fuel dependence as our greatest long-term national security threat, and why the military is leading the transition to clean energy. The film is the centerpiece of a strategic media engagement campaign to inspire a movement that strengthens our energy security and harnesses the power of American innovation to make us leaders in the 21st century global clean energy economy. [Full video on Vimeo](#).

Burned! Are Trees the New Coal? (2017, 74 minutes). **Burned** tells the little-known story of the accelerating destruction of our forests for fuel, and probes the policy loopholes, huge subsidies, and blatant green washing of the burgeoning biomass power industry. Forest activists, ecologists, and concerned citizens fight to protect the forests and their communities, and debunk this false solution to climate change. [Full video on PBS](#).

Burning the Future: Coal in America (2008, 54 minutes). The story of people from Appalachia adversely affected by mountaintop mining who are fighting for their communities. [Full video on Kanopy](#).

Buyer Be Fair (2006, 57 minutes). The film takes viewers to Mexico, the Netherlands, the UK, Sweden, the USA and Canada to explore how conscious consumers and businesses can use the market to promote social justice and environmental sustainability through product labeling, with a focus on Fair Trade coffee and Forest Stewardship Council certified wood. [Full video on youtube](#).

Call of Life: Facing the Mass Extinction (2010, 60 minutes). This film covers the cascading impacts caused by disturbing ecosystems. Today, scientists believe that we are entering the 6th Mass Extinction. But unlike the previous five, this one will not take centuries to unfold - in fact, it will take place in our lifetimes. [Full video on Culture Unplugged](#).

Chasing Coral (2017, 93 minutes). Coral reefs around the world are vanishing at an unprecedented rate. A team of divers, photographers and scientists set out on a thrilling ocean adventure to discover why and to reveal the underwater mystery to the world. [Full movie on Documentarymania](#).

Chasing Ice (2012, 76 minutes). The story of James Balog's mission to change the tide of history by gathering undeniable evidence of our changing planet. With a band of young adventurers in tow, revolutionary time-lapse cameras are placed across the brutal Arctic to capture a multi-year record of the world's changing glaciers. As the debate polarizes America and the intensity of natural disasters ramps up globally, Balog comes face to face with his own mortality while battling untested technology in subzero conditions. [Full movie on Films for Action](#).

Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret (2014, 90 minutes). (<http://cowspiracy.com>) is a groundbreaking feature-length environmental documentary following an intrepid filmmaker as he uncovers the most destructive industry facing the planet today, and investigates why the world's leading environmental organizations are too afraid to talk about it. [Full movie on youtube](#).

DamNation (2014, 87 minutes). This powerful film odyssey across America explores the sea change in our national attitude from pride in big dams as engineering wonders to the growing awareness that our own future is bound to the life and health of our rivers. Dam removal has moved beyond the fictional Monkey Wrench Gang to go mainstream. Where obsolete dams come down, rivers bound back to life, giving salmon and other wild fish the right of return to primeval spawning grounds, after decades without access. **DamNation's** majestic cinematography and unexpected discoveries move through rivers and landscapes altered by dams, but also through a metamorphosis in values, from conquest of the natural world to knowing ourselves as part of nature. [Full movie on SlipStream.](#)

Dance of the Honey Bee (2013, 6 minutes). Narrated by Bill McKibben, the film takes a look at the determined, beautiful and vital role honey bees play in preserving life, as well as the threats bees face from a rapidly changing landscape. "Not only are we dependent on the honey bee for much of what we eat," says Bill, "there is, of course, a grace and elegance they bring to the natural world that would diminish us all were they to disappear." [Full video on youtube.](#)

Deep Down: A Story from the Heart of Coal Country (2010, 57 minutes). The story of a contentious battle between neighbors over coal mining, wealth and the environmental destruction it represents. Deep Down questions our own morality, our connection to the earth's resources, and most importantly, our link to people whose daily lives are far removed from our own and yet deeply impacted through our actions. Full movie on [Kanopy.](#)

Dirty Business: "Clean Coal" and the Battle for Our Energy Future (2011, 90 minutes). A documentary about the myth of clean coal. The film reveals the true, hidden environmental and social costs of the 'cheap' nineteenth century technology that still provides more than half the electricity powering today's digital age. **Dirty Business** exposes Big Coal's propaganda campaign to convince the public that renewable energy, such as solar and wind power, are not ready for prime time - and that clean coal already exists. [Full movie on Culture Unplugged.](#)

Extreme Realities: Severe Weather, Climate Change, and Our National Security (2014, 60 minutes). Explores the rising threat of extreme weather and the effects climate change is already having on the geopolitical landscape around the world. Narrated by Matt Damon, it also features World Bank President Jim Yong Kim, former EPA Administrator, Carol Browner, journalist, Thomas Friedman and others. [Full video on PBS.](#)

Finding Home (2012, 8 minutes). A story of finding one's ancestral Native American home and community, and the issues they face today, including the realization the climate change and coastal erosion are very real threats, making returning home not an option. By Babs Bagwell and Julie Maldonado. [Full video on youtube.](#)

Flu Factories (2010, 52 minutes). A multimedia presentation about how the treatment of animals can have global public health implications. The presentation explores the role factory farming played in the emergence of the H1N1 flu pandemic of 2009. The H1N1 strain of influenza (flu) contained new DNA sequences from birds as well as from pigs from a North Carolina concentrated animal feedlot (CAFO). Although the 2009 strain was not especially virulent the presentation reminds us that crowding

animals together can lead to a new virulent form of the virus like the 1918 pandemic ([which caused up to 500 million cases and 50 million deaths](#)). [Full movie on Vimeo](#).

Food Inc. (2008, 94 minutes). Examines corporate farming in the United States concluding that agribusiness produces food that is unhealthy, in a way that is environmentally harmful and abusive of both animals and employees. The film is narrated by Michael Pollan and Eric Schlosser. [Full movie on Dailymotion](#).

Fools and Dreamers: Regenerating a Native Forest (2019, 30 minutes). Fools & Dreamers: Regenerating a Native Forest is a documentary about Hinewai Nature Reserve, on New Zealand's Banks Peninsula, and its kaitiaki/manager of 30 years, botanist Hugh Wilson. When, in 1987, Hugh let the local community know of his plans to allow the introduced 'weed' gorse to grow as a nurse canopy to regenerate farmland into native forest, people were not only skeptical but outright angry - the plan was the sort to be expected only of "fools and dreamers". Now considered a hero locally and across the country, Hugh oversees 1500 hectares resplendent in native forest, where birds and other wildlife are abundant and 47 known waterfalls are in permanent flow. He has proven without doubt that nature knows best - and that he is no fool. [Full video on youtube](#).

GasLand (2010, 107 minutes). It is happening all across America: rural landowners wake up one day to find a lucrative offer from an energy company wanting to lease their property. The reason? The company hopes to tap into a reservoir dubbed the "Saudi Arabia of natural gas." Halliburton developed a way to get the gas out of the ground-a hydraulic drilling process called "fracking"-and suddenly America finds itself on the precipice of becoming an energy superpower. [Full movie on youtube](#).

GasLand, Part II (2013, 125 minutes). **Gasland Part II** follows on three years later, to continue documenting how the stakes have been raised on all sides in one of the most devastating environmental issues rapidly spreading the globe. This sequel further enriches the argument that the gas industry's portrayal of natural gas as a clean and safe alternative to oil is a lie, where in fact fracked wells inevitably leak over time, and vent exuberantly more potent greenhouse gasses such as methane in cumulative effect, not to mention the continued string of cases of severe water contamination across the United States and even cases as far away as Australia. **Gasland Part II** follows deeper into these happenings, revealing yet more of an entrenched corporate collusion in the pursuit of exploiting dwindling 'natural resources'. [Full movie on Films for Action](#).

Gimme Green (2007, 27 minutes). A humorous look at the American obsession with the residential lawn and the effects it has on our environment, our wallets and our outlook on life. From the limitless subdivisions of Florida to sod farms in the arid southwest, **Gimme Green** peers behind the curtain of the \$40 billion industry that fuels our nation's largest irrigated crop - the lawn. [Full movie on vimeo](#).

[Green World Rising Series](#). [Green World Rising series videos on youtube](#):

Carbon (2014, 9 minutes). **Carbon** is narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio and shows how we can keep carbon in the ground through putting a price on carbon. The first film in the Green World Rising film series, aimed at moving the climate debate forward. [Full video on youtube](#).

Last Hours (2014, 11 minutes). **Last Hours** is a captivating, extremely compelling appeal meant to awaken politicians and business leaders to take climate action and stop runaway catastrophic climate change. The second film in the Green World Rising film series, aimed at moving the climate debate forward. [Full video on youtube](#).

Green World Rising (2014, 9 minutes). An inspiring look at how we can be 100% off fossil fuels in a few decades. Narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio, the third film in the **Green World Rising** film series, is aimed at moving the climate debate forward. [Full video on youtube](#).

Restoration (2014, 10 minutes). Focuses on how nature can protect the Earth from the harmful effects of climate change and how industrial design and science researchers can learn valuable lessons from natural systems. The fourth film in the Green World Rising film series, aimed at moving the climate debate forward. [Full video on youtube](#).

[Hope on the Hudson series:](#)

A Living River (2019, 23 minutes). The Hudson has endured decades of damage and neglect. Despite the myth of a dead ecosystem, the river lives. [Full video on youtube](#).

City on the Water (2019, 19 minutes). New York City is truly a water city. Everywhere you go, there are tunnels and bridges delivering you over water, to such a degree some have dubbed the waterways that encircle New York City “the sixth borough.” Waterways like Brooklyn’s Newtown Creek and Queens’ Flushing Meadow, once thought ruined forever by industrial and manmade pollution are making a comeback. From the Billion Oyster Project to Dragon Boat races, from the Gowanus Canal to the Harlem River, there is brand new activity on all of the waterways that surround NYC. [Full video on vimeo](#).

Source to Sea (2019, 15 minutes). In partnership with volunteer citizen samplers, Hudson Riverkeeper tests select tributaries of the Hudson for fecal-indicating bacteria and other water quality indicators. These samples are collected from the streambank by trained community scientists, and processed in our onboard lab, our lab in Kingston, or one of our partner labs. Communities up and down the Hudson River use this data to restore and protect their local waterways. [Full video on vimeo](#).

Growing with the Grain (2019, 15 minutes). Upstate New York used to be a breadbasket of grain growing. Westward expansion yielded more ideal climates for growing and production shifted to the midwest. Scientists, farmers, bakers and brewers take part in a grain trial test that hopes to produce a new generation of grain suited for the northeast, bringing sustainable and more localized grain production back to the region. [Full video on vimeo](#).

Seeds of Hope (2019, 18 minutes). From planting to harvest, follow the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe at Akwesasne, the Hudson Valley Farm Hub and Seedshed as they honor Native American seeds that are at risk of disappearing. Can they preserve their rich agricultural heritage and the stories that each seed holds? [Full video on vimeo](#).

Undamming the Hudson River (2019, 15 minutes). Many fish use tributaries to the Hudson River as pathways to move between feeding, nursery, and spawning grounds. Unfortunately, thousands of dams,

many built in the 19th and 20th Centuries are blocking those pathways and dramatically shrinking accessible habitat area, causing declines in fish and other wildlife. As the years have passed, these dams often no longer serve the purposes for which they were originally built and many have fallen into disrepair. [Full video on vimeo.](#)

[The Hudson: A River at Risk](#) A close-up look at four distinct risks related to the Hudson River:

Part 1: All the Risk, No Reward. [Prologue on vimeo.](#)

[Bomb Trains on the Hudson:](#) Baaken Shale Comes to the River: (8 minutes). Trains carrying a highly explosive gas and oil mix along the riverside from the shale fields of North Dakota to Albany and to Philadelphia. Also, a billion of gallons of crude that arrived in Albany by train from the North Dakota were offloaded to tanks and then barges to be shipped downriver.

[The Long Shadow of Indian Point](#) (5 minutes). The 50-year-old nuclear power plant at Indian Point, which continues to operate even as its infrastructure ages;

[A Bridge over Troubled Waters](#) (5 minutes). The rebuilding of the Tappan Zee Bridge, currently the largest construction project in North American has a potential to create serious environmental harm if not closely monitored.

Part 2: A Beautiful Hazardous Waste Site

[PCB's: A Toxic Legacy: General Electric and 40 Years of Pollution](#) (13 minutes). When G.E. was finally forced, in 2009, to clean up the toxic mess it had made of the Hudson Valley by dumping PCBs into the river for more than thirty years, it's assignment was to clean-up the country's largest Superfund site. Last December G.E. pulled out, saying it had completed the mission given it by the E.P.A. What did it leave behind? The country's largest Superfund site

[High Voltage/Dark Shadow: New Electrical Transmission Lines Sold on False Pretenses](#) (6 minutes). Utility companies in central and western New York propose to spend \$1.2 billion stringing new lines of massive towers to supply electricity to prevent brownouts in NYC during the dog days of summer when everyone's air conditioner is cranking.

[City on the water.](#)

[A Pipeline Runs Through it: Fossil Fuel Infrastructure gets a Foothold in the Valley](#) (14 minutes). Two different pipelines, two different stories. One carries natural gas, the other crude oil. One goes under the Hudson River and skirts a troubled nuclear power plant, the other hoping to parallel the New York State Thruway's 'right-of-way,' essentially butts up against resident's backyards.

[Anchors Away: Domestic Oil Boom Manifests Industrial Visions Along the Hudson](#) (7 minutes). Crude oil from the Bakken Shale in North Dakota has begun making its way along the Hudson by barge. A new proposal to increase the number of anchorages in the river suggests that more barges will follow suit, meaning more risks.

Hope in a changing Climate (2009, 29 minutes). Optimistically reframes the debate on global warming. Illustrating that large, decimated eco-systems can be restored, the BBC World documentary reveals success stories from Ethiopia, Rwanda and China which prove that bringing large areas back from environmental ruin is possible, and key to stabilizing the earth's climate, eradicating poverty and making sustainable agriculture a reality. Full video on [Films for Action](#) and [Youtube](#).

How to Let Go of the World and Love Everything Climate Can't Change (2016, 127 minutes). Oscar Nominated director Josh Fox (GasLand) continues in his deeply personal style, investigating climate change - the greatest threat our world has ever known. Traveling to 12 countries on 6 continents, the film acknowledges that it may be too late to stop some of the worst consequences and asks, "what is it that climate change can't destroy? What is so deep within us that no calamity can take it away? [Full movie on youtube](#).

Idle Threat: Man on Emission (2012, 30 minutes). A lively look at one man's spirited struggle to improve public health by raising awareness about idling's impact, starting in New York City. Against all odds, he succeeds, helping improve local air quality, and in the process gains world-wide recognition for the anti-idling cause, and works with local officials on a [bill](#) that would deputize trained citizens to report and earn half of the fine for reporting idling trucks to the city. [Full video on youtube](#).

Invisible Ocean: Plankton and Plastic (2014, 8 minutes). During a Tara Oceans expedition to study the health of the oceans, NYC sci-artist, Mara Haseltine, finds an unsettling plastic presence in samples of plankton she collected. The discovery inspires a sculpture revealing an ongoing invisible battle beneath the water's surface. [Full video on youtube](#).

Journey to Planet Earth series (2009, 13 films). An award winning series that premiered on PBS dramatizing new ways of looking at the delicate relationship between people and the world they inhabit. It is designed to help viewers understand the complexities of developing an agenda to deal with the most important environmental issues of the 21st century. [Journey to Planet Earth channel on youtube](#).

King Corn (2007, 50 minutes). A story about two friends, one acre of corn, and the subsidized crop that drives our fast-food nation. Ian Cheney and Curt Ellis, best friends from college on the east coast, move to the heartland to learn where their food comes from; with the help of friendly neighbors, genetically modified seeds, and powerful herbicides, they plant and grow a bumper crop of America's most-productive, most-subsidized grain on one acre of Iowa soil. But when they try to follow their pile of corn into the food system, what they find raises troubling questions about how we eat - - and how we farm. Directed by Aaron Woolf. [Full video on youtube](#).

Light of the Genji (2015, 10 minutes). The Genji fireflies of Kyushu, Japan and efforts to protect fireflies and their 'languages of light' from artificial night lighting. [Full video on vimeo](#).

The Lorax (1972, 26 minutes). The original animated version for television, adapted from the Dr. Seuss book. The award-winning tale of **The Lorax** tells the story of the greedy, tree-chopping Once-lers and the brave little Lorax who speaks for the forest. [Full video on youtube](#).

Mission to Reclaim Democracy (2014, 6 minutes). A lecture by Lawrence Lessig, a maverick Harvard Law School professor and prominent advocate for campaign finance reform. According to Lessig, the outcome of many Congressional elections are decided ahead of the vote by a tiny fraction of the population - the donors who give to Super PACs. Lessig was joined onstage by two artists who drew live illustrations of his talk. This multimedia experiment was directed by acclaimed documentary filmmaker

Eugene Jarecki and has been edited into a short film. Campaign finance reform may be the most important step in making the environment a priority. [Full video on Time.com](#).

My Beautiful Nicaragua (2017, 27 minutes). 12-year-old Edelsin Linette Mendez lives with her siblings and parents on their small coffee farm in the beautiful highlands of Nicaragua. The farming of coffee in Nicaragua has supported the Mendez family and thousands like them for generations, with coffee accounting for 30 percent of the country's exports. As a result of climate change, increasing temperatures and erratic rainfall now facilitate the growth of "La Roya" fungus that kills the coffee crop. In the last three years alone, the Mendez family harvest has been reduced over 50% by this fungus, forcing them into poverty. With the use of a video camera, Edelsin makes vivid the serious consequences of a severely damaged coffee harvest to her own future and that of her country. Edelsin's film mentor is the renowned Joyce Chopra, a pioneer of documentary cinema . [Full video on PBS](#).

My Life as a Turkey (2011, 51 minutes). Based on his true story, **My Life as a Turkey** chronicles Joe Hutto's remarkable and moving experience of raising a group of wild turkey hatchlings to adulthood. [Full video on Documentary Storm](#).

Oil & Water (2015, 78 minutes). The coming of age story of two boys as they confront one of the world's worst toxic disasters, the prolonged contamination of the Ecuadorian Amazon by Texaco and other oil companies. Hugo comes to America to fight for the survival of his tribe, the Cofán, while David goes to Ecuador to launch the world's first company to certify oil as "fair trade." Can Hugo become the leader his tribe so desperately wants him to be? Will David clean up one of the world's dirtiest industries? This film is an intimate portrait of two young people finding their voices and trying to beat incredible odds. Their journeys lead them to explore what could be a more just future, not just for the people of the Amazon, but for all people around the world born with oil beneath their feet. Eight years in the making **Oil & Water** is a shocking and inspiring David and Goliath story. [Full movie on youtube](#).

Pandora's Promise (2013, 90 min). New reactors are being developed that will: a) use up existing nuclear waste as fuel, b) automatically shut down preventing meltdowns, c) generate fuel, d) not generate carbon emissions, making nuclear energy a renewable energy source. Will environmentalists continue to oppose this technology despite the threat of climate change? [Full movie on youtube](#).

Paradise with Side Effects (2004, 40 minutes). From a remote village high in the Himalayas, two Tibetan women journey to London, on a reality tour to see what life in the West is really like. Their shocked and deeply insightful perceptions open a doorway to greater understanding of our lives. [Full movie on Kanopy](#).

Peaceable Kingdom: the Journey Home (2009, 78 minutes). A riveting story of transformation and healing, the film follows the story of five farmers, an animal rescuer and a humane police officer who each embark on a journey of awakening conscience. This film shatters stereotypical notions of farmers, farm life and farm animals themselves. [Full movie on Tribe of Heart](#).

Plastic Wars (2020, 53 minutes). Despite efforts spreading across America to reduce the use of plastic and the crisis of ocean pollution growing, the plastics industry is rapidly scaling up new production and

promoting a familiar solution: recycling. But it's estimated that no more than 10% of plastic produced has ever been recycled. The documentary "Plastic Wars," from FRONTLINE and NPR, reveals how plastic makers for decades have publicly promoted recycling, despite privately expressing doubts that widespread plastic recycling would ever be economically viable. [Full video on youtube.](#)

Regreening the desert with John D. Liu (2012, 48 minutes). For more than 15 years, cameraman and ecologist John D. Liu has been working on his worldwide mission to green deserts and to restore biodiversity. It all started in 1995 when Liu filmed the Loess-plateau in China. He witnessed a local population who turned an area of almost the same size as The Netherlands from a dry, exhausted wasteland into one green oasis. This experience changed his life. From that moment on, Liu has been travelling all over the world to convince and inspire government leaders, policy-makers and farmers with his film material and knowledge. Liu diligently spreads the message that restoration of ecosystems is not only possible, but also economically very meaningful. Backlight accompanies Liu on his mission in Jordan and shows on the basis of Liu's own film material that a green future is possible worldwide. [Full video on youtube.](#)

Rough Science (2000, 89 minutes total). Episodes 101-106 of the entertaining science series. A 10-part series in which five scientists on a tropical island cooperate to solve a series of scientific challenges using only their knowledge, ingenuity, and whatever is at hand. Examples of challenges have included: the construction of a wind-powered electricity generator, the production and use of textile dyes, and measuring the speed of a glacier. [Series on Mr. Owl's Science channel on youtube.](#)

Sacred Water Standing Rock (2017, 50 minutes). VICELAND'S RISE heads to the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation to meet the Lakota and Dakota youth joining forces to protect their sacred water from the 'black snake' set to invade their ancestral homeland. The people of the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation of North and South Dakota are fighting to stop a pipeline from being built on their ancestral homeland. The Dakota Access Pipeline would snake its way across four states, bisecting sacred Indigenous sites and burial grounds along the route. Woven throughout are stories about life on the Reservation, impacted by a history of broken treaties, unresolved land claims and government-sponsored genocide. Now the tribe fears that a leak could contaminate the Missouri River and spell disaster for the Great Sioux Nation. But water protectors are standing up in unprecedented numbers to preserve their way of life for future generations and to defend their sacred water. [Full video on DailyMotion.](#)

Saving Otter 501 (2013, 60 minutes). A baby sea otter abandoned on the beach is brought in to the Monterey Bay Aquarium. This is the aquarium's 501st attempt to save an orphan otter. Against all odds, will she be able to return to her home in the wild? [Full video on vimeo.](#)

Shellshocked: Saving Oysters to Save Ourselves (2011, 50 minutes). New York Harbor used to be the world's oyster capital. Oysters clean the water and are a keystone species that many other creatures depend upon to survive. Now, local artists, environmentalists, students, and scientists are bringing them back! [Full video on PBS.](#)

Sonic Sea (2016, 60 minutes). Oceans are a sonic symphony. Sound is essential to the survival and prosperity of marine life. But man-made ocean noise is threatening this fragile world. Sonic Sea is about

protecting life in our waters from the destructive effects of oceanic noise pollution. [Full video on University of Georgia Kaltura.](#)

Symphony of the Soil (2013, 104 minutes). Drawing from ancient knowledge and cutting edge science, Symphony of the Soil is an artistic exploration of the miraculous substance soil. By understanding the elaborate relationships and mutuality between soil, water, the atmosphere, plants and animals, we come to appreciate the complex and dynamic nature of this precious resource. The film also examines our human relationship with soil, the use and misuse of soil in agriculture, deforestation and development, and the latest scientific research on soil's key role in ameliorating the most challenging environmental issues of our time. Filmed on four continents, featuring esteemed scientists and working farmers and ranchers, Symphony of the Soil is an intriguing presentation that highlights possibilities of healthy soil creating healthy plants creating healthy humans living on a healthy planet. [Full movie on youtube.](#)

The End of Suburbia (2004, 52 minutes). Since World War II North Americans have invested much of their newfound wealth in suburbia. It has promised a sense of space, affordability, family life and upward mobility. As the population of suburban sprawl has exploded in the past 50 years, so too has the suburban way of life become embedded in the American consciousness. But as we enter the 21st century, serious questions are beginning to emerge about the sustainability of this way of life. With brutal honesty and a touch of irony, **The End of Suburbia** explores the American Way of Life. Are today's suburbs destined to become the slums of tomorrow? And what can be done NOW, individually and collectively, to avoid The End of Suburbia? [Full video on youtube.](#)

The End of the Line (2009, 25 minutes). How oceans are being plundered of fish, and historic fisheries are collapsing. [Full video on Vimeo.](#)

[The Story of Stuff Project channel on youtube.](#) [The Story of Stuff Project](#) is a nonprofit organization transforming the way we make, use, and throw away Stuff so that it is better for people and the planet. Explore the videos from **The Story of Stuff Project** for clear, concise treatments on the different facets of "Stuff", *starting* with the videos below:

The Story of Stuff (2007, 21 minutes). The first in the Annie Leonard series of cartoon format films that tackle environmental issues. **The Story of Stuff** explores the downside of our production and consumption patterns, exposing the connections between environmental and social justice issues, and calls us together to create a more sustainable and just world, without sacrificing any quality of life. [Full video on youtube.](#)

The Story of Solutions (9 minutes). The sequel to **The Story of Stuff**. Explores how we can move our economy into a more sustainable and just direction, starting with orienting ourselves toward a new goal. What if the goal of our economy wasn't "more", but "better" – better health, better jobs and a better chance to survive on the planet? [Full video on youtube.](#)

The Story of Bottled Water (8 minutes). An entertaining line drawing cartoon format film that looks at the absurdity of bottled water. [Full video on youtube.](#)

This Land is Our Land (2015, 4 minutes). In the midst of California's historic drought, Nestle Waters—the largest bottler of water in the world—is drawing millions of gallons of water a year from the San Bernardino National Forest. Nestle's permit to remove this precious resource expired in 1988, at which point the Forest Service should have turned off the spigot. In this four-minute documentary, **The Story of Stuff Project** explains the impact Nestle's operation is having on the forest and demands that the company and our government ensure this shared public resource is protected for future generations. [Full video on youtube.](#)

The True Cost (2015, 92 minutes). This is a story about clothing. It's about the clothes we wear, the people who make them, and the impact the industry is having on our world. The price of clothing has been decreasing for decades, while the human and environmental costs have grown dramatically. The True Cost is a groundbreaking documentary film that pulls back the curtain on the untold story and asks us to consider, who really pays the price for our clothing? [Full movie at Documentarymania.](#)

Taking Root: the Vision of Wangari Maathai (2008, 53 minutes). The dramatic story of Wangari Maathai, 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate from Kenya, who rallied thousands of women to plant trees. Her vision grew into a nationwide movement to safeguard the environment, protect human rights and defend democracy. [Full movie on Vimeo.](#)

Trashed (2012, 60 minutes). A provocative investigation of one of the fastest growing industries in North America: the garbage business. The film examines a fundamental element of modern American culture - the disposal of what our society defines as "waste". It is an issue influenced by every American, most of whom never consider the consequences. Nor, it seems, the implications to our biosphere. At times humorous, but deeply poignant, **Trashed** examines the American waste stream fast approaching a half billion tons annually. [Full movie on youtube.](#)

David Wallace-Wells, "The Uninhabitable Earth" (2019, 58 minutes). David Wallace-Wells discusses his book, "The Uninhabitable Earth", at Politics and Prose on 3/12/19. Expanding on his July 2017 New York magazine article - called "the Silent Spring of our time" and the most-read piece in the magazine's history - Wallace-Wells's new book is an unsparing look at the realities of climate change and the consequences of our continuing failure to face them. Pointing to the increase in storms of unprecedented magnitude, the now year-round wildfires, and the rising oceans, Wallace-Wells argues that climate change is well under way, and that its impact will be more severe than even our worst-case scenarios indicate. Writing with passion and urgency, Wallace-Wells, a national fellow at the New America Foundation and a columnist and deputy editor at New York, goes beyond the science of climate change to show that it's an existential crisis so severe that it will reshape every aspect of human life. [Full video on youtube.](#)

Valve Turners: Shut it Down (2017, 14 minutes). On October 11, 2016, five brave climate activists, determined to act commensurately with the truth of unfolding climate cataclysm, closed safety valves on the 5 pipelines carrying tar sands crude oil into the United States. This is their story. [Full video on Vimeo.](#)

Warming Warning (1981). On the evening of Tuesday, 8 December, 1981, the UK's only commercial TV channel, ITV, broadcast an hour-long documentary called "Warming Warning". It was among the earliest occasions - possibly the earliest - anywhere in the world where a major broadcaster aired a documentary dedicated solely to the topic of human-caused climate change. The documentary, which was made by the now-defunct Thames Television, has sat in the archives largely unseen ever since. Until now. Carbon Brief has tracked down the copyright holder, FremantleMedia Ltd, and persuaded it to release into the public domain a selection of key clips from the documentary. The clips provide a poignant, historical insight into what scientists knew about climate change almost four decades ago - and how the world was beginning to react in terms of the resulting geopolitical, technological and societal ramifications. Many of themes still resonate strongly today. [Watch key segments of Warming Warning on CarbonBrief.org](#).

We are Rhino (2013, 21 min). A film about efforts in South Africa to save the last rhinos from poaching. But is it possible for them to remain wild and free? [Full video on youtube](#).

What's the Economy For Anyway? (2010, 40 minutes). Ecological Economist, Dave Batker, presents a humorous, edgy, factual, timely and highly-visual monologue about the American economy today, challenging the ways we measure economic success - especially the Gross Domestic Product - and offering an answer to the question: What's the Economy for, Anyway? [Full video on Films for Action](#).

[Wildlife Conservation Society Films](#) (various lengths) several of their films (described below) can be viewed for free):

[Fishing: A Belizean Way of Life](#) (2015, 30 minutes). The sustainable fisheries initiatives underway in Belize employs various management tools, such as rights-based or managed access and replenishment or no-take zones. The reaction of fishers to these measures are discussed as well as new technologies to improve enforcement, such as the use of the SMART software and conservation drones. [Full video on youtube](#).

[The Life and Death of Elephants](#) (2015, 4 minutes). In this short film narrated by Glenn Close, we learn that elephants are an ancient species that have inhabited our planet for 30 million years. Self-aware, playful and highly intelligent, they form strong social and family bonds and cherish and protect their young. Today however, killed at the staggering rate of 35,000 animals per year to feed an insatiable global demand for ivory, elephants need our help. [Full video on youtube](#).

[Ivindo National Park in Gabon](#) (2015, 26 minutes). A discussion of the challenges and successes of the conservation efforts in Ivindo National Park in Gabon, Central Africa. Many of the African flag ship species such as Gorillas, Chimpanzees, Forest Elephants, Buffalo inhabit these forests. [Full video on youtube](#).