



## **BASEA** BASEA Forum, Thursday October 13th Ken Ward, 350.org: *Reaching Sustainability*

On September 24th, more than 2,000 demonstrations, spear-headed by 350.org, took place in 175 countries, and in all 50 United States. Our climate crisis is becoming increasingly obvious to most.

But here, the gap between science and politics has never been wider. Even with carbon levels passing 390 ppm, the US experiencing record tornadoes, floods and droughts, and Arctic sea ice retreating ever faster, discussion on climate change has effectively disappeared from our national scene. The greatest threat to continuity of civilization is ignored in Washington; denial is now a political platform for Republic Presidential candidates. As Bill Clinton says "...we look like a joke."

Unfortunately, the joke's on us. How serious is this crisis? Why has Bill McKibben dubbed 350 "the most important number in the world"? What scale of global action is now necessary to reach it? Most importantly, how, in these difficult political circumstances, might this be done?

Ken Ward will report on 350.org campaigning, including the recent action at the White House on the proposed Tar Sands Pipeline, and upcoming local work, and offer concrete suggestions for action by individuals, businesses and organizations.

At the end of November, South Africa will be hosting the 17th UN Session on Climate Change. What is realistic progress for this meeting, and how can we get our country on the right path?

Location: First Parish in Cambridge Unitarian Universalist; 3 Church Street, Harvard Square

Time: Doors open at 7:00 p.m.; Presentation begins at 7:30 p.m

**About Ken:** Ken has over 30 years of experience as a climate campaigner and carpenter. He co-founded the [Jamaica Plain Green House](#), now the regional hub for [350.org](#), and is also the Executive Director of the [Apeiron Institute for Sustainability](#) in Rhode Island.

In his career as an environmental "warrior", Ward has been Executive Director of New Jersey and Rhode Island state Public Interest Groups (PIRGs), and a Deputy Director of Greenpeace USA. He is a co-founder of Green Corps, U.S. PIRG, the National Environmental Law Center, and the Fund for Public Interest Research. His response to The *Death of Environmentalism*, published by Grist, March 2005, has evolved into the [Bright Lines](#) project.

### **Also Note:**

Saturday, October 1: [Marc Rosenbaum](#). "Reducing Energy Bills in Older Buildings with Limited Budgets: A Crash Course in Systems Thinking for Older Buildings". A workshop for the real world.

Saturday, October 1: [NESEA Annual Green Buildings Open House](#).

Wednesday, October 5: [Energy Efficiency Program Trends & Tax Incentives](#), the October dinner meeting of the American Energy Engineers Association, New England Chapter. [AEENE](#)

Tuesday, Nov. 1: The [7th Annual Conference on Clean Energy](#), at the Westin Waterfront. The Conference is part of [Clean Energy Week](#).

And don't forget the [Smart Building Workshops](#) from the [Center for Eco-Technology](#).

Please Join Us! And remember, your donations and membership support BASEA.

The Boston Area Solar Energy Association, [www.BASEA.org](#); a chapter of [NESEA](#).

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