

# POTTSTOWN CITIZENS FOR Enlightened LEADERSHIP

## The most important issue

What is the most important issue facing the nation? Climate change.

What next? Climate change.

What next again? Climate change.

According to a recent U.N. report, if comprehensive world-wide action is not undertaken soon — within the next 10 years — irreversible climate change will lead to almost inconceivable scenarios to come. Coastal cities from New York to Tokyo underwater. Frequent, violent storms. Droughts. Species extinction.

Climate change is like pancreatic cancer, deadly because it doesn't cause symptoms until it's too late to treat.

Human civilization has survived wars, totalitarian governments, genocide, and all kinds of natural disasters, but nothing as far-reaching as climate change. And yet climate change has barely been discussed in this year's election campaigns.

Our president, and his obsequious Republican Party, denies that it's even

happening. Democrats accept the science but have other priorities and calculate that talking about climate change will cost them votes.

After the election, they are more likely to address it than Republicans.

Here in Pottstown, we can't take the massive steps needed to eliminate fossil fuels. We can't reforest huge swaths of land.

But we can start to implement the Sustainability Plan passed by Pottstown Council and the Pottstown School Board last January.

Overall, the Sustainability Plan builds on Pottstown's strengths. Because of its closely connected mixture of houses, offices and stores, which can be reached by walking, bicycling, and short car and bus trips, Pottstown is more environmentally friendly than the surrounding suburbs and semi-rural areas.

The plan can be found at [www.pottstowncitizens.org](http://www.pottstowncitizens.org). Click on **Sustainability** and look for the link in the first paragraph.



Commentary by  
Thomas Hylton



**CLIMATE CHANGE is by far the most important issue facing our nation, yet it has been mostly ignored in this year's political campaigns.**

