

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AND WHY

## Indicators:

- The Indicators are things that are telling us what is happening on our planet.
- They could also be called warning signs. It's how we know we are in trouble. If global warming was a disease, these would be the symptoms.
- They are all being scientifically measured. You can find reports and graphs illustrating what's happening on the internet.
- So most of us know that the planet is warming, but we may not realize just how fast.
- We are very much like the frog that was placed in a pot of cool water on the stove. As the water was slowly warming, he was happily

**swimming about. He never noticed when the water got so hot he no longer had the strength to jump out. See if you can tell how hot the water is getting for us.**

## **.Causes**

- We actually know what is causing the planet to warm.
- Yep, it's the burning of (first card).

# HOW BAD HOW FAST

## Uncertainties

- The Uncertainties are the things that keep scientists awake at night.
- There are a number of them. Here are a few.

## **Consequences**

- **These are not in any kind of order.**
- **They will happen at different times and differently in every area of the world.**
- **But be clear. No one will be exempt.**
- **But it is well known that people living in poverty will bear the worst of it, and those in the Southern Hemisphere, who have added very little to carbon emissions, will experience the worst and sooner than the rest of us.**
- **Some areas are already experiencing one or more of these consequences. It's like cascading catastrophes.**
- **Millions of lives have been severely disrupted, not to mention the thousands that have been lost.**

- **So this is really an issue of social justice.**

# WHAT CAN BE DONE

## Ways to Mitigate

- So the good news here is that we know how to stop the worst from happening.
- It will require big, structural, policy-based strategies that will need to be brought to scale worldwide beginning NOW!
- We need to think in terms of how we mobilized for WORLD War II or for Roosevelt's New Deal.
- But we also need to think locally. How do we bring our own community's carbon emissions down to zero and build as much community resilience as possible.

**So one column I will put up is about global strategies and the second will be more local strategies.**

- I'm going to put these up rapidly so we'll have time to talk after the last column.**



## **Resisting Forces**

- So you might be asking yourself, if we know what to do, *why aren't we doing it?*
- Especially when 97% of scientists say we are heading for unimaginable catastrophe and possible human extinction, and 11,000 scientists last month declared a climate emergency. Time is getting very short.
- When you do strategic planning, before coming up with solutions to a problem, you always consider what might get in your way. Then you can design strategies that take those things into account and, hopefully, you will be more successful.

- I'm going to put up some of those blocks or obstacles. There are many more, so it's just what I have room for.
- Then we'll talk about them in relation to the mitigating strategies.

