

Sierra Club. "Climate Change Legislation in Pennsylvania." *Sierra Club*, 25 September 2024,

<https://www.sierraclub.org/pennsylvania/blog/2024/09/climate-change-legislation-pennsylvania>. Accessed 16 January 2025.

This source provides information about specific recent legislation regarding climate change in Pennsylvania that needs to be passed. This source is helpful because it narrows down a few bills that my kvutzah could write to legislators about, instead of spending too much time scouring the internet to figure out what bill(s) in PA in relation to climate change would be best to write to legislators about. The bills that are highlighted in this source are being considered as what to write to legislators about during one of my events with my kvutzah. This isn't the only source of bills and it's also not confirmed that these are the exact bills we'll write to legislators about.

Pennsylvania Climate Caucus. "Legislation." *PA House*,

<https://www.pahouse.com/ClimateCaucus/Legislation>. Accessed 16 January 2025.

Unlike the previous source where there were only a few bills mentioned by the Sierra Club to have the most importance, this source is where there are climate bills in the House and Senate. But, a limitation to this source is that I would have to look into all of them and decide which one(s) are most important to write to legislators about (which can be a hard decision to make) and also which ones have passed the House or Senate. Also, since these are from the past legislative session, they have an extra low chance of becoming law.

Adamah. "Jewish Youth Climate Movement." *Adamah*,

<https://adamah.org/for-teens-youth-adults/jewish-youth-climate-movement/>.

Accessed 16 January 2025.

This source is the overall description of what the Jewish Youth Climate Movement (JYCM) is. It's helpful because it tells people what JYCM's goals are, how they operate, how to join them, how to take action, and more. They have a ton of information and resources on this website. It includes important definitions of things like what a kvutzah is. One thing that's really great about this organization is that you don't necessarily have to start a kvutzah or officially join JYCM in order to attend one of their events or take action with them. A really big thing that they emphasize is how the majority of JYCM is teen led. There are adults, but their main job is to be advisors and do more of what some people might call the adult jobs. This organization is all about empowering the youth to take the action that they want to see for themselves, the people in this world, and the world in general.

Jewish Youth Climate Movement Powered by Adamah. "Welcome to the Kvutzah Portal." *Jewish Youth Climate Movement*,

<https://www.jewishyouthclimatemovement.org/kvutzahportal>. Accessed 16

January 2025.

This source is the most helpful in terms of organizing and planning things for the kvutzah, and really building it up. While it's not accessible unless you have the passcode (screenshot of main page provided below) to the portal, it includes a ton of resources, information, and introductions for everything that a person (me) would need in order to operate a kvutzah. Some specific resources include lessons on how to teach about important values such as equity and inclusion. Another really great source on this page is the significance of how Judaism is connected to climate change, taking climate action, and the environment. These individual sources on the portal are slideshows that

were created by some of the teen leaders of JYCM, and they are much more informative than if they were just an article.

“Kings and Wars.” *Mishneh Torah*, translated by Eliyahu Touger, Moznaim Publishing.

Sefaria,

https://www.sefaria.org/Mishneh_Torah%2C_Kings_and_Wars.6?lang=bi.

Accessed 16 January 2025.

This specific quote that is cited in chapter 6 verse 10 refers to not just not destroying trees and plants and such, but also not destroying things in general. There are many things in the Torah and the Mishneh that can be interpreted in multiple ways, but here it can specifically be applied to climate change. I see that it's trying to say climate change can happen without nature being harmed first hand by humans. So first hand would mean someone setting a tree on fire. A second hand harm would be something like emitting fossil fuels through cars or planes because most people don't (or previously didn't) exactly know how those things were contributing to climate change, because to them it just seemed like it was a harmful operation that was necessary for the vehicle's function. Just like this example and many other things in the world, there are a lot of systems that contribute to climate change, but it's not obvious that they do. This quote doesn't know of our modern objects that hurt the environment, but it's still warning us in a figurative way.

“Vayikra Rabbah.” *The Sefaria Midrash Rabbah*, edited by Jason Rappoport, et al.,

translated by Joshua Schreier, 2022. *Sefaria*,

https://www.sefaria.org/Vayikra_Rabbah.4?lang=bi. Accessed 16 January 2025.

The specific quote in the very long section of chapter 4 verse 6 that is relevant to climate change talks about how if there are people on a boat and one person starts drilling a hole, then the whole boat will flood and everyone will be affected. This talks about how if one person does something to hurt the Earth, then everyone and everything in the entire world will be impacted by it. There's also something to be said here about how this action is often repeated into a cycle, and we've actually seen this happen over the course of many decades that have brought us to our current dire situation of climate change. This is a really helpful metaphor to explain to the kvutzah, and people who aren't Jewish but need to understand why fighting for climate justice is an important value and action for us.

“Deuteronomy.” *The Contemporary Torah*, Jewish Publication Society, 2006. *Sefaria*,
<https://www.sefaria.org/Deuteronomy.16.20?lang=bi&aliyot=0>. Accessed 16
January 2025.

The most important part of this section in chapter 16 verse 20 is the very first part that says “Justice justice you shall pursue”. This is a mindset, a value, and an action. It's literally asking people to pursue justice. This can be used for any type of justice, but in this context the justice is for the Earth, climate justice. This is something that is often repeated by the Jewish people to remind each other that justice can be pursued for many things. Justice is important in Judaism because we feel the need to take it literally due to our past and current oppressions. So this phrase can be used in any context, including climate change and taking climate action. It's one of those things that's telling us much more than what we can see in front of us.

“Ta'anit.” *Koren Talmud Bavli*, Noé ed. *Sefaria*,
<https://www.sefaria.org/Taanit.23a?lang=bi>. Accessed 16 January 2025.

This section is chapter 23a verse 15 is the story of Honi the Circle Maker. His message here is that even though he's planting a tree that he won't live to see and benefit from, his descendants will receive it because that's the whole purpose. He got fig trees from his ancestors, so why should his descendants not get anything from him? He's not just carrying on a tradition, but he's also passing down the message that it's a good thing to do good things for the next generation, to prepare and set up a good world for them where they can thrive. There's two clear messages here (and there may be others, but they're not as obvious): one of them is that there is so much that a singular person can do for others. The second message is about how important it is to set up the next generation for success. Plenty of people my age have said that they feel like the previous generations have failed them, and have built them a hurt world, and this is pretty much true. Not failing the next generation also means not failing the following generations, and the world as a whole.

“Genesis.” *The Contemporary Torah*, Jewish Publication Society, 2006. *Sefaria*,
<https://www.sefaria.org/Genesis.2.2?lang=bi&aliyot=0>. Accessed 16 January
2025.

The small part of this source/quote in chapter 2 verse 15 is the most important, when it's talking about God's instruction to prepare and care for “The garden of Eden”, which basically refers to the Earth. This is a simple lesson here: protect the Earth, don't destroy it. There's the question of “Why would someone want to destroy the Earth?”, but I think it's obvious that this question has already been answered. The words used in this quote are what I would describe as being delicate, and they also are trying to tell us that the Earth itself is delicate, and needs to be treated as so.

“Kohelet Rabbah.” *The Sefaria Midrash Rabbah*, edited by Jason Rappoport, et al.,
translated by Joshua Schreier, 2022. *Sefaria*,

https://www.sefaria.org/Kohelet_Rabbah.7.13?lang=bi. Accessed 17 January 2025.

The specific section here is Parasha 7:13, and is talking about how God's creation of the Earth is so special, and if it gets destroyed, then there will be no one to fix it. There's the common saying of "We only have one Earth", but there's also only one population on this Earth. This source/text is basically telling us that we need to be careful and aware of our actions, how we treat the Earth. Unfortunately, it's gotten a little too late for that, but there's still some time. This is another good lesson that I will use for my kvutzah.

Other sources not annotated:

Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action. "Adaptation & Awakening." *Sefaria*, 22

October 2024,

<https://www.sefaria.org/sheets/598586.3?lang=bi&with=AboutSheet&lang2=en>.

Accessed 17 January 2025.

Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action. "Every Part of the Tree." *Sefaria*, 29 October

2024,

<https://www.sefaria.org/sheets/600027.1?lang=bi&with=AboutSheet&lang2=en>.

Accessed 17 January 2025.

Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action. "Facing Fear, Sowing Courageous Action."

Sefaria, 30 May 2024, <https://www.sefaria.org/sheets/568445?lang=bi>. Accessed

17 January 2025.

Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action. "Reciprocity & Covenant." *Sefaria*, 2 June

2024,

<https://www.sefaria.org/sheets/568952.8?lang=bi&with=AboutSheet&lang2=en>.

Accessed 17 January 2025.

Gerwein, Joel. "Climate Change Source Sheet." *Sefaria*, 15 May 2017,

<https://www.sefaria.org/sheets/67098.2?lang=bi&with=AboutSheet&lang2=en>.

Accessed 17 January 2025.

Katz, Allen. "Noah: A Biblical Model for the Climate Crisis." *Sefaria*, 2 October 2021,

<https://www.sefaria.org/sheets/350731.2?lang=bi>. Accessed 17 January 2025.