

DIVEST!

The Climate Movement On Tour

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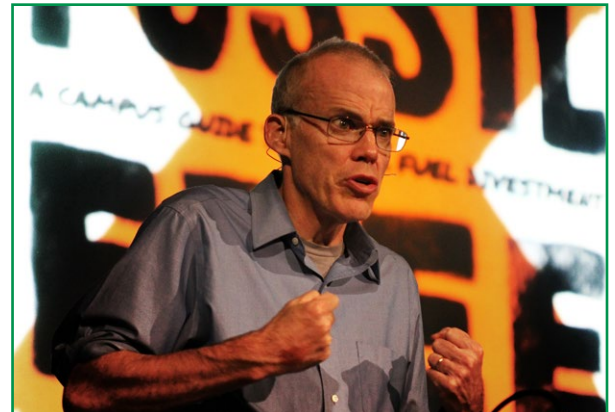
Bullfrog Community Screening & Discussion Guide

Use your film screening of **DIVEST!** as a tool for educating your community about climate change, the fossil-fuel divestment movement, and ways we can enact positive policy change at the local, regional, and national levels. This guide offers some background information, helpful tips & discussion questions for an informative, rewarding screening. **Good Luck!**

For additional resources, visit divest.bullfrogcommunities.com/divest_resources

About **DIVEST!** The Climate Movement on Tour

DIVEST! chronicles 350.org's 'Do the Math' bus tour across the United States in 2012 as it launched the fossil fuel divestment campaign onto the national and ultimately international stage. Each night Bill McKibben and special guests laid out the findings in his landmark Rolling Stone article 'Global Warming's Terrifying New Math' and made both the moral and historical case for divestment. Three years later over 500 institutions representing over 3 trillion dollars in assets have committed to divest. The campaign is winning, but with the clock ticking down the question remains: will the victories add up to something that matters?



About the Directors

Josh Fox has written/directed/produced three feature films, several short films and over twenty-five full-length works for the stage. **GASLAND**, which Josh wrote, directed and shot, premiered at the Sundance film festival 2010, where it was awarded the 2010 Special Jury Prize for Documentary. **Steve Liptay** is a filmmaker and photographer focused on elevating voices and campaigns within the movement for climate justice. From his work with Peaceful Uprising to divestment and the campaign to stop Keystone XL, his work has centered around movement-building and keeping fossil fuels in the ground.

ready to watch!

Ideas and best practices to help make your community screening a success!

- 1. Publicize Your Event!** This is the most important step because it not only tells the world what you're up to, but it lets the Bullfrog Community team know what your plans are so we can help you publicize your event. Visit divest.bullfrogcommunities.com/divest_screenings to register and get the word out on your DIVEST! screening.
- 2. Visualize Your Goal!** What do you hope to achieve with your screening of DIVEST!? Your goal could be to generate a lively post-film discussion generally about climate change and mitigation, the "math" of climate change and divestment or more specifically about organizing tactics for your divestment campaign. Or, you can simply provide an opportunity for your audience to watch and learn together.
- 3. Where To Host?** Consider which locations in your area would be ideal for accommodating a community film screening of the size you anticipate: downtown movie theaters, churches and synagogues, town halls, community centers, public libraries, school auditoriums, university and college venues, warehouses at a business and outdoor screenings at parks and playgrounds, and even private homes have been venues for many successful community screenings.
- 4. Find A Partner!** Give some thought to who is already working on this issue in your community. Do you know of any local divestment campaigns or nonprofits working on climate-change issues? Can they help sponsor the event? Spread the word? Speak on a panel discussion after the screening? Some potential partners include: student divestment campaigns at universities and colleges; faith-group divestment campaigns and other institutional divestment campaigns; environmental science and studies and natural resources departments at universities and colleges; nonprofits focused on climate-change issues and protecting the environment; organizations focused on sustainability; and community organizations.
- 5. Invite A Guest Speaker!** Guest speakers and panelists are a great way to encourage discussion and debate after a community screening. When people are engaged and thinking about the issues they will stay engaged long after the screening has passed. Contact representatives of divestment campaigns, non-profits or teachers and professors who have expertise or insight into the issues raised by the film, and invite them to attend and participate in a discussion or Q&A session.
- 6. Engage Your Audience!** Use this discussion guide to engage your audience. Included in this guide is a section called Ready to Talk! with a few questions to get the conversation started and a section called Ready to Act!, a handout listing additional resources for further investigation about key issues raised in the film, all to support efforts to prepare your audience to act.
- 7. Spread The Word!** Think about the best methods available to you for publicizing the film screening to people in your community. Sending emails, creating event notifications on Facebook or Meetup, using Twitter, and placing screening announcements in local newspapers and newsletters is a good start. Find a DIVEST! screening poster, discussion guide (includes handout), and press photos at divest.bullfrogcommunities.com/divest_resources to help publicize your event around town.
- 8. Tell Us How It Went!** Visit divest.bullfrogcommunities.com/divest_discussion to tell us about your event. Contribute to the film's discussion page to help other divestment campaigns, universities, non-profits, and student and community groups further the discussion and put on successful events. Where it was held? Who attended? What went well, and what was challenging? What did you discuss? Your feedback will help others to organize their own successful events and will energize Bullfrog Communities as a whole.

ready to talk!

Your audience will be excited to discuss the issues raised by DIVEST!. Here are some questions that will get people talking.

- 1.** Why is it necessary to take the fossil-fuel industry to task for its culpability in the climate crisis? Why does the industry have a stranglehold on our economy and governments?
- 2.** Should educational and religious institutions, governments, and other organizations that serve the public good divest from fossil-fuel companies? Why is it necessary to convince institutional leaders in particular to divest?
- 3.** Why is fossil-fuel divestment of such strategic importance rather than a focus on stopping particular fossil-fuel projects like offshore drilling, tar-sands pipelines, coal power plants and hydrofracking wells, for instance?
- 4.** Fossil-fuel companies have billions of dollars/euros. How can divesting the funds from a few institutions like universities, pensions and churches make an impact?
- 5.** Is it possible to make a reasonable return on investment without investing in fossil-fuel companies? Can investing in clean energy, efficiency, and other sustainable technologies be more profitable than fossil-fuel investments?
- 6.** How can investing in local, clean energy and sustainable businesses benefit local living economies and protect the environment? Is there a moral imperative to do so?
- 7.** What does “Do the Math” mean? What is the relevance of 2°C, 565 gigatons and 2,795 gigatons of carbon dioxide?
- 8.** Why is mitigating climate change so important? Why is climate change a fundamentally existential threat to humans?
- 9.** Are there divestment campaigns that are active in your community or region? What challenges have they faced? What successes have they achieved?
- 10.** Which institutions in your community would be strategic targets for campaigns calling for divestment?

ready to act!

handout

Fossil Free — <http://gofossilfree.org>

Fossil Free is an international network of campaigns and campaigners working toward fossil-fuel divestment in our communities. Visit their website and find a campaign in your community, university, or faith group; and if one doesn't exist, start one. Resources and ideas to start a campaign are available.

Explore the websites of other organizations listed below working for divestment and to mitigate climate change.

350.org — <http://www.350.org>

International effort to raise awareness of the need to decrease carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere to 350 parts per million.

Fossil Fuel Divestment Student Network — <http://www.studentsdivest.org>

Uniting student campaigns for climate justice.

Divest-Invest — <http://divestinvest.org>

A worldwide movement to divest from fossil fuels and invest in a sustainable and clean energy economy.

Divest Now — <http://www.wearepowershift.org/campaigns/divest>

A program of We Are Power Shift, a grassroots-driven online community that seeks to empower and serve as a hub for the youth climate movement.