Annual Report
Recapping our work in 2013 for our members
From the director

“Our power comes from people taking action to protect the places we love across the country.”

If asked to imagine an environmental advocate, most people would envision a determined activist making a passionate case to a powerful Washington, D.C., politician.

But that’s just part of the picture. For all of us at Environment America, the most important advocates are the millions of Americans, most of whom live far from the nation’s capital, who care enough about the environment to make their voices heard.

They’re people who live in the Marcellus Shale region of Pennsylvania, where fracking has trampled forests, contaminated drinking water, and sickened families. While Gov. Tom Corbett has bent over backwards to accommodate the industry, more than 100,000 Pennsylvanians have joined our call for a fracking moratorium.

They’re our supporters and local partners in Seattle, where Sen. Maria Cantwell told us she would do everything but “get a tattoo” to show her support for the scenic San Juan Islands. Hundreds of Washington State residents took to Facebook to post “selfies” with temporary tattoos exclaiming their love for the San Juans. Sen. Cantwell stepped up her support and President Obama declared a thousand acres in the islands a national monument.

They’re the 500 owners of outdoor recreation businesses and local conservation officials who joined our staff and more than 60,000 of our members in urging the president to back full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

They’re the people in Minnesota who convinced Gov. Mark Dayton to sign a bill that will increase solar power in the state more than 30-fold in just seven years. A coalition of 150 civic groups, labor unions and others backed the initiative at events from a solar film contest to a booth at the Minnesota State Fair—where the governor himself stopped to sign our petition. And they’re the people in states like Oregon and Arizona and in cities like Cincinnati and San Antonio who are working to create their own solar success stories.

Of course, our professional advocates—whom you will see on the following pages— are as passionate and persistent as they come. They’re armed with the facts and the know-how to persuade powerful decision makers to support strong environmental protections. But every one of us knows that our real power comes from people like you, who provide support and take action to protect the places we love across the country and to advance the environmental values we share.

Thank you,

Margie Alt
Executive Director
From the board chair

“In the end, all that will matter to our children is whether, when we faced the world’s gravest environmental challenge, our generation had the courage—and enough power—to act.”

The science is clear. So is the challenge.

The last report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change shows that we are at a turning point with regard to global warming. The recent increase in extreme weather backs up the science. But the world has yet to take the steps that will be required to change our course.

We understand what’s at stake—for us, for our children, for their children. As President Obama said in June, “the question now is whether we will have the courage to act before it’s too late.”

The president’s remark came as he announced his Climate Action Plan, which includes limits on our nation’s largest sources of carbon pollution: power plants. We applauded the plan and helped lead a coalition that gathered support from more than 3 million Americans for the new limits. We’re also urging the president to reject the Keystone XL pipeline, which would add another 130 million tons of carbon to our atmosphere each year.

Our focus extends well beyond Washington. In California, we’re defending an economy-wide cap-and-trade program and promoting the Million Electric Vehicles Initiative. In the Northeast, we’re strengthening the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, the 10-state program that’s reducing power plant emissions, making polluters pay, and using the funds to promote clean energy. From Arizona to Minnesota, we’re promoting and winning policies to increase solar power generation. At the same time, we’re fighting fracking in 16 states, striving to protect drinking water supplies and stopping the drive to deepen our reliance on gas and oil.

With your support, we’re working in every forum available—federal, regional, state and local. And we’re expanding the constituency for change—to energy-efficient homeowners, hybrid and electric car drivers, solar panel installers, farmers supplementing their income with wind turbines on their property, local officials reducing their town and school energy bills, and millions of others enjoying the benefits of local, state and regional policies that favor clean energy and a healthier future. In the end, all that will matter to our children is whether, when we faced grave environmental challenges, our generation had the will—and enough power—to act. Whether we stood together against the special interests, and despite partisan rancor, made real change.

We may not live, as the president said in June, “to see the full realization of our ambition.” But, we will know that together, we did all we could to leave future generations a healthier, safer planet.

Douglas H. Phelps
Board of Directors, Board Chair
In 2013, President Obama announced a Climate Action Plan that will limit carbon emissions from power plants, the single largest source of global warming pollution. More than 3 million Americans rallied to support the new limits after Environment America and our allies ran a massive grassroots campaign demanding action to protect our children and future generations from global warming.

A wildfire near Colorado’s Waldo Canyon in June 2013.

The Southwest suffered from extreme heat early last summer.
We issued a call to action joined by 3 million Americans

As thousands of heat records were being broken across the country this past year, Environment America’s staff and activists worked with our colleagues in the environmental and public health communities and beyond to mobilize record levels of support for limiting the carbon pollution that fuels global warming.

Power plants are the largest single-source of carbon pollution in America, accounting for 40 percent of emissions, and yet, there are no federal limits on the amount of carbon pollution power plants can pump into the atmosphere.

With intense opposition from power companies that reap huge profits selling dirty energy, we need overwhelming support from the public if the nation is going to move forward to limit global warming pollution.

Together with our allies, we helped galvanize 3.2 million Americans to send public comments in support of limits on carbon pollution from power plants. That’s more than twice the record for any previous environmental rule. And a significant showing of support came from citizens in coal-burning states, like Ohio and Pennsylvania.

State and local policies we’ve won will pave the way

Through our state-based advocacy, the Environment America federation helped set the stage for President Obama’s historic plan.

We’ve won caps on carbon pollution in six states, and another 10 states— from Maine to Maryland—are participating in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, the nation’s first regional plan to limit global warming pollution.

Thanks in part to our advocacy, 29 states have renewable energy standards and 20 have energy efficiency standards in place. America now produces enough wind energy to power 15 million homes, and our solar photovoltaic capacity has increased 10-fold since 2007.

Environment America’s Nathan Willcox spoke on the Weather Channel about global warming (top); State Sen. John Edwards (Va.) joined Environment Virginia’s Sarah Bucci and Lee Clark from the Red Cross to release our report “In the Path of the Storm” (middle); Executive Director Margie Alt stood with President Obama just before the June announcement of his Climate Action Plan (bottom).
As fracking spread across the country in 2013, Environment America and our state affiliates led the charge against this dirty drilling. Our research tallied the environmental and economic costs. In Pennsylvania, 100,000 people joined our call for a fracking moratorium. Our organizing helped keep New York and North Carolina frack-free. And in Washington, D.C., with our allies we delivered 1 million signatures opposing fracking in our national forests and near our national parks.
As fracking spread across the nation, our research informed Americans about risks

As the fracking boom expands, we’re seeing drinking water contaminated, families sickened, treasured landscapes turned into industrial zones, and huge releases of global warming pollution. Yet we face a near-constant PR offensive by the oil and gas industry to dismiss health and environmental concerns about fracking and tout natural gas as clean. If we are going to win this battle, we need to reach millions of Americans with the truth about the documented cases of illness, ruined water supplies, and other dangerous effects of fracking.

Awareness effort reached 60 million people

Environment America worked with Martin Sheen’s production crew at the “Breakthroughs” television series to produce a mini-documentary on the threats of fracking. The program will be broadcast this year to more than 60 million viewers on public television in all 50 states.

In our segment, viewers hear from a Pennsylvania family whose granddaughter suffered nausea and vomiting after their well water was contaminated by nearby fracking operations. Dr. Poune Saberi, of the Southwest Pennsylvania Environmental Health Project, explains that documented cases of such symptoms are, in her view, “the tip of the iceberg.” Former Mobil Oil Executive Lou Allstadt explains how fracking is inherently environmentally destructive.

In 2013, we raised awareness about this timely issue and presented the public with an opportunity to take action—working to ban fracking where we can, and calling on President Obama to close the loopholes that exempt fracking from key environmental laws, and to keep our national forests and parks off-limits to fracking. Our members responded by sending tens of thousands of signatures to the president’s desk.

Report examined who pays the cost of fracking

We also raised awareness about fracking through a series of research reports and media outreach. We calculated key impacts of dirty drilling in our report, “Fracking by the Numbers.” Using available data from industry and state sources, we estimated that fracking created more than 280,000 billion gallons of toxic wastewater in 2012 alone.

Another report, “Who Pays the Costs of Fracking?” revealed that current bonding requirements do not even come close to covering the high costs of damage from gas drilling. In addition to ruined roads, contaminated water and health costs from air pollution, the potential cost for plugging abandoned oil and gas wells already exceeds $780 billion. The report called for better financial assurance rules that don’t leave the public holding the bag on cleaning up fracking damage.
Conservation America

For more than a century, our national parks have given millions of Americans a chance to experience our country’s natural wonders and rich history. Over the past two years, Congress slashed funding for the parks by more than 10 percent. Hundreds of local leaders and tens of thousands of Americans joined us in calling for better protections for the special places we love, and helped win the designation of five new national monuments in 2013.

Environment New Mexico pushed for protections of Otero Mesa, a critical habitat for more than 1,000 native species and the largest herd of pronghorn antelope in the state.

U.S. Rep. Rick Larsen (middle) accepted a plaque in appreciation of his support of a new San Juan Islands National Monument from Environment America’s Mary Rafferty and San Juan County Council Member Jamie Stephens.
Facing a hostile Congress, Americans rallied in defense of our nation’s parks

From Half Dome in Yosemite to the sandy beaches of the Cape Cod National Seashore, Environment America and our state affiliates stood up for our nation’s parks in 2013. After years of debilitating budget cuts, our nation’s parks were forced to reduce access to the public by closing campgrounds, popular visitor areas and trails. And that was before the government shutdown closed national parks to visitors for weeks, but left them open to polluters. To keep our parks open and protected, Environment America organized tens of thousands of people to stand up for the places they love.

Leaders called on the president to stand up for parks

Fewer resources for our parks in 2013 meant less protection from overdevelopment and pollution, and more threats to wildlife, waterways and park landscapes. Environment America continued our work to fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), one of the most successful programs designed to protect our parks from these threats.

In February, Environment America sent a letter to President Obama signed by more than 400 community leaders asking him to fully fund the program. With supporters ranging from Mayor Jason Burnett of Carmel, Calif., to the Iowa Farmers Union, the letter noted the tremendous value that citizens place on our nation’s parks. In response, President Obama committed to fully fund the program in his fiscal year 2015 budget.

But later, a House committee moved to zero out the LWCF, so Environment America delivered tens of thousands of public comments and photo petitions in support of the program to members of Congress across the country.

Five new national monuments declared in 2013

Once used by Theodore Roosevelt to permanently protect the Grand Canyon, nearly every president since has used their authority to protect treasured public landscapes as national monuments. We called on President Obama to protect some of our treasured landscapes, and in March he responded by adding five new national monuments to his conservation legacy.

- In New Mexico, the president protected a pristine region known as Rio Grande del Norte near Taos. This region, known for diverse wildlife and incredible mountain scenery, is now permanently protected from development.

- The San Juan Islands in Washington State are famous for the orca whales swimming just offshore, bald eagles perched in the tree tops, and reefs dotting the coastline. Now, thanks to President Obama, 1,000 acres of the San Juan Islands is permanently protected from development as a national monument.

The other new national monuments are in Delaware, Maryland and Ohio.
Solar power has been expanding rapidly across the U.S. in the past decade, spurred by pro-solar state and local policies and backed by Environment America and our state affiliates. In 2013, we won victories in Massachusetts and Minnesota as well as Cincinnati and Los Angeles. As we work to expand solar in a dozen more states, we’re aiming to help America reach 10 percent solar by 2030. In addition, we hit a major milestone for offshore wind. Wind companies bid to lease sites for the first time on areas off the coasts of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Virginia.

Our report ranked the top 12 states in solar power
In July, Delaware Gov. Jack Markell and Rhone Resch, the president of the Solar Energy Industries Association, joined us on a national teleconference to release, “Lighting the Way,” a report highlighting the role that the solar energy boom is having across the country.

The top 12 solar states have 28 percent of the U.S. population, but 85 percent of the nation’s installed solar electricity capacity. State and local leaders also joined us, including Maryland Gov. Martin O’Malley, Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie and Vermont Gov. Peter Shumlin, along with local organizations from more than a dozen states.

Obama administration set a bold offshore wind goal
We are producing more pollution-free, renewable energy than ever before. We’ve tripled the amount of installed solar photovoltaic capacity in the United States since 2010, and we added more new wind energy to the power grid than any other energy source last year.

Wind energy now powers the equivalent of 15 million homes, and prevents as much global warming pollution as taking more than 13 million cars off the road every year. In 2014, we expect to see construction start on the first-ever offshore wind farms in the United States. With broad support for wind power, we’re working to engage citizens and stakeholders in key states to convince Congress to protect the progress we’ve made so far.
1 million conversations across the country

The oil and gas industry, big factory farms, and developers have been taking advantage of loopholes in the Clean Water Act for years, and have been lobbying hard to keep the administration from closing them.

In the past three years alone, our staff has had nearly one million face-to-face conversations with the public about the need to restore Clean Water Act protections to all of our waterways, activating citizens to submit 84,000 public comments to the Environmental Protection Agency in the process, including from more than 1,000 health professionals. We’ve also mobilized more than 400 local elected officials and more than 200 farmers to speak out in support of clean water protections.

More than 400 local leaders stood up for clean water

Environment America rallied 439 local elected officials from 30 states across the country to call on the Obama administration to restore Clean Water Act protections.

• More than 180 farmers wrote letters to President Obama asking him to close the loopholes for polluters.

• News events were held with farmers in Iowa, Maryland and Virginia to get media attention on the issue.

• In California, the Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously in support of a resolution urging the president to act.

In a long-awaited move, in 2013, the Obama administration announced a plan to restore Clean Water Act protections to the nation’s streams and wetlands. For years, Environment America has been calling for action to close these loopholes, which leave the drinking water of 117 million Americans at risk. More than 84,000 Americans joined our call for action; among them, 1,000 health professionals, 439 local elected officials and 180 farmers.
Protecting Our Oceans

Our oceans are in trouble, but thankfully, growing numbers of Americans are stepping up to help. In 2013, the number of communities banning plastic disposable bags—the kind that often wash into the sea and harm sea birds and other marine animals—surpassed 100, thanks in part to the advocacy and organizing of our state affiliates. And when sea lions washed up in unusually large numbers on the coast of California last spring, Environment California helped raise funds for an emergency marine mammal rescue center.

Campaign in California helped save sea lions

Last winter, sea lion and seal pups started washing up on California’s beaches in record numbers—more than 1,100 in total, most of them sick and starving. These pups needed immediate help, but the animal shelters that usually nurse stranded pups back to health were overrun. Environment California partnered with the California Wildlife Center to raise nearly $20,000 for an emergency marine mammal shelter.

As scientists continue to investigate what exactly caused the episode, we are pushing for long-term protections for the Pacific, so we can prevent disasters like this in the future.

More than 100 communities banned plastic bags

Over the past two years, our movement to stop plastic pollution has grown by leaps and bounds—from Los Angeles, to Seattle, to Narragansett Bay—with single-use plastic bags now banned in more than 100 communities across the country. Today, 1 in 3 Californians live in a plastic bag-free community.

Standing side-by-side with business leaders, local community officials and the hundreds of thousands of people that have spoken out, Environment America and our state affiliates are saving whales, sea turtles and other wildlife by keeping plastic out of the ocean.
States launched effort for more sustainable farms
We should grow our food in ways that don’t damage our environment. But, the factory farms that dominate agriculture today contribute to air pollution by transporting food long distances, and endanger our health with nitrogen overload from manure, fertilizers and pesticides in our rivers, lakes and bays.

The local, sustainable food movement is growing. We have more than 8,000 farmer’s markets across the country, yet most of the food sold in our supermarkets, restaurants and served in our public institutions still comes from factory farms. That’s why our state groups joined the call to reform the way we grow, deliver and consume food.

From Virginia to Maine to Wisconsin
Up to 90 percent of the food eaten by the average Mainer is produced out of state. Environment Maine spearheaded a coalition of farmers, educators and community leaders to increase the amount of locally-grown food in schools.

Industrial agriculture is responsible for polluting 4,300 square miles of the Great Lakes. Wisconsin Environment launched a campaign to stop factory farm pollution and delivered more than 6,000 petitions to Gov. Scott Walker.

Combined, Environment North Carolina and Environment Virginia mobilized 22,000 people to call on their elected officials to expand opportunities and resources for sustainable farming.

More than 6,000 supporters signed Environment Virginia’s petitions to urge Sen. Tim Lake to cosponsor the Local Farms, Food, and Jobs Act (top). Agricultural runoff from factory farms causes pollution in our waterways (bottom).
### Environment America Staff (partial list)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Margie Alt</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Aurilio</td>
<td>Director, Washington, D.C., office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christy Leavitt</td>
<td>Field Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Rafferty</td>
<td>Conservation Program Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob Sargent</td>
<td>Energy Program Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Rumpler</td>
<td>Senior Environmental Attorney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Gatti</td>
<td>Environmental Policy Analyst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alyssa Schuren</td>
<td>Development Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Willcox</td>
<td>Global Warming Program Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courtney Abrams</td>
<td>Clean Energy Advocate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelley Vinyard</td>
<td>Clean Water Advocate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Kohler</td>
<td>Regional Director</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Environment America State Affiliate Staff (partial list)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bret Fanshaw</td>
<td>Environment Arizona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Jacobson</td>
<td>Environment California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bernadette Del Chiaro</td>
<td>Environment California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeanne Bassett</td>
<td>Environment Colorado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Phelps</td>
<td>Environment Connecticut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennette Gayer</td>
<td>Environment Georgia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Figdor</td>
<td>Environment Maine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erik Whalen</td>
<td>Environment New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johanna Neumann</td>
<td>Environment Massachusetts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samantha Chadwick</td>
<td>Environment Minnesota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuart Keating</td>
<td>Environment Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doug O’Malley</td>
<td>Environment New Jersey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanders Moore</td>
<td>Environment New Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Outzs</td>
<td>Environment North Carolina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julian Boggs</td>
<td>Environment Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Higgenbotham</td>
<td>Environment Oregon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Masur</td>
<td>PennEnvironment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke Metzger</td>
<td>Environment Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Megan Severson</td>
<td>Wisconsin Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katrina Rosen</td>
<td>Environment Washington</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>