

How Do You Adapt to Life on a Warming Planet?

Myrtle Village Green

Speaker 1:

There's always been this challenge of looking forward and living in the present moment.

Speaker 2:

I think the key word is adaptability. With all the stuff that's going on, if you can't adapt to the situation, you're going to have a hard time.

Speaker 3:

Why aren't you moving to Canada?

Speaker 4:

Canada's on fire too. Not Eastern Canada.

Speaker 3:

I would go if I were younger, I would be living up in Canada. Even Maine has their issues now.

Speaker 5:

You either make the change now or you simply don't. Or you simply carry on as is the way we are now with the expectation knowing that it's just going to get hotter and hotter and hotter. It just is.

Speaker 6:

There hasn't been a reason for me to drastically alter my life. Maybe because I didn't have that life changing moment about climate, but instead it's kind of just... What's it called? What's that thing? It's like a frog in a pot.

Speaker 7:

I'm still able to live life. That's not just about climate change.

Speaker 3:

You do feel helpless and there's -- I on a personal level feel that I'm not doing enough and I'm not getting involved enough. I feel life is so full of little... I don't know how people find the time and it feels like a lame excuse. But I just feel... Between getting your kid to daycare and trying to work on the art you're passionate about and trying to make money to live and trying to cook your dinner, there's very little time, for me anyways, to get really politically involved in a way that could make even small changes.

Speaker 8:

I've thought of maybe owning a farm in my future. I remember when I considered that. I remember thinking about, "How is the weather going to change in a few years from now?" Would that be... For example, would upstate New York be a good place to like start a farm there considering how the climate is going to change in the future? Am I going to see more tomatoes over there, more thunderstorms, huge floods over there? Those are things to consider. If I were to build a farm in my future, I would want a place that's a stable weather environment. Yeah, I wouldn't want to pick a place that's going to be torn up soon.

Speaker 9:

Starting in the 80s, I started letting my gas go off for about three, four months. It was a process of survival for me. People would say something's going to happen and we have to learn to live.

Speaker 4:

So you did it to practice?

Speaker 9:

To practice, yeah. Practice to prepare for survival.

Speaker 10:

What is going to happen, will happen. If we have a destiny to face it, we'll face it. But until that time we shouldn't wait. We should work on it to protect us and for our next generation.

Speaker 11:

I believe in the future those people that are gardening are going to be the safeguard of those that live in New York, because we will continue that agriculture. We will continue to produce.

Speaker 4:

What's the value of learning how to grow things and taking care of things in the garden?

Speaker 12:

The epidemic you just started, so you never saw so many backyard gardens in your life.

Speaker 4:

What's that about?

Speaker 12:

What's that about? It's about survival and learning how to... The way your ancestors did long before you could walk to the corner and go to the grocery store. Being self-sustainable. Being able to take care of yourself and your family. Just in case something happens and you can't, there's nothing on the shelf in the grocery store. Learn seed saving, that way you can start your little patch. You can grow food anywhere.

Speaker 13:

Started keeping batteries around the house more, and bottled water, and dry food, and canned food, and stuff that we don't have to heat up and use electric for.

Speaker 14:

I mean, Ben jokes all the time. He's like, "I guess we have to move up north." I don't know what that means, but I mean, reality.

Speaker 4:

What does it feel like to feel like you inherited something that...

Speaker 15:

It's frustrating. Why couldn't y'all just take care of it in the first place? Why did y'all have to go and make it so bad? I'm pretty sure back then when this was all in, everything was just grass and trees and stuff like that, I'm pretty sure we was living really good then. I'm pretty sure the ice caps was fully intact, glaciers and stuff like that. The ice was cold. Polar bears were fat. I'm pretty sure life was good back then, but now it's not. Now we don't know how to solve it. Maybe I just don't know. Maybe I don't know. Maybe somebody out there knows, but whoever knows need to say something so we can fix it.

Speaker 16:

I think maybe the scientist can invent something to help reverse the process of climate change or just stop it where it is.

Speaker 17:

Or maybe we could get more stuff to be made in white, also to get more electric cars.

Speaker 1:

Urban farms are going to be so much more important in the future because we're tapped into a city sewage system, and that's huge. When it rained eight inches, two weeks in a row or two weeks apart with Hurricane Henry and Hurricane Ida, that eight inches of rainwater flooded farms upstate. It didn't flood us because anything that can't be contained by our plants runs into the sewage system.

Speaker 18:

This is another reason why I have this going. Birds, insects and other little creepy things were here just as long as we were and they need to be here. If we keep

becoming... instead of collaborating with them and trying to dominate them, we'll find ourselves in a well with no water.

Speaker 19:

Oh, and as you know, Brooklyn Botanical Garden is still fighting the flight for light or something, because some idiot wants to put this building, and where he wants to put this 20-story building...

Speaker 4:

It's so horrible.

Speaker 19:

...will kill their 100-year old, 200-year old Ginkgo tree. Are you crazy? What do you mean people don't need that? Of course they need that.

Speaker 11:

Rainy, rainy. Ask your mom to save some of the seeds from this cucumber. So we can have it for next year. Save some of the seeds for next year. Okay? Thank you.