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## GREEN ORGANIZING ACTION TEAM: “GOAT NOAT” FOR JUNE 2021

### **News from the Garden:**

A garden work session is planned for **Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.** All are welcome. This will give us a chance to celebrate the garden and prepare for the Meetinghouse's opening. Contact Gary Gillespie for details.

### **A Message on Gasoline and CO2 Emissions:**

Almost all of us rely on private automobiles to get around. So far only a few members of Homewood are driving electric cars. The rest of us rely on vehicles that burn gasoline (i.e. the internal combustion engine). The emissions from our tailpipes are contributing directly to global warming. Per the U.S. Energy Information Administration, 19.6 pounds of CO2 are produced per gallon of gasoline burned. (Source: [https://www.eia.gov/environment/emissions/co2\\_vol\\_mass.php](https://www.eia.gov/environment/emissions/co2_vol_mass.php)) During the COVID pandemic we've been using our vehicles less which has helped reduce CO2 emissions.

There is another thing we can do in the short term. We can use our buying power to encourage companies that are working to reduce the harm their business causes and send a message to the ones that are not. Each time we need to fill up the tank we have to decide which gasoline station to visit. The Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), a national nonprofit dedicated to the use of science in solving major challenges, has studied the policies of the various oil/gasoline companies *vis. à vis.* the climate crisis and clean energy initiatives. UCS has created a scorecard comparing their policies. The criteria UCS uses are categorized as:

- Near-term emission reductions;
- Limits on offsets (to achieve its goals);
- Accountability (who is responsible);
- Beyond carbon (methane reductions) and
- Climate policy (leave trade associations (e.g. American Petroleum Institute) that are not aligned with their goals).

The link for details on the scoring is below. In the UCS rankings, the worst scoring companies are ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil, and Chevron, and the best scoring are BP and Shell. We provide you with this information so you can make a conscientious choice when you need to fill up the tank.

<https://blog.ucsusa.org/nicole-pinko/conocophillips-exxonmobil-and-chevron-climate-pledges-and-actions-fall-short>