

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a pollution offset?

Pollution offsets are the attempt to offset the results of pollution from some activity of process by improving the environment in an equal benefit. Carbon trading, for example, allows carbon polluters to offset the effect of excess carbon in the environment by trading credits with those whose activities reduce an equal amount of carbon. Pollution offsets can exist for any kind of polluting materials as long as an equal and direct benefit can be established.

From whom do the offsets come from?

ClimateDefenders™ purchases offsets from the Chicago climate Exchange or directly from EPA's Clean Air Market's Division. All offsets are certified and verifiable.

How have CO2 levels changed over the years?

Scientists have been measuring CO2 levels in the atmosphere since the early 1950s, however recently analysis of CO2 bubbles trapped in arctic ice and ocean coral dating back to 200,000 years ago have been used to develop a comprehensive chart of historic CO2 levels. CO2 has increased by approximately 25% in the past 100 years and most scientists agree that continued CO2 increases at this rate will likely raise the average temperature of the Earth by 4°F to 10°F within the next 30 years.

What is "additionality"?

Additionality is the criteria used to define a carbon offset project. The term comes from describing carbon offset emission reductions as those that occur *in addition* to business-as-usual. ClimateDefenders™ only supports projects with the highest level of additionality.

What is the greenhouse effect?

The greenhouse effect is the rise in temperature that the Earth experiences because certain gases in the atmosphere (water vapor, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, and methane, for example) trap energy from the sun.

If there is a hole in the ozone layer, isn't ozone good?

There are two types of ozone, ground level and upper atmospheric. Upper atmospheric ozone is needed to prevent harmful radiation from getting to Earth, but ground level ozone can cause serious respiratory problems and creates haze.

How am I helping the environment with an offset purchase?

By purchasing a carbon offset you are supporting renewable, alternative energy projects that offset the burning of fossil fuels used to produce electricity, and thereby reducing the overall impact of CO2 on global warming. By purchasing, SO2 and NOx allowances, you are directly retiring these pollutant emissions from being emitted into the atmosphere based on EPA's current regulatory Cap and Trade Programs.

How can I contact you if I have more questions?

Please contact us at info@climatedefenders.com or write us at ClimateDefenders™, LLC, 6147 Fairway Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45212.

How long have we measured the Earth's temperature?

Accurate measurements have been maintained for approximately the past 140 years with an average mean increase of approximately 2°F over that time.

Can I trust your site?

All of ClimateDefenders™ offsets are obtained from certified and verifiable sources. ClimateDefenders™ offset trust is reviewed and certified on an annual basis by a CPA and ClimateDefenders™ online purchases are secured and verified by Aurthrive.net, Inc.

Can I sign up to be pollution neutral on an annual basis?

ClimateDefenders™ promotes every concerned individual to take reasonable steps to reduce your pollution footprint. As such, we do not offer a one time fits all offset solution and suggest that you re-evaluate your footprint using our Personal Pollution Calculator on an annual basis to determine your required level of offset.

How is your site different than others?

Most other similar sites are focused only on CO2 (global warming), or carbon offsets. ClimateDefenders™ offers Personal Pollution Offsets for SO2 (acid rain) and NOx (smog and ozone) also.

What specific projects do my contributions support?

ClimateDefenders™ carbon offsets support direct, quantifiable CO2 emission reductions, as regulated by the Chicago Climate Exchange, for renewable, alternative energy projects such as methane gas collection, solar and wind energy, and soil sequestration. ClimateDefenders™ does not promote tree or forestry sequestration due to the lack in one to one offset.

How long does an offset last?

Offsets are valid for one calendar year.

When will I receive my ClimatePass™ decals or magnets?

Shipment of the ClimatePass™ should be completed within two weeks of purchase.

Can I purchase a gift certificate as a present for a friend or family member?

Yes. ClimateDefenders™ offers eCertificates, available immediately upon purchase to download and print. The names printed on these eCertificates can be customized by entering the name of the individual into the "Shipping Name" portion of the shopping cart.