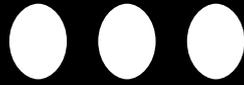


**extinction
rebellion**

**WELCOME TO THE
REBELLION**



**IT'S TIME
TO RISE UP!**

EXTINCTIONREBELLION.ORG.UK

THE REBELLION



What is the Rebellion?

Rising Up network is coordinating a nonviolent rebellion against the British Government in response to the climate emergency and the mass extinction of life we are now witnessing.

The arctic could be ice free in the summer within 10 years, and with carbon already emitted in the atmosphere yet to feed into additional warming, it looks like the 2°C temperature limit set by the Paris Agreement is locked in and due to be passed within the next decades.

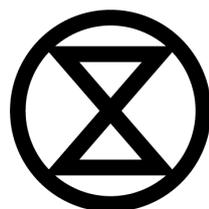
We are facing an existential emergency and yet global CO2 emissions are still going up and governments, including our own, are committing a crime against humanity by refusing to take the emergency action that is now vitally necessary.



Conventional campaigning has failed. Carbon emissions have increased by 60% since scientists first warned of ecological collapse in 1990.

IT'S TIME TO REBEL!

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**extinction
rebellion**

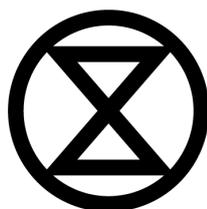
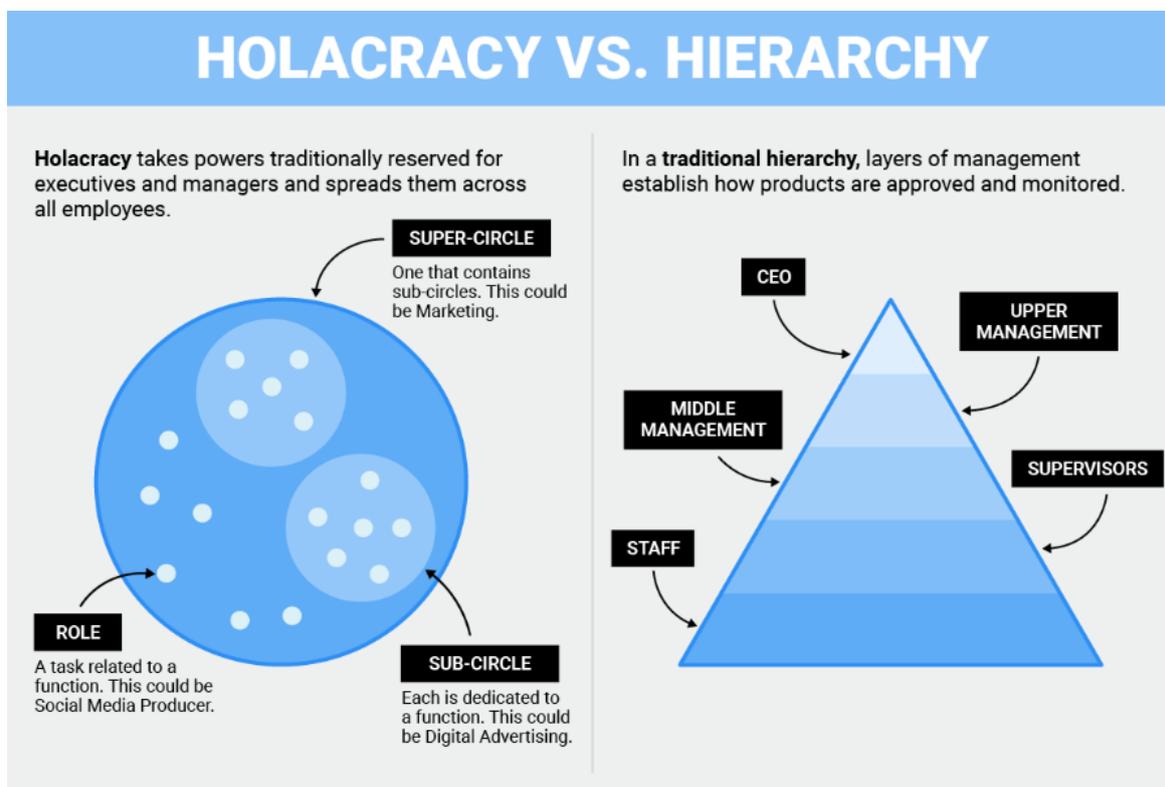
THE PLAN



The Plan of the Extinction Rebellion is to build a large network of groups over the next two to three years to carry out a series of escalating rebellions against a criminal regime – the UK government – which as we all know is taking us down the road to extinction due to its refusal to take emergency action on climate breakdown, extreme inequality, and ecological collapse. This mobilisation is part of an international movement which are taking similar actions in other countries.

At the time of writing the Extinction Rebellion is largely organised on a national basis through working groups and their subgroups/teams which meet online. However, for the movement to mature and become more sustainable and resilient it needs to regionalise and localise.

Below is an infographic explaining Holacracy, the process used by RisingUp who are coordinating the Rebellion. For example, decisions and developments are made by semi-autonomous groups on the basis of gaining feedback from others



THE PLAN



31st October: Declaration of Rebellion

On 31st October there will be a Declaration of Rebellion involving a public act of civil disobedience in London.

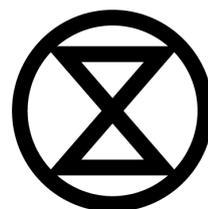


If no constructive response is made by the government, then an escalation of disruption and sacrifice will take place for two weeks from the 12th November. This will involve the blocking of transport infrastructure and related activities which is likely to lead to the imprisonment of activists.



Activities will be focused on London but actions will also take place in other cities. Other groups and networks are invited to make public statements and engage in their own actions including occupations of public spaces. As long as groups agree with the aims and spirit of the Rebellion and are committed to nonviolence, they are encouraged to take the initiative. This is an open process.

We will coordinate actions with groups in other countries and aim to engage in an International Rebellion of direct actions during March of 2019.



DEMANDS AND AIMS



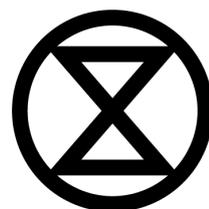
We demand that the British government reduces carbon emission to zero by 2025. We want a reversal of the destructive policies which are destroying life on the planet. A national assembly needs to be set up, made up of ordinary citizens to agree on measures which will need to be taken to achieve these aims. Rising Up is working with other groups on details and practicalities of these demands. In November, we aim to create enough social disruption to create a national conversation about what exactly we are doing to the planet and a serious debate on our moral responsibilities to the next generation to break the silence on the dire criminality of the present course of inaction.



HOW TO GET INVOLVED



This rebellion is going ahead. Enough people are already resolved to make a stand. We may fail or succeed but what is important now is that we act. Success will depend upon how many people join the rebellion. We need people prepared to be arrested and go to prison. This is how social movements in the past have brought about profound political change and this is what we have to do today. But just as important are the many support roles in this process – promoting the rebellion on- and offline, organising our media communications and messaging, providing personal support for those on the frontline, fundraising and administrative work.



The Rebellion has a coordinating group to take this process forward and a growing network of working groups which organise specific areas. These groups and the people in them are free to fulfil their roles and responsibilities as they see fit. Organisation is distributed among these groups rather than in a top-down fashion.

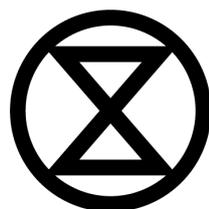
We are organising a hundred public meetings and talks all around the country to mobilise people for the Rebellion. We need several hundred people taking action to make a significant impact. We would love for you to be involved. For more information, like or message the Extinction Rebellion Facebook Page, follow us on Twitter @ExtinctionR or email us at extinctionrebellion@risingup.org.uk.



Our Basic Principle



We are committed to nonviolence – this is non-negotiable both externally towards our opponents and internally towards each other. We are here to respect and support each other and when we fail to do so, to apologise to each other. We are all human. Again, other documents expand in more detail on this principle of nonviolence.



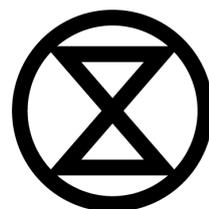
THE DIRECT ACTION PROCESS



The plan is for people to break the law.

There is a definite process here. You don't just turn up on the day. If you are open to being involved in civil disobedience (there is no need to make a definite commitment at this stage), you go to a nonviolent direct-action (NVDA) training where you learn about the theory and practice of nonviolent action – how to remain calm under pressure etc.

At these sessions, you can help to form or join an existing affinity group. These are groups of 8-12 people who work together and support each other on the day of the action and preparing for it. They include 1-2 support people who do not get arrested and will stay in touch with the Regenerative Culture working group throughout. Affinity groups meet before actions and agree on their joint activity. The rebellion's Action and Logistics working group communicates with a coordinator from each affinity group on the options for actions. The specific details, e.g. when and where an action takes place, are usually only known on the day of the action. If you are interested in starting on this process, speak to us and we will help you find an NVDA training in your local area.

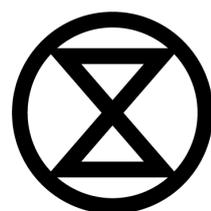


THE ORGANISATION PROCESS



It is important to know that the XR is not a top-down structure where someone tells you what to do. Nor is there consensus based decision-making where lots of people sit around a table for hours deciding everything. The most efficient and empowering structure is to take best of both worlds: There are basic aims and ways of working which everyone follows and within these limits, people take on roles and responsibilities and run them as they see best.

Specifically, there is a coordination group which includes two members from each working group and makes sure that the whole show is kept balanced, making decisions which affect the whole operation. Working groups are independent to pursue the aims of the rebellion in their particular areas – media and messaging, outreach and training, action and logistics, regenerative culture (people support).



SO YOU WANT TO JOIN THE REBELLION? THESE ARE THE NEXT STEPS...

1

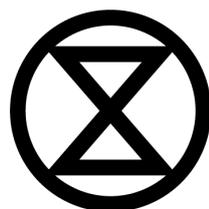
A person takes on the role of regional or city organiser. Ideally this should be two people with a gender balance and with different roles in XR such as direct action and lobbying so they can support each and draw on each other's strengths and experience.

2

They organise the standard talk around their region or city. This then leads to an NVDA training (which can be set at the same time as the talks so people wishing to go to the latter already know the date of the training). This then leads to the creation of an affinity group or groups which are geographically based (eg North Manchester, Brighton etc).

3

These affinity groups grow into "local groups" for their area and engage in more general promotion activities.



Alternatively, a local group is formed and out of this an affinity group is formed – people then go to the Non-Violent Direct Action (NVDA) training.

There can therefore be some flexibility here. The main point being that in terms of doing actions people are formed into affinity groups and the members have received NVDA training. And other people in a local group engage in equally important support roles and/or in other local activities.

•••

INTERNAL & EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

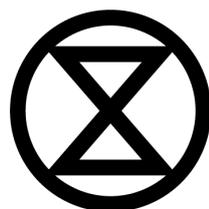
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Each pair of local co-ordinators should be on the XR Basecamp group for local co-ordinators (can be split into subgroups based on region) for communicating with other local co-ordinators across the country to see what is working best, share materials and support each other with the organising process. This group should also be used to updating and refining our overall ‘local group’ strategy.

One co-ordinator should be leading on this external communication while the other leads on internal communication.

Communicating within the group should be done on Basecamp and Facebook. Use Basecamp for storing main documents, organizing online meetings and message boards for new ideas.

The Facebook Group is best used for event announcements and for adding new people. Files can also be added. Messenger groups are handy for live updates but should be kept to announcements, NOT FOR A DISCUSSION.



ACTIVITIES FOR LOCAL GROUPS



The idea then is that local groups form and each local group then forms one or more affinity groups. Once affinity groups grow to 12 members they should split into two groups.

DIRECT ACTION

This is just one activity for these local groups so they can attract more participants who, for whatever reason, do not want to or are unable to engage in direct action. These actions are good for practicing civil disobedience and building local attention.

NON DIRECT ACTION ACTIVITIES SHOULD INCLUDE:

Local promotion. This function replicates what happens on a national level on the local level. And includes the following:

Organising local talks – these can be based upon neighbourhoods (eg in radical urban areas). This can involve putting up posters in local public places/fly posting; leaflets through doors/street door knocking. Templates and scripts for this are being created.

Online promotion – creating a local facebook page, twitter account, website, videos and podcasts etc. and then messaging local people – again following the methods used nationally (contact the national group for details)



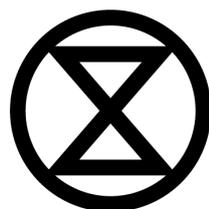
Media promotion – letters, articles etc for local papers, magazines etc. Getting slots on local/regional radio/TV/online forums.

Contacting local groups and networks – asking to do the talk or do a call out (5 minutes slots in their meetings to tell people about the movement/it's actions etc). A list from the national group may include: green groups (FOE, Greenpeace transition town and Green Party), mums groups, yoga/health /sports groups, religious and educational groups, residents associations, community organisations, young people's groups/networks, gigs/music venues and events.

Working class and minority ethnic groups should be at the heart of our outreach strategy regardless of how they want to get involved. For example, if an organiser goes to the local Indian Community Association and asks them to get involved in direct action they may not be interested, but if they also ask them if they would like an event where we look at the effects of climate change and resistance networks in India, and ask them to bring along newspaper cuttings from their local newspapers they are much more likely to engage. Similar work can be done with trade unions, highlighting the need for more publicly owned transport infrastructure in the face of climate breakdown.

Local stalls in the market or high street or at local festivals and related events – hand out leaflets (giving an event to go to) etc. Show video in the street on laptops and sign people up to come to a talk.

All the above should involve a pathway to an action/meeting and a request to support the movement financially – ie concrete information on how to do this.



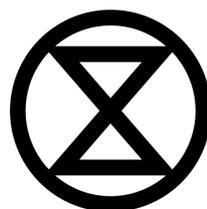
2. Lobbying and direct action taken against local political representatives and institutions.

This can include:

Asking for a meeting with local councillors and MPs asking them to sign a “declaration of climate emergency” which commits them drastic action to reduce carbon emission and calls on their political parties to do the same. If political representatives refuse to engage with us, then we do direct action – noisy occupations of surgeries and meetings, local road blocks, silent vigils outside where they live etc.

The same can happen with local political institutions – the conventional political parties and local and city councils. A similar escalation of asking for a meeting – a demand they sign the declaration of climate emergency and an escalation of direct actions if they ignore the demand (the political drama created will help to raise the issue in the media and lead to more recruits for the groups and movement).

Scripts and process descriptions for this can be obtained from the national outreach and training working group – which can have its own coordination group for supporting local and regional groups doing lobbying.



ORGANISATION AND GROWTH



The organisation of the local group should replicate the general structure of the national organisation – ie coordinators, coordination group, and semi autonomous working groups and subgroups/teams.

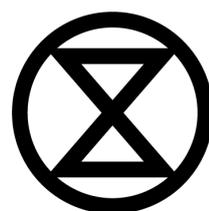
The process should start with two people taking on a coordination role. They will organise local meetings which will then create a coordinators group (3-6 people) who are committed to ongoing organisation of the various working groups. Then the different role and responsibilities are delegated to these working groups – this can start with 2-3 people taking on the roles and grow from there.



OUTLINE FOR RUNNING GENERAL MEETINGS.



The basic idea is that these meetings exist to inform and inspire new people and then get them into groups to take on roles and jobs so the whole mobilisation can grow quickly. The meetings are not primarily there to work out the nitty gritty of who is doing what and where etc. This can be done in the affinity groups – and in the working groups.



WORKING GROUPS

Action and logistics – to organise and promote specific actions in London – and liaise with the national A and L working group on the big actions in November. This needs 2 coordinators/points of contact.

Promotion/Outreach – to organise the general promotion of the Rebellion – such as offline activity – leafleting stickering etc; organising talks and call outs in group meetings and events etc. And then on promotion – emailing and messaging individuals, groups, networks and events about the rebellion and asking about coming to their meeting to speak about the rebellion and/or do a talk. This group should liaise with national Outreach and Promotion working group.

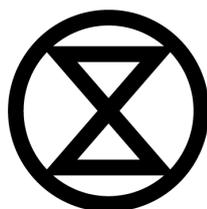
Art group – creating art materials and videos etc for the Rebellion.

These groups should start to have weekly on and/or off line meetings.

In addition the regional affinity groups in London should be organising promotion and actions in their specific area and have members on the London wide working groups

Note: This is a fluid situation so the coordination group should continually review and evolve the structure as the mobilisation grows and be responsible for providing this document to new people at general meetings and online.

For an example agenda, and guide on what to cover in a meeting, please visit page 9. of the XR briefing for local coordinators here.



KEY CONTACTS



extinctionrebellion@risingup.org.uk

Extinction Rebellion Facebook Page

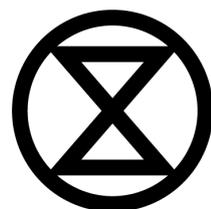
Extinction Rebellion Twitter



**WE'RE AT A CRUCIAL POINT IN
HISTORY, THE CLIMATE IS
BREAKING DOWN, WE'RE
EXPERIENCING ENVIRONMENTAL
DESTRUCTION AT A SCALE
NEVER SEEN BEFORE. LET'S
WORK TOGETHER, RISE UP,
AND REBEL!**



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