



Agriculture, Life & Veterinary Sciences & Cooperative Extension

Consent to Participate in a Research Study

Dear Focus Group member,

You have agreed to take part in the following research study: Climate Masters Outreach and Education. As a participant, you will join a Focus Group to be convened at **Dream Manor Inn; 1 Dream Manor Dr. in Globe on Sat., January 25th from 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM.** This Focus Group meeting will last a total of 3 hours consisting of 2 ¼ hours of discussion and a 45-minute lunch.

The team conducting this study are Chris Jones from the University of Arizona, Anne Mottek from Mottek Consulting, and Dr. Caitriana Steele, Dr. Paul Gutierrez, and Skye Aney from New Mexico State University. Our research objective is to discover best practices for increasing climate literacy in the general public and encouraging sustainable behaviors. We are interested in finding out why some people are very engaged in sustainable actions (e.g., recycling, water saving), but others are not. Results from this study will be used to better determine if a volunteer-based Climate Master's Program is an effective way to communicate about these issues. Results may be published as reports, in peer-reviewed journals, in online articles or newsletters, and presented at conferences. Results will also be used to design outreach program content for Cooperative Extension personnel.

There are no anticipated risks from participating in this study and, while there are no immediate direct benefits to you, we hope that the knowledge generated will be useful for Cooperative Extension personnel who are interested in implementing outreach programs for encouraging sustainable behaviors.

The information you provide is anonymous and confidential and results will be reported as a group response. This means that we will not share or connect any of the information you provide directly with your identifying information in any way. Although the researchers will take every precaution to maintain confidentiality of the focus groups' discussions, the nature of focus groups prevents the researchers from guaranteeing confidentiality. To maintain confidentiality to the best of our ability, the researchers will remind participants to respect the privacy of your fellow participants and not connect what is said in the focus group to participants' opinions. Participation in this study is strictly voluntary. If you decide to take part in the study, you may withdraw from the study at any time without penalty.

Chris Jones at the University of Arizona is the Principal Investigator for this study. Mr. Jones may be contacted by email (<u>ckjones@cals.arizona.edu</u>) or telephone (928-402-8586). Dr. Caitriana Steele of the Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences is the co-principal investigator. Dr. Steele may be contacted by email (<u>caiti@nmsu.edu</u>) or telephone (575-646-4144).

If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns about your rights as a participant in this research, contact the office of Research Integrity and Compliance at the New Mexico State University 575-646-7177 <u>ovpr@nmsu.edu</u>.





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To indicate your consent to participate in this research and to agree to be participant of this focus group, please sign the Consent to Participate section below. You should consent only if you have read the information above, or it has been read to you, and you understand its content.

Consent to Participate

I acknowledge that I am at least eighteen years old, and that I understand my rights as a research participant as outlined above. I acknowledge that my participation is fully voluntary.

Print Name:	
Signature:	Date:
Print Name of (authorized) person obtaining informed consent:	
Signature of (authorized) person obtaining informed consent	
	Date:

This consent form will be kept in a secure, locked cabinet for the duration of the research and destroyed once research is complete.