



From the peaks of the Great Smoky Mountains to the depths of the Cumberland Caverns, Tennessee's diverse forest and river ecosystems face a serious threat from global warming. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates average temperatures in Tennessee could rise about 6.75 degrees Fahrenheit by 2100 if global warming continues unabated. This increase could lead to more extreme weather events like floods and droughts, poorer agricultural harvests and more health problems such as asthma and Lyme disease.

Global warming could throw entire ecosystems out of balance, not only harming Tennessee's wildlife habitats but also the people and economies that depend on a healthy environment. For example, the state saw a greatly reduced number of waterfowl in 2001 due to warmer winter temperatures up north that discouraged ducks and geese from flying as far south.

Tennessee is home to an incredible diversity of native wildlife species, including 278 birds, 76 mammals, 283 fish, 55 reptiles and 72 amphibians. Rising temperatures in the state will likely change the makeup of entire ecosystems, forcing wildlife to shift their ranges or adapt.

Global Warming Facts

- **Songbirds:** According to recent studies, Tennesseans could see a reduction and even elimination of songbirds in the coming years if global warming continues at the current rate. The popular Tennessee state bird, the mockingbird, could be in danger as well. -Price, J., Glick, P. (2002). *The birdwatchers guide to Northern America. Reston and The Plains: National Wildlife Federation and American Bird Conservatory.*
- **Economy:** The two industries that will be most impacted by impending climate change will be forestry and agriculture. <http://www.cier.umd.edu/climateadaptation/>
- **Health:** The warmer, wetter climate projected for Tennessee as a result of climate change will likely create negative health impacts. The EPA projects that Tennessee's environment may become hospitable to disease-carrying insects, potentially increasing incidences of malaria, Lyme disease and dengue fever. <http://www.cier.umd.edu/climateadaptation/>

Keep TN Singing

Keep TN Singing is a coalition of Tennessee organizations working to bring global warming solutions to our state and our nation. In 2009, we are calling on the new president and Tennessee's members of Congress to take bold action by cutting global warming pollution 80 percent by 2050.

What Can You Do to Help? Become a Keep TN Singing Coalition Member

Chances are you're reading this because you are an individual, organization, business or government group with invested interest in raising awareness about climate change or have interest in making Tennessee's businesses more energy efficient. You can make a difference by raising awareness about climate change by joining our coalition.

Interested in joining the coalition or finding out more?

On the Web: www.KeepTNSinging.org E-mail : tn@pewglobalwarming.org Phone: (615) 259-4000 ex. 199