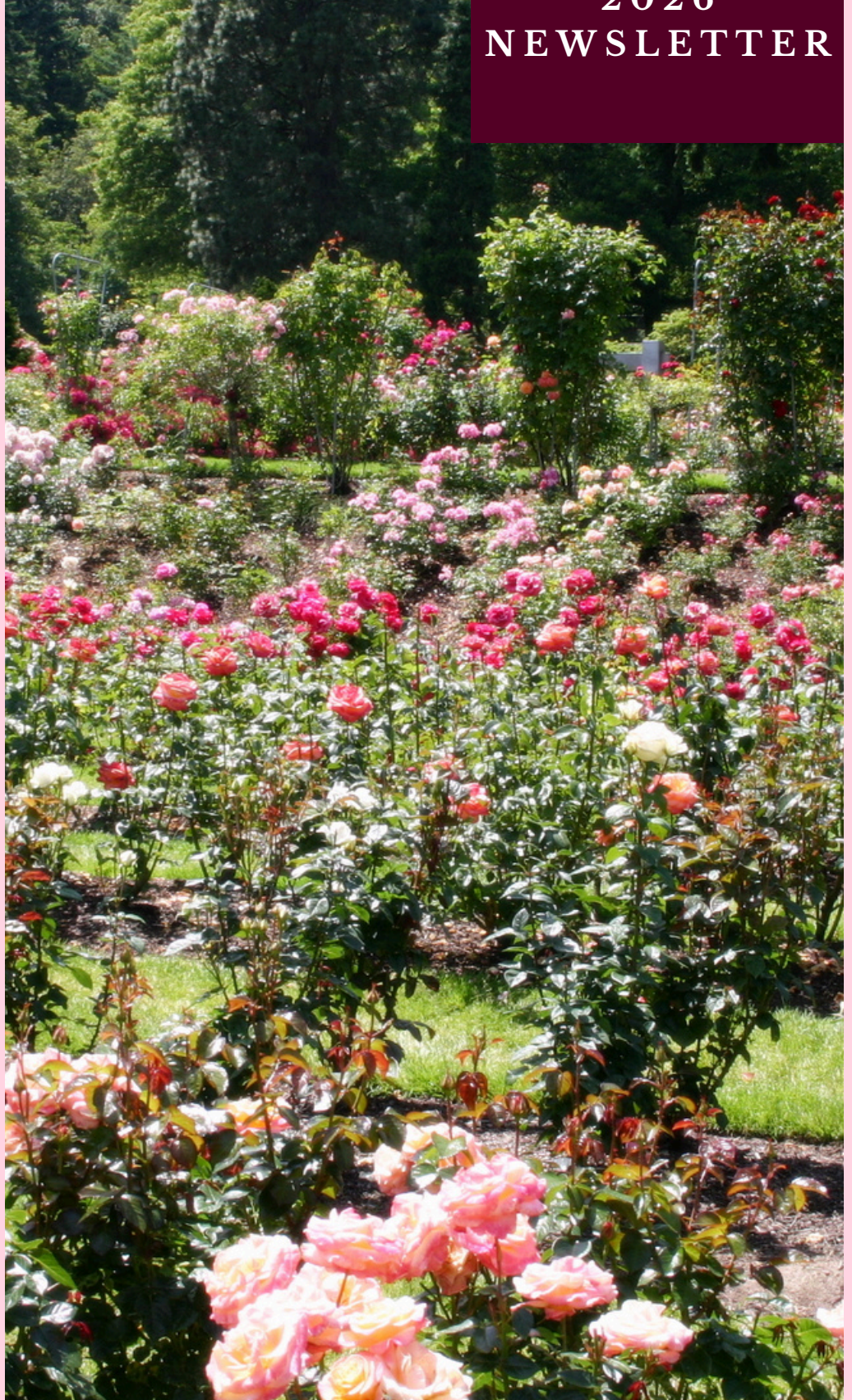


# OREGON PSR

PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

*Preventing  
what we  
cannot cure*

MAY  
2026  
NEWSLETTER



# OREGON PSR

## PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Dear Friend,

In 1968, the [Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty](#) (NPT), became the cornerstone international agreement aimed at preventing the spread of nuclear weapons and advancing nuclear disarmament. Today, 191 states are party to the treaty. . With the NPT, those nations who possess nuclear weapons agree not to transfer them to other states, non-nuclear powers agree never to acquire or develop nuclear weapons, all states agree to the safeguards put forward by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and perhaps the most important piece, Article VI, calls on the nuclear powers to take meaningful steps towards eliminating their nuclear arsenals.

I mention all this because the 2026 [NPT Review Conference](#) just wrapped up after weeks of negotiations at the United Nations in New York. Once again, the conference concluded with no final agreement among nations. With the rising nuclear risks around the world, this is simply unacceptable and while the result is disappointing, it is not surprising as this marks the third consecutive conference in which states parties have failed to achieve a [consensus outcome](#).

These failures over time have led many nations to question the importance of the NPT and have also shifted more of their attention to the [Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons](#) (TPNW), which went into force in 2021. Those who organized and worked for the passage of this landmark treaty won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017. Since it went into force, the TPNW has had annual meetings of states parties to strengthen the treaty and work on getting more nations on board. This year will be the first review conference for the TPNW.

I have participated and spoken at multiple NPT Review Conferences and Meetings of States Parties for the TPNW. While I always leave disappointed and frustrated at the NPT conferences, I am often filled with hope at the conclusion of the TPNW meetings, mainly because of how many young people are participating. Each time I'm in attendance I get to meet and hear from young students from around the world who care deeply about this issue and are doing amazing work in the field. Seeing them always reminds me of one of the most important aspects of our work: education.

That's why this year, OPSR is planning on bringing 10 high school students from the Portland area to the TPNW Review Conference November 30-December 4 at the United Nations in New York. With your support, we will be able to provide these students an opportunity to see diplomacy in action, explore possible career paths, and meet other like-minded young folks from around the world.

During the trip, our students will be able to meet and hear from atomic bomb survivors and for one week witness the serious work being done to achieve a world with no nuclear weapons. We are thrilled to be able to bring this experience to our local students and while the NPT has those of us who work on this issue disappointed, I always tell myself, “The night is darkest just before the dawn.” Thank you for all your support and please consider helping to make this trip a reality for our students. We can’t do it without you.



Data Centers, AI, and Nuclear Energy have become increasingly intertwined. Growing AI development is used to justify the construction of new data centers and massive increases in electricity generation, while data center growth and projected power demand are increasingly used to justify investments in nuclear energy. Together, they form a self-reinforcing system that concentrates wealth and political influence while shifting environmental, agricultural, financial, and public health costs onto local communities.

The current push for nuclear energy comes after more than a [decade of advocacy and lobbying backed by Silicon Valley and Big Tech](#). Much of that effort focused on building political support for nuclear expansion and creating the conditions for faster reactor development.

Today, the political groundwork laid by that campaign is helping drive efforts to weaken longstanding safeguards in the name of accelerating nuclear development.

# STOP URANIUM MINING IN OREGON.

A corporation bought 7,500 acres of Oregon to drill the largest uranium mine in the US.

Wealthy tech and mining execs will profit, and Oregonians and our environment will suffer.

Sign to say  
**NO URANIUM  
MINING IN OR**



<https://www.change.org/p/no-aurora-uranium-project-stop-harmful-uranium-mining-in-oregon>

Expanding nuclear power also raises questions about where the fuel for those reactors will come from. Uranium is a finite resource, and concerns about future fuel availability are being used to justify proposals that would [make weapons-grade plutonium available to private corporations](#) while also driving renewed interest in uranium mining.

[Plans](#) are underway to [develop a uranium mine in southern Oregon](#). According to its developers, the site contains one of the [largest conventional, measured and indicated uranium deposits in the United States](#).

[Uranium mining](#) has a long history of environmental contamination and disproportionate impacts on workers, Indigenous communities, and low-income communities.

We encourage you to sign and share the new [petition](#) on this issue, created by *Emily Cardinal*.

**Sign the Petition**

Below are several upcoming events from local and national partners focused on different aspects of the growing relationship between AI, data centers, and nuclear energy.

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# THE HIGH COST OF NUCLEAR POWER

Presented by:



Monday, June 1 at 7:00 pm EDT on Zoom

Nuclear power has significant economic, health, and environmental costs and poses safety hazards that far exceed those of any other type of energy. We'll discuss why "new nuclear" is a poor investment for our country.



**Philip J. Landrigan, MD, MSc, FAAP**  
Boston College, Global Public Health Program



**M.V. Ramana, PhD**  
University of British Columbia, School of Public Policy and Global Affairs



**Benjamin K. Sovacool, PhD**  
Boston University, Institute for Global Sustainability; Sussex University, Science Policy Research Unit



Moderated by  
**Dr. Caren Solomon, MD, MPH**  
Senior Deputy Editor, New England Journal of Medicine

## The High Cost of Nuclear Power

Monday, June 1

4pm - 5pm PT

[Register here!](#)

Nuclear power has significant economic, health, and environmental costs and poses safety hazards that far exceed those of any other type of energy. We'll discuss why "new nuclear" is a poor investment for our country.

**Oregon PSR** is proud to join *PSR National*, *Greater Boston PSR*, *PSR Colorado* and other chapters from around the country in co-sponsoring this one-hour event featuring speakers **Dr. Philip Landrigan**, **Dr. Benjamin Sovacool** and **Dr. M.V. Ramana**. **Dr. Caren Solomon** will be moderating





🌲 **Toxic Roots of the Silicon Forest:**  
People, Power, and Pollution in the  
Semiconductor Industry

📅 **Date:** June 3-4

🕒 **Time:** June 3: 6:30pm (doors at 6) -  
9pm

June 4: 9am (doors at 8:30am)  
- 6pm

📍 **Where:** Portland State University  
Smith Memorial Student Union (1825  
SW Broadway, Portland, OR 97201)

🔗 [RSVP Here](#)

***Toxic Roots of the Silicon Forest: People, Power, and Pollution in the Semiconductor Industry*** is a day-and-a-half conference taking place June 3-4, 2026, in Portland, Oregon.

From the evening of June 3 through June 4, this gathering, co-hosted by Portland Jobs with Justice and CHIPS Communities United, will convene workers, researchers, environmental advocates, and community leaders from across Oregon and beyond. Together, participants will explore the legacy of the microchip industry, discuss its local impacts in Oregon, and plant the seeds for a more equitable and sustainable future.

Co-hosted by Portland Jobs with Justice and CHIPS Communities United, this day-and-a-half conference will convene workers, labor organizers, researchers, environmental advocates, and community leaders from across Oregon and beyond. Together, we will explore the legacy of the microchip industry and how it's impacting our own backyard.


**Oregon PSR** is proud to be an Event Partner of the ***Toxic Roots*** conference and are excited to discuss and demand that the AI supply chain be sustainable, equitable, and accountable to the people.


RSVP HERE, TODAY!

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We also encourage you to check out an upcoming webinar hosted by *Columbia Riverkeeper*:

**Collision Course - Hanford Cleanup, Nuclear Energy, and Data Centers.**

 **Date:** Friday, June 12

 **Time** 12pm (noon)

 [Register here](#)

A 60-minute webinar in which we will explore the myth of nuclear reprocessing, why adding new nuclear to the Hanford Nuclear Site is a bad idea, and how the parasitic nature of nuclear energy and data centers are creating a new wave of environmental justice burdens falling squarely on the shoulders Indigenous frontline communities.



Make sure to check out the following documentary screenings that are happening in early June.


### **The Plastic Detox**

 **Date:** Sunday, June 7th

 **Time**

 **Doors:** 2:30pm

 **Film:** 3-5pm

 825 NW 18th St PDX (Havurah Shalom)

 **FREE** ([Register here](#))

We invite you to join **Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Havurah Shalom's Climate Action Team**, and other Community Partners as we continue the *Earth Justice Film Series-Stories to Inspire* with the showing of *The Plastic Detox* (2026) on **Sunday, June 7, 3-5pm.**

A collage of promotional posters for the Earth Justice Film Series 2026. The top left poster is yellow and black, titled 'EARTH JUSTICE Film Series 2026 Stories to Inspire' and sponsored by Havurah Shalom. To its right is a purple poster with a green plant growing from a hand. Below these are several smaller posters: 'OTHER SIDE OF THE HILL' with a photo of Stewart Udall, 'HAVURAH SHALOM NW PORTLAND OR' with a red heart, 'OTHER SIDE OF THE HILL' with film dates, 'THE POLITICS OF BEAUTY' with film dates, 'INHABITANTS' with film dates, and 'THE PLASTIC DETOX' with film dates. At the bottom left is a purple poster with a QR code and the text 'LEARN MORE AND REGISTER: LINKTR.EE/EARTHJUSTICEFILMS'. At the bottom right is a dark blue poster with a plate of food and the title 'THE PLASTIC DETOX'.

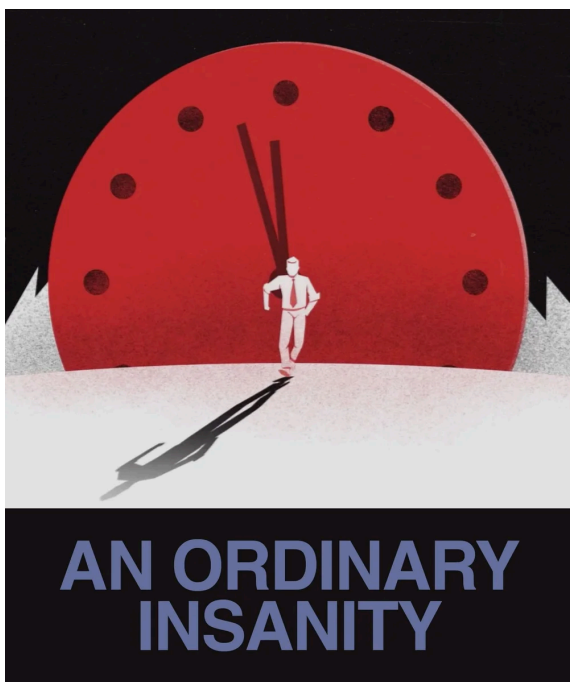
**Doors open at 2:30** to allow time for people to connect with community organizations who will be tabling. A discussion about where to find plastic alternatives, and how our U.S. Senators are addressing this issue will follow the showing of the film. Popcorn will be served. The event is **Free**.

Register Here

Free parking is available on the street and at Legacy - 1919 NW Lovejoy. Park in any spot except 1-10.


**The Plastic Detox** is an affecting new documentary that follows six couples struggling with fertility as they reduce their exposure to plastics to see if it helps. The results are startling. We learn how microplastics affect our bodies, the changes we should all make, and the alternatives to petroleum-based plastics.

For details about the film series, including a flier, go to:  
<https://linktr.ee/earthjusticefilms>



 **An Ordinary Insanity**

 **Date:** Thursday, June 4

 **Time** 5pm PT

 Online

 **FREE** ([Register here](#))

*Join us on June 4, 2026 for the free Online Premier of a must-see new documentary:*

**AN ORDINARY INSANITY - Daniel Ellsberg on the Global Threat of Nuclear Weapons**

Filmed one year before his death at age 92, Ellsberg speaks with clarity and urgency about the dangers we face and the actions we can take to avert nuclear disaster.

Register for free to view the full short film and hear from director Judith Ehrlich, Ellsberg family members, and nuclear weapons experts and activists, followed by a Q&A.

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## Rumble on the River 31: Building Community for the Long Haul

 **Date:** Tuesday, June 16

 **Time**

 **Doors/ Info Tables:** 5:30 pm

 **Panel Starts:** 6:30 pm

 **Where:** 806 NE Alberta // St. Andrew Catholic Church

 **Cost:** Rumbles are always free

*“We yearn for ideas and actions that will guide us to create a humane and helpful community.”*



### Panel:

**Amie Thurber**, PSU School of Social Work Associate Professor

**Chris Borte**, Trainer/Organizer for Protect Oregon & Freedom Training

**Jeremy Simer**, Community Organizer with Worth Fighting For St. Johns

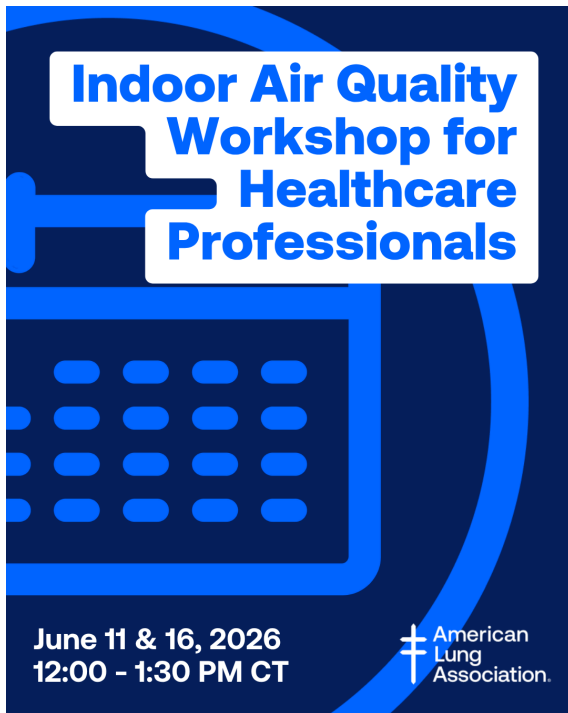
**Nancy Hiser**, Community Safety Advocate with Tank The Tanks and the Linnton Neighborhood Association

**Simone Crowe**, Thrive East PDX Community Resilience Workgroup, Co-Chair

### Moderator:


**Margaret Butler**, Former Executive Director of Portland Jobs With Justice. Currently with XR-PDX and Climate Jobs

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## Indoor Air Quality Workshop for Healthcare Professionals – Free CME/CEU Event

### IAQ Workshop for Healthcare Professionals

 **Dates:** Thursday, **June 11**, 2026 & Tuesday, **June 16**, 2026

 **Time:** 10:00 am - 11:30 am (PT)

 **Who:** American Lung Associations

 **Link:** [www.lung.org/IAQWorkshop](http://www.lung.org/IAQWorkshop)


Join the American Lung Association for a free CME event: the Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Workshop for Healthcare Professionals.

This virtual, two-day course is designed to help healthcare professionals better understand indoor air pollutants and gain practical tools to support patients in creating healthier indoor environments.

This workshop is ideal for healthcare professionals involved in patient assessment or education, including respiratory therapists, nurses, nurse practitioners, physicians, community health workers, and other frontline practitioners. Participants will learn practical, evidence-based approaches to identifying and addressing indoor air quality concerns and become familiar with [resources](#) from the American Lung Association—such as the IAQ Action Plan and patient education tools—to support patients affected by indoor air pollution.

[Register Here](#)

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**LOCUS FOCUS**  
with Barbara Bernstein  
a conversation about our place on the planet  
this Monday at 10:00 AM

**KBOO Community Radio**  
Portland 90.7 FM Hood River 91.9 FM Corvallis 104.3 FM  
On the Web: <http://kboo.fm>

**This Monday on LOCUS FOCUS**

Portland has some of the worse air quality in the country and it's mainly due to the exhaust from diesel trucks. In Washington State and California diesel trucks are required to have filtered engines which remove 90% of the micro particles that are emitted from burning diesel. But Oregon has no such requirement and so the resulting pollution, known as black carbon, rains down on largely marginalized communities throughout the city. Because that's the routes that the majority of these trucks take.

In an episode of Locus Focus from earlier in May, Dr. Patricia Kullberg, an Oregon PSR board member and former medical director of the Multnomah County Health Department, explains what black carbon is, why it poses such serious risks to public health, and what can be done to reduce its impacts on Oregon communities.

**Listen here!**

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As always, we are deeply grateful for your continued [support](#). The forces driving climate change and nuclear risk are powerful and well-resourced, but they are not unopposed. Together, we are building the power, relationships, and momentum needed to win. Your dedication makes it possible for Oregon PSR to protect community health, push back against these escalating threats, and continue working toward a more peaceful and just future.

**Support Oregon PSR**

