

# The Green New Deal

1. Cut military spending by at least 50%.
2. Create millions of green union jobs through massive public investment in renewable energy, mass transit, and conservation.
3. Set ambitious, science-based greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, and enact a revenue-neutral carbon tax to meet them.
4. Establish single-payer “Medicare for all” health care.
5. Provide tuition-free public higher education.
6. Change trade agreements to improve labor, environment, consumer, health, and safety standards.
7. End counterproductive prohibition policies and legalize marijuana.
8. Enact tough limits on credit interest and lending; ensure progressive tax reform and strict financial regulation.
9. Abolish corporate personhood.
10. Pass sweeping electoral, finance, and anti-corruption reforms.

## ***1. Cut military spending***

End the wars. Over 20% of the basic military budget now funds our overseas wars. End the wars and bring the troops home.

Enact the “Plan to Cut Military Spending” outlined by the CATO Institute, which would cut another \$150 billion a year, 18% of projected military spending.

Eliminate most overseas bases. The U.S. has around 1,000 military bases overseas. Even the Bush administration estimated we could save \$12 billion a year by closing 200 to 300 bases.

## ***2. Invest in renewable energy, mass transit, and conservation***

The U.S. can create two million jobs by investing in a rapid green economic recovery program, which will strengthen the economy, increase energy independence, and fight global warming.

A report by the Political Economy Research Institute shows how spending \$100 billion over two years would create 2 million new jobs in the struggling construction and manufacturing sectors.

## ***3. Set ambitious greenhouse gas emission reduction targets; enact a revenue-neutral carbon tax***

Enact a carbon tax as the central mechanism for reducing carbon emissions by creating incentives to develop and deploy energy efficiency, renewable energy, low-carbon fuels, and conservation-based behavior such as bicycling, recycling, and overall mindfulness toward energy consumption.

A carbon tax should be revenue-neutral. The vast majority of the revenues would be returned to the public, with, perhaps, a very small amount used to mitigate the otherwise negative impacts of carbon taxes on low-income energy users.

## ***4. Establish single payer health care***

Single-payer financing is the only way to save money wasted by the health care system. The potential savings on paperwork, more than \$400 billion per year, are enough to provide comprehensive coverage to everyone.

Our present health care system is a drag on job creation by putting major costs on businesses. Health care costs are the single largest cause of personal bankruptcies.

## ***5. Provide tuition-free public higher education***

Over six in ten college graduates are burdened with educational debt. Of those, four in ten, and more than half of African-American and Hispanic borrowers, are burdened with an unmanageable level of debt.

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## **6. Change trade agreements to improve labor, environment, consumer, health, and safety**

Add binding obligations to protect the right to collective bargaining and other core labor standards. Add binding environmental standards. Amend NAFTA to make clear that fair laws and regulations cannot be overridden simply at the request of foreign investors.

## **7. End counterproductive prohibition policies and legalize marijuana**

The U.S. is by far the world leader in the incarceration of its citizens. As the result of a dramatic rise since 1980, over 1% of the adult population is now behind bars, and the federal "war on drugs" is at least partially to blame.

Legalizing marijuana would save \$7.7 billion per year on enforcement of prohibition, \$5.3 billion to state and local governments, and \$2.4 billion to the federal government.

## **8. Enact tough limits on credit interest and lending, progressive tax reform, and strict financial regulation**

Regulate all financial derivatives and require full transparency for all derivative trades to control risk of systemic financial collapse.

Support development of charter community development banks, which would be capitalized with public funds and work to meet the credit needs of local communities.

Impose a tax on stock, bond, foreign currency, and derivatives transactions to discourage excessive speculation.

## **9. Abolish corporate personhood**

Abolish corporate personhood in the US; work at the local and state levels to pass laws to undo the work of *Citizens United*, the Supreme Court ruling that equated money with speech.

## **10. Pass sweeping electoral and financial reforms**

Pass comprehensive campaign finance reform, including caps on spending and contributions; or full public financing of elections. Ban or limit PACs and restrict soft money contributions.

Enact significant lobbying regulation such as strict rules that disclose the extent of political lobbying via "gifts" and contributions.



## **For More Information**

Montgomery County Green Party  
<http://www.mdgreens.org/montgomery/community>  
E-mail: [montgomerygreens@gmail.com](mailto:montgomerygreens@gmail.com)

Takoma Park - Silver Spring  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TPGreens/>  
E-mail: [greentyrtle@gmail.com](mailto:greentyrtle@gmail.com) (301) 891-1288

*State of Maryland:* <http://www.mdgreens.org/>  
*National:* <http://.gp.org/>; New Deal info at <http://www.gp.org/press/pr-national.php?ID=446>  
*International:* <http://www.globalgreens.org/>

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## **from the Green Party**

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