

ENVIRONMENTAL ESTABLISHMENT

Youth Win in Montana

On Monday, a Montana judge sided with 16 young environmental activists who argued that state agencies violated their right to a clean and healthful environment by promoting fossil fuel development. The victory is groundbreaking, marking the first time that a US court has found a state government's actions unconstitutional with respect to climate change. In the case, the government of Montana argued that the actions of the state were inconsequential to climate change on a global scale. Judge Kathy Seeley disagreed, claiming that the state did not have a strong reason to not evaluate their emissions and that one state can have a non-negligible impact on a global scale.



Flooding in India Kills Dozens

The monsoon season in India recently triggered floods and landslides in the northern states of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, killing at least 41 people. Thousands more have been stranded as roads, power lines, and railroads were destroyed. Last month, record monsoon showers killed over a hundred people over two weeks in similar areas. Scientists have stated that such flooding is becoming more frequent as a result of glacial melting due to climate change.



MAUI WILDFIRES

According to research from the National Fire Protection Association, the Maui wildfire has already become the deadliest US wildfire in more than a century, killing at least 111 people. Hawaii authorities claim that this death toll could still rise significantly. Furthermore, it has forced thousands of people to evacuate and has devastated the city of Lahaina.

A lawsuit has been filed against a main electricity provider of Hawaii. It claims that the power lines blown by the hurricane led to the spread of the wildfire.

Climate change may have amplified the conditions of the fire: around 14% of Hawaii suffers moderate to severe droughts, and 80% of the state is classified as dry. Combined with the winds attributed to Hurricane Dora, warm temperatures and low humidity, there was an increased risk of fire danger.



Helping the Planet through clothes shopping

How can we help the planet through shopping? Should we shop online or in stores? Some experts say that you can reduce greenhouse emissions by changing how you get your clothes - for example, how you get to the store, or the shipping rate you choose. Both online and in-store shopping involve transportation. You also can't just stop shopping as everyone needs new clothes once in a while. The problem is that some people are buying clothes too often. Reconsidering how often you buy new clothes and whether you really need them is a key to lowering greenhouse emissions.

Sources

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