Press Release

Community Climate Conversation
Wednesday, November 28, 2018 5:30-8:00pm
Pizza provided
Madison Valley – <u>Ennis Fire Station</u>
5037 US 287 Ennis, MT

HOSTS:
        Gravelly Landscape Collaborative
        Madison Valley Ranchlands Group
        Ruby Watershed Council
        Madison Conservation District
        Madison River Foundation
        Ghosts of the Madison Mule Deer Foundation

If you don't like the weather, just wait 10 minutes. That is a familiar adage for Montanans.

Weather changes quickly in the Northern Rockies, and our climate is changing too.

Will there be more droughts? Will there be bigger forest fires? Will we have floods? How will these changes affect our activities? How will climate impact agriculture? What will happen to our fish and wildlife populations and corresponding outdoor recreation economy?

While we don't have a crystal ball for our future, we do have good science to inform our planning and predict future conditions.

To prepare for, adapt and support our economy there are two ingredients that support decision-making, good information and local action. We are lucky to have both coming together for a special community conversation.

The Madison and Ruby Valleys are fortunate to have active stewardship organizations looking out for the fish, wildlife, water and open lands of our region. These local groups have come together to sponsor a community conversation on climate with Dr. Cathy Whitlock from Montana State University. On Wednesday, November 28, 5:30pm at the Ennis Fire Hall Dr. Whitlock will be sharing research on climate impacts to our forests and watersheds.

Dr. Whitlock's research has informed state drought planning and resource planning across the region. This important conversation is open to ALL levels of understanding and will offer an opportunity to explore how local resources may be affected in coming years. While the 2018 fire season is past, it isn't too early to think about the seasons ahead.

More information can be found at
https://gravellylandscapecollaborative.org/events-meetings/