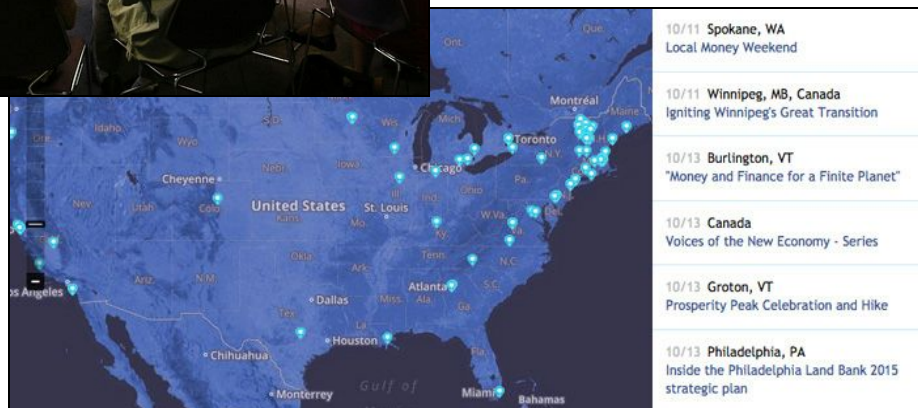




Tools and Resources For New Economy Week Event Hosts



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What is New Economy Week?

[New Economy Week 2015](#) is a public conversation, hosted by the [New Economy Coalition](#), about ideas that can transform society and build an economy where people and the planet matter.

The in-person component of New Economy Week will involve a map of participant submitted events across the continent that grapple with these issues and highlight work being done to build the new economy in communities across the world. We're want to help promote events that show off game-changing community projects, introduce people to new possibilities, and advance a conversation on deep systemic change.

Why host an event for New Economy Week?

By hosting an event for New Economy Week you can help grow the movement for systemic change, promote your organization's ideas, build community, and advance the New Economy where you live.

We're happy to provide advice, introductions, promotional support, media support, co-branding, and anything else that might be helpful.

You can submit your event idea [here](#) or contact mike@neweconomy.net to discuss further. Before submitting an event please review the [posting guidelines](#).

How To Use This Guide

This guide is designed for activists who want to open up a conversation about the New Economy in their communities during New Economy Week and are looking for the tools to do so.

The guide is organized around the five the key themes that serve as prompts for the online component of New Economy week. Each weekday of New Economy Week we'll be posting articles, videos, and more from NEC member organizations and allies responding to each of these prompts. Although in-person New Economy Week events don't need to line up exactly with the online conversation, we think that the prompt could offer a great starting point for opening up conversation about building a New Economy.

For each day we've assembled a few films you could screen, some articles and other resources you could discuss, and some organizations with local affiliates that might be able to identify speakers for an event. A full map of NEC member organizations can be found [here](#).

Day 1: Good Work and Opportunity For All

Our work is a fundamental part of who we are and what we hope to achieve. Whether performed for a wage, for a salary, as a small business, or in direct support of loved ones, work takes up a majority of our adult lives. However, corporate power, austerity, and other factors have made well-paid work difficult to come by and left many unemployed or in unstable jobs with less control over their own lives. Working people have fought back in a wide variety of ways—from the #FightFor15 to global campaigns for a universal basic income—but they still face a deteriorating situation. On this day we ask: *What are the strategies and policies to create an economy that ensures good work and meaningful opportunity for all?*

Films To Watch and Discuss:

[Shift Change](#) tells the little known stories of employee owned businesses that compete successfully in today's economy while providing secure, dignified jobs in democratic workplaces.

[Own the Change: Building Economic Democracy One Worker Co-op at a Time](#) is a short documentary meant to give an overview of what a worker co-op is, how it can transform lives and communities, and the realities of starting one. The film comes with dozens of accompanying educational resources.

[The Hand That Feeds](#) is set in an NYC bakery where undocumented immigrant workers face sub-legal wages, dangerous machinery, and abusive managers who will fire them for calling in sick. Workers fight back in a story that reflects the energy of recent waves of low-wage worker organizing and their fight for \$15.

[Money For Free](#) is a one hour documentary produced for Dutch Public Television that explores experiments in providing people with an unconditional and universal basic income.

Articles and other resources:

[Worker Co-operatives: Pathways To Scale](#) - Hilary Abell, The Democracy Collaborative

[Five Economic Reforms Millennials Should Be Fighting For](#) - Jesse Myerson, Rolling Stone

[The Future of Work: Owning What We Share](#) - Nathan Schneider & Trebor Schultz

[Building A Caring Economy](#) - Ai-Jen Poo, The Huffington Post

[Betting on Militancy](#) - Trish Kahle, Jacobin

A Few Groups To Connect With:

[US Federation of Worker Co-operatives](#) / [Canadian Worker Co-op Federation](#)
[Labor Network for Sustainability](#)
[1Worker1Vote](#)
[Fight For \\$15](#)

Day 2: Building an Economy where #BlackLivesMatter

The economy we know today is founded on the theft of indigenous lands and lives, slavery, and colonialism. This legacy lives with us in many ways including an entrenched racial wealth gap that leaves black and brown communities without basic economic security and a growing prison economy that profits off the misery of those same communities. This is a moment of visionary leadership and resistance from communities of color. On this day we ask: *What are the economic tools and strategies that will dismantle systemic racism and move us closer to collective liberation?*

Films To Watch and Discuss:

[Holding Ground: The Rebirth of Dudley Street](#) tells the story of how in 1985, African-American, Latino, Cape Verdean, and European-American residents in Roxbury, MA united to revitalize their community through the creation of The Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative went on to gain national recognition as residents fought to close down illegal dumps, gain unprecedented control of land from City Hall and create a comprehensive plan to rebuild the fabric of their community.

[Jessica Gordon Nembhard: Cooperative Economics and Civil Rights](#) is a terrific short segment from GritTV in which Professor Nembhard discusses her groundbreaking work on the history of African American cooperative economics.

Articles and other resources:

[The Case For Reparations](#) - Ta-Nehisi Coates, The Atlantic

[Pitfalls of Buy Black / Black Capitalism](#) - Ed Whitfield, Fund For Democratic Communities

[We'll Need an Economic Program to Make #BlackLivesMatter. Here Are Three Ideas.](#) - Jesse Myerson and Mychael Denzel Smith, The Nation

[Educate and Empower: Tools For Building Community Wealth](#) - Steve Dubb and Keane Bhatt, The Democracy Collaborative

[Public Prisons, Private Profits](#) - Victoria Law, Truthout

[Ferguson's Fortune 500 Company](#) - Walter Johnson, The Atlantic

A Few Groups To Connect With:

[BlackLivesMatter](#)

[BYP100](#)

[PolicyLink](#)

[Center for Social Inclusion](#)

Day 3: Democracy Versus the 1%

[A recent study from Princeton University](#) confirms what most of us in the US already knew: Congress overwhelmingly makes decisions with no regard for the preferences of the American People, especially when those preferences clash with the interests of wealthy elites. The financial crisis of 2008 exposed this failure of leadership on a global scale, and led many into the streets to reclaim their democratic voice. In recent years we've seen waves of popular uprisings from Wisconsin and Wall Street to Greece, Spain, and beyond. These revolts are increasingly impossible to ignore—even by the 1 percent and the politicians they bankroll. The resurgence of populist politics, calls for electoral reform, the growth of worker-owned cooperatives, and other efforts at bottom-up democracy are all changing the face of politics in 2015. On this day we ask: *How can we advance democracy and self-determination on the issues that impact our lives?*

Films To Watch:

[Citizen Koch](#) follows the rise of the Tea Party. In the aftermath of the US Supreme Court's 2010 Citizens United ruling, a citizen uprising to recall Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker collides with the Tea Party-aligned "Americans for Prosperity," a group founded and lavishly financed by two of the world's richest men—David and Charles Koch.

[The Next American Revolution](#) is an illustrated presentation from historian and political economist Gar Alperovitz pointing to efforts already under way in thousands of communities across the U.S to show how bottom-up strategies can work to check monopolistic corporate power, democratize wealth, and empower communities.

Articles and other resources:

[8 Lessons American Progressives Can Take From Greece's Syriza and Spain's Podemos](#) – Dan Cantor and Ted Fertik, In These Times

[Understand the Federal Budget](#) - National Priorities Project

[Ella Taught Me: Shattering the Myth of the Leaderless Movement](#) – Barbara Ramsey, Colorlines

[The Participatory Budgeting Toolkit](#) – Participatory Budgeting Project

[Co-opoly: The Game of Cooperatives](#) - Toolbox for Education and Social Action

A Few Groups To Connect With:

[Demos](#)

[Free Speech For People](#)

[Move To Amend](#)

[Participatory Budgeting Project](#)

Day 4: A People's Climate Agenda

Over the past several decades, it has become increasingly clear that our grow-or-die, corporate economy is a root cause of the climate crisis. While our political leaders delay taking meaningful action on climate, people's movements have sprung up around the world. Many have promoted community-led solutions and rallied around demands for climate justice, based on the understanding that climate change is disproportionately caused by elites and disproportionately threatens those of us who are already economically vulnerable. On this day we ask: *What are the policies, campaigns, and grassroots initiatives that can address the magnitude of the climate crisis while building shared prosperity?*

Films To Watch:

[This Changes Everything](#) is a brand new film from Naomi Klein and Avi Lewis is an epic attempt to re-imagine the vast challenge of climate change. The film presents seven powerful portraits of communities on the front lines, from Montana's Powder River Basin to the Alberta Tar Sands, from the coast of South India to Beijing and beyond.

Articles and other resources:

[Energy Democracy, Reports, Maps, and other Tools](#) -Center For Social Inclusion

[From Utility 2.0 To Energy Democracy](#) - John Farrell, Institute For Local Self Reliance

[Climate Change is a People's Shock](#) - Naomi Klein, The Nation

[The Road Through Paris Campaign](#) – 350.org

[If Not Now, When? A Labor Movement Plan to Address Climate Change](#) - Jeremy Brecher, Joe Uehlein, Ron Blackwell, the Labor Network for Sustainability

[Hurricane Katrina proved that if black lives matter, so must climate justice](#) - Elizabeth Yeampierre, UPROSE Brooklyn

[The Logic of Divestment: Why We Have To Kiss Off Big Carbon Now](#) – Tim Dickinson, Rolling Stone

A Few Groups To Connect With:

[Climate Justice Alliance](#)
[350.org](#)

[Local Clean Energy Alliance](#) / [Community Power Network](#)
[Divestment Student Network](#)

Day 5: Enough to Go Around

Health care, access to education, (healthy) food, water, a stable and safe home, time to spend with our families and friends—these are some of the basic needs that we all share, and that are increasingly falling out of reach for the majority of working people. While organized elites try to convince us that we're broke and that privatization is the only solution, we know better. We know that even on a finite planet there's more than enough to go around if we change our priorities and demand a different economy for ourselves and our children. On this day we ask: *How can we claim access and control over what we need to live full and prosperous lives?*

Films To Watch:

[WE'RE NOT BROKE](#) tells the story of U.S. corporations dodging billions of dollars in income tax, and how seven fed-up Americans take their frustration to the streets...and vow to make the corporations pay their fair share

[Flow](#) builds a case against the growing privatization of the world's dwindling fresh water supply with an unflinching focus on politics, pollution, human rights, and the emergence of a domineering world water cartel.

Articles and other resources:

[Responses To Austerity](#) - New Economics Foundation (UK)

[Urbanism at a Crossroads](#) – Aaron Bartley, PUSH Buffalo

[A Critical Mass for Real Food](#) - Anim Steel, YES!

[The Privatization of Childhood](#) - Megan Erickson, *Jacobin*

[4 Things to Know Before Your Water Is Privatized](#) - Rachel Dovey, *Next City*

[The World According to Modern Monetary Theory](#) - Rebecca Rojer, *The New Inquiry*

Groups To Connect With:

[National People's Action](#)

[Food First](#)

[On The Commons](#)

[Sustainable Economies Law Center](#)