

“Making a Life on a Tough New Planet”

Bill McKibben, Economist, Environmentalist

March 6, 7pm, Freeport Performing Arts Center



Twenty years ago, with *The End of Nature*, Bill McKibben offered one of the earliest warnings about global warming. Those warnings went mostly unheeded; now, he insists, we need to acknowledge that we've waited too long, and that massive change is not only unavoidable but already under way. Our old familiar globe is suddenly melting, drying, acidifying, flooding, and burning in ways that no human has ever seen. We've created, in very short

order, a new planet, still recognizable but fundamentally different. We may as well call it Eearth.

That new planet is filled with new binds and traps, and we can't rely on old habits any longer.

Our hope depends, McKibben argues, on scaling back—on building the kind of societies and economies that can hunker down, concentrate on essentials, and create the type of community (in the neighborhood, but also on the Internet) that will allow us to weather trouble on an unprecedented scale. Change—fundamental change—is our best hope on a planet suddenly and violently out of balance.

Bill McKibben, an American environmentalist and writer, is the founder of 350.org, an international climate campaign. This October, 350.org organized the 350 International Day of Climate Action, with thousands of events at iconic places around the world. Beginning in the summer of 2006, he led the organization of the largest demonstrations against global warming in American history.

*Bill frequently writes about global warming, alternative energy, and the risks associated with human genetic engineering. His works include [The End of Nature](#), [Deep Economy](#) and his newest book, [Eearth](#), which is being released this Spring. He is a frequent contributor to various magazines including *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's*, *Orion Magazine*, *Mother Jones*, *The New York Review of Books*, *Granta*, *Rolling Stone*, and *Outside*.*