



# Conference Level-Set

Conference objectives, assumptions, and guidelines to create an environment that facilitates open and meaningful discussion.

Conference Charge: What can be done \*right now\* to work with communities to move the needle on addressing environmental impacts on health? How can we measure success so that these immediate actions are sustained?

## Objectives:

1. Receive solutions-oriented information on the dimensions of environmental justice and climate change that impact Georgia residents.
2. Discuss and actively brainstorm what community work can be done right now to move the needle on improving human and environmental health.
3. Break information silos through information sharing focused on identifying solutions to heal and improve the health and environment for all Georgians.

## Assumptions

1. Assume all present are acting with positive intent.
2. Everyone's lived experience is different; everyone's ideas and stories add unique and valuable perspectives.
3. Regardless of how we got here, our natural environment is under undue stress and undergoing rapid change; we must act to mitigate current issues and prevent future harm.
4. Historically marginalized communities are the most burdened by climate change and historically have been left out of the conversations around solutions.
5. Race and income have been determining factors in environmental injustice.
6. During this conference we will all have the opportunity to be both learners and teachers.

## Guidelines

1. Be present in the moment.
2. Listen to understand, not to respond.
3. Remember W.A.I.T. "Why Am I Talking?" Ensure everyone has a chance to be heard. Do not interrupt. Be mindful of how long you are talking.
4. Use "I" statements.
5. Explain your acronyms and jargon.
6. Value people - time, talent, expertise, experience, position, opinions.
7. Assume positive intent. Remember - we are all human and are all trying our best to do the right thing.