

# What can be done?



To mitigate the impact of data centers and cryptomines on our communities in Georgia, we need a community-centered approach grounded in transparency, accountability, and justice.

Data centers want our power and water, we should ask that they be good neighbors in return. Coweta County, Douglas County, Metro Atlanta, and more have already begun putting restrictions on data centers at the local level.

## **STEP 1: EDUCATE YOUR COMMUNITY**

## **Step 2: TALK TO YOUR LOCAL REPS AND ATTEND PUBLIC MEETINGS**

## **Step 3: PASS LOCAL ORDINANCES AND STATE LEVEL LEGISLATION**



### **Scan here to view the full toolkit!**

Talking points, flyers, templates, guidance for public meetings, stories of wins, and more!

Thank you to all of our partners who helped make this resource possible!

- Science for Georgia
- Environment Georgia
- Georgia WAND
- Georgia Conservation Voters
- Third Act Georgia

# Data Center Organizing Toolkit

Community Organizing Resource

[www.sierraclub.org/georgia/datacenters](http://www.sierraclub.org/georgia/datacenters)

# What is a data center?



Large windowless warehouses that store large computers and servers, and therefore, information. It is within these buildings that AI and the cloud live. As demand increases, these facilities are rapidly growing in number and size and using more and more of our power and water.

# What is a crypto mine?

A subset of data centers are cryptocurrency mines, which use computers and servers to obtain decentralized digital currency. Cryptocurrency mines are sometimes housed in mobile metal containers instead of brick-and-mortar buildings, which contributes to higher levels of noise pollution.

# Why are they coming to GA?

Georgia is the fastest growing market for data centers in the U.S. These facilities are coming to the Peach State for a multitude of reasons, including availability of real estate, good fiber optic infrastructure, open access to the state's supply of power and water, a willing partner in Georgia Power, and to sweeten the pot, a state tax break that allows data center owners to save millions of dollars. Many data centers are located in metro Atlanta, but massive, shopping-mall-sized facilities are being built across the state.



# Fast Facts



## **They need a lot of POWER!**

Current Data Centers in Georgia utilize more power than one of Plant Vogtle's two new nuclear reactors. Current and planned data centers would utilize **DOUBLE** all of Plant Vogtle's Output.

## **They consume millions of gallons of WATER!**

A large data center can use up to 200 million gallons of water annually, equivalent to about 2,000 homes.

## **They poison our AIR**

An expected increase in carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions by 36 percent or 1,014 million short tons due to data centers.

## **They create minimal JOBS.**

The average data center employs around 30 people. The average McDonald's employs 50 people.