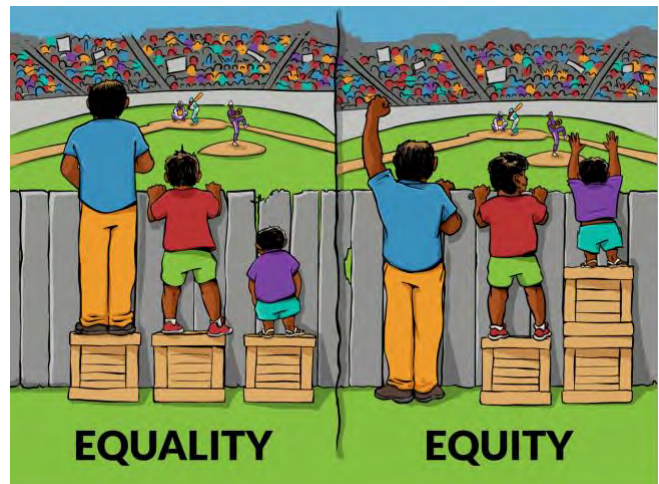




How Will The Nevada Green Amendment Make Lives

Better by Enhancing Environmental Protection and Environmental Justice

- ✓ While Nevada has many laws, it still has many environmental problems with people drinking polluted water, breathing contaminated air, being forced to live next to dangerously contaminated sites. Environments important to our cultures, cultural values, businesses and quality lives are being unacceptably damaged. The Nevada Green Amendment will ensure that when our environmental laws fall short and fail to protect our environment equitably for all people, that the constitution can be used by people and government to address the problem and protect people's lives.
- ✓ Equitable means that the rights of all Nevadans are protected, by recognizing that different communities experience and/or live in different circumstances, that some have suffered from greater pollution and environmental harms, and as a result these communities need and deserve greater efforts to ensure they can enjoy their rights to healthy water, air, soil and environments.
- ✓ Nevada's government is created by the people of Nevada through our state constitution. The constitution puts in place the rules which government must follow. Among those rules is that our state government is created for the protection, security and benefit of the people (article I section 2)
- ✓ The constitution's Declaration of Rights also lists the basic human, civil and political rights the state may not violate and must protect, such as the right to freely speak and to be free from unreasonable seizures and searches of our person or homes. The Nevada Green Amendment will add our rights to a healthy environment to these basic freedoms.



Learn More At: www.NVGreenAmendment.org

- ✓ The Nevada Green Amendment creates an obligation on our state and local governments to recognize the right of all people to clean and healthy water, air, ecosystems and environment and a climate supportive of safe and healthy communities and lives. The amendment as written will ensure government officials do not take actions that will infringe on those rights.
- ✓ With a Nevada Green Amendment, Government officials **must** protect the environmental rights of the people because, very simply, they cannot violate the constitution. So if the constitution says the people have a constitutional right to a clean, safe and healthy environment, then the government is legally obligated to protect those rights.
- ✓ The Nevada Green Amendment strengthens environmental justice by very clearly stating that government must protect the environmental rights of all people, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, wealth or where they live in the state.
- ✓ If a community of color, indigenous community, rural or low income community is repeatedly impacted by dangerous levels of pollution at much higher levels threatening their health and lives, whether or not the operations are legal, the Nevada Green Amendment will require protection of the environmental rights of **ALL** people, so historically marginalized communities are no longer targeted for greater pollution and environmental harms.
- ✓ By very clearly stating that government must protect our state's natural resources for both present and future generations, the Nevada Green Amendment is requiring all government officials to ensure the environment is protected for all Nevadans, including our future generations.
- ✓ Because the people of Nevada are the beneficiaries (meaning the ones legally entitled to get the benefits) of our state's healthy natural resources, our government can not help industry harm our environment to make more profits if it means destroying the environmental rights of our people.
- ✓ The Nevada Green Amendment cannot support a lawsuit brought directly against a private individual or company because the constitution's Declaration of Rights are in place to guide government actions, including making sure they do not allow private companies or industries to harm the rights of the people. For example, if a company or industry is causing so much pollution or environmental harm that a community's constitutional rights to clean water and air, or healthy environments are being undermined, the Nevada Green Amendment can be used to challenge the government action that allowed that harm to take place - for example a permit that grants government permission to pollute at unconstitutional levels.
- ✓ The Nevada Green Amendment can help prevent new environmental harms from new industry or development projects, but it can also be used to secure protection from ongoing pollution by identifying the government action happening today that is allowing unconstitutional harm to continue.
- ✓ The Nevada Green Amendment is intended to protect the health and safety of people and to ensure that government takes all steps necessary to ensure businesses – from residential development, to mining, to oil and gas – operate in a way protective of our environment and communities, and our constitutional environmental rights.
- ✓ With the addition of the Nevada Green Amendment, people will now have a right to advocate for their environmental rights on constitutional grounds – no longer are we just fighting for the Earth and People we love, but now we are also fighting for a constitutional right that we are legally entitled to.