

DR. HAMNER HILL
DR. ALAN JOURNET
AND
DR. MATT FASNACHT

PRESENT

Global Climate Change

Presented by

Kent Library's

ATHENÆUM SPRING SERIES

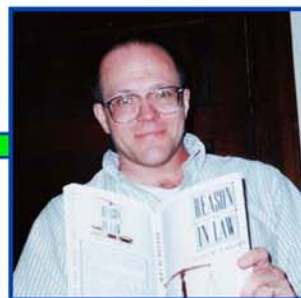


Thomas Malthus recognized that people need to eat and reproduce. These things just weren't going to change. However, a person could only farm so much land and grow so much food. Once the human population exceeded the world's ability to support it, well, something would happen to reduce the population until it was right back at the supportive threshold.

This common sense thinking spurred a green revolution that would change our lives. Governments poured billions of dollars into biotechnology, birth control research, and resource development to raise the supportive threshold of the world. We thought we'd won, too. Biotechnology and education could, it seemed, save the human population.

So... what's all this talk about Malthus, then?! Well, we may be able to feed people, but hunger isn't the only enemy, is it? No, now it's natural disasters and drought that's looming. You guessed it... now it's global climate change.

But don't get all gloomy. You'll be able to listen to three scientists talk about global climate change in everyday language. You'll be able to ask questions about what's happening in the world and what you can do about it.



Dr. Hamner Hill
Presents

Why Malthus Was Wrong About So Much, But Ultimately Right

March 18, 2008
12:00 Noon
Sadie's Place

Dire predictions based on Malthusian population biology models (worldwide famine, epidemics, radical drops in human population) have famously failed to materialize. Why? This discussion examines some of the factors that explain why such predictions did not come to pass including the malleability of the carrying capacity of an environment, population behaviors that appear to be unique to human populations, and technological solutions to environmental problems. The famous bet between economist, Julian Simon and population biologist Paul Erlich serves as an object lesson in how Malthusian thought goes wrong. Despite these factors, though, there are strong reasons for believing that Malthus was right about the big picture

Refreshments will be served.

Library Hosts: Karl Suhr & Library Faculty



Dr. Alan Journet
Presents

The Evidence Regarding Global Climate Change

March 20, 2008
12:00 Noon
Sadie's Place

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (the IPCC) is the most authoritative scientific body dealing with the issue of climate change, its causes, its consequences and what we should do to minimize and mitigate. The IPCC has concluded that the existence of climate change is "Unequivocal" and that human activities are "very likely" contributing to the change. In this program, Dr. Journet will present briefly the scientific consensus regarding the problem, incorporating a summary of the conclusions offered by the IPCC reports.

Refreshments will be served.

Library Hosts: Cathy Stitz, Karl Suhr, & Library Faculty



Dr. Matt Fasnacht
Presents

Cooling The Earth One Bite At A Time

March 27, 2008
12:00 Noon
Sadie's Place

Many agree that human activities are causing global warming and that we should do something about it, but what? Some argue for major changes in federal and state laws, others argue for increasing energy efficiency of consumer goods, but what can an individual person do right now? The answer may be as close as the choice of your next meal. Find out ways you can help slow global warming through small changes in your diet and by purchasing food from local farmers that place a high priority on environmental stewardship.

Refreshments will be served.

Library Hosts: Cathy Stitz, Karl Suhr, & Library Faculty