**For Immediate Release**

Event Title: “Minnesota Leaders Respond to a Changing Climate”

Date: Saturday, February 14, 2015 Time: 8:30am - 12 noon

Location: Weitz Center for Creativity, Carleton College, Northfield

Sponsored by: League of Women Voters; Citizens’ Climate Lobby; Carleton College Sustainability Office and Center for Community and Civic Engagement

**Short Announcement:**
On the first anniversary of the Northfield Area Climate Summit, we're pleased to announce this collaborative event which continues the dialogue begun last year.

“Forecasting Change: Minnesotans Respond to a Changing Climate”

Saturday Feb. 14, 8:30am-12pm Weitz Center for Creativity, Carleton College, Northfield, MN

Doors open at 8:30am

Keynote speaker Mark Kulda, VP Public Affairs, MN Insurance Federation followed by panel discussion featuring leaders in Faith, Business, Agriculture, Government, and Health.

Sponsored by: League of Women Voters, Northfield-Cannon Falls; Citizens' Climate Lobby; Carleton College Sustainability Office and Center for Community and Civic Engagement

Contact CCLnorthfield@gmail.com for more info.

**Press Release:**

**Minnesota Leaders Respond to a Changing Climate**

How is a changing climate affecting business in Minnesota? What about agriculture, public health, government, and even faith communities? Why are increasing numbers of these organizations concerned and how are they responding?

This is the focus of a public forum sponsored by the Citizens’ Climate Lobby, League of Women Voters, and Carleton College Sustainability Office and Center for Community and Civic Engagement, on Saturday morning February 14 at 9:00am (doors open at 8:30am) in the Weitz Center for Creativity, Carleton College.

Saturday’s event opens with keynote speaker Mark Kulda, VP of Public Affairs from the Minnesota Insurance Federation, addressing the cost to Minnesotans of more frequent, and more extreme, weather-related events due to climate change.

A panel discussion will follow featuring leaders from faith; agriculture; government; and public health talking about what each of their sectors is experiencing, why they're concerned, and how they're responding.

“Climate change is a non-partisan threat and affects everyone - some more than others. This panel brings together a diverse group of voices not often heard from in the mainstream press. From the Pentagon to the Pope, climate change has become a major concern to leaders around the world, often for very different reasons”, said Kathleen Doran-Norton, one of the organizers of the event and a Bridgewater Township supervisor.

 “Locally, we’ve seen the impact of three improbable rain events (1 in 500 years) in five years.” she continued, “This dramatically impacts our township farmers and our rural roads and bridges. We hope the forum will motivate people to ask their elected representatives in Washington for action on this important issue".

The forum is free and open to the public. For more information please contact CCLnorthfield@gmail.com

**Additional Info:**
This event is one of several during the week of February 2-14, designated as ‘Climate Action Week’ by Carleton College’s Sustainability Office and Center for Community and Civic Engagement.

Feb. 13 Friday 5-7pm Northfield Area Community Solar’s “Solar-palooza”, Weitz Center for Creativity-Carleton College. Presentation for those interested in being part of planned community solar installation, followed by a taco bar. Free and open to the public.

Feb. 15 Sunday 11:30am “Sea Change”, First United Church of Christ. Matt and Katya Gordon bring the story of their family’ sailing adventure studying climate change as it relates to Lake Superior, and their mission touring schools, colleges, and organizations teaching lessons on community activism.