



EXTINCTION REBELLION

Action Planner



A DESIGN TOOL TO HELP EXTINCTION REBELLION ACTIVISTS PLAN AND CONDUCT SAFE AND EFFECTIVE PROTEST ACTIONS

This document is intended to help Australian Extinction Rebellion (XR) Local Groups and Affinity Groups plan and conduct safe and effective protest actions, particularly when those actions involve acts of civil disobedience. Actions which involve civil disobedience are likely to bring groups of activists into contact with antagonistic citizens, civil authorities and the police, and it is important that they are carefully planned to account for the problems that such interactions are likely to create for the group and individuals within the group. **This form must be filled out in Adobe Acrobat for it to work properly. Don't use Preview for Mac. You've been warned.**

ACTION SUMMARY

Action Coordinator

This is the person writing this action plan?

Name	Phone	Email

Name of the action

When will the action take place?

Where will the action take place?

Briefly describe what is going to happen during the action?

Action Director (this will likely - but not necessarily - be the same person as the Action Coordinator)

The person who implements this plan on the day of the action?

Name:	Phone:	Email:

Action Phone Number. Consider a "burner" phone and a "back office" person. Avoid using a personal number as the primary phone contact for the action.

THE NARRATIVE OF THE ACTION also see the *Media and Messaging* section below

What message do we want this action to communicate?

Consider:

- How non-sympathetic observers and media may distort the message of the action?

ACHIEVING OUR GOALS

How will the action help achieve one or more of Extinction Rebellion's three demands?

The three stated demands of Extinction Rebellion are for the Government to:

- Tell the truth by declaring a climate and ecological emergency.
- Halt biodiversity loss and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2025.
- Create and be led by the decisions of a Citizens' Assembly on climate and ecological justice.

However, an action may have more immediate goals such as outreach, building the movement, recruitment, visioning, supporting another groups' actions (e.g. First Nations actions, climate strikers, etc.), demonstrating the future we wish to see in the world. Briefly describe how the action might achieve these outcomes.

When planning any action it is important that it should embody Extinction Rebellion's action values and be:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ Non violent | ☐ Respectful |
| ☐ Self-sacrificing | ☐ Regenerative |

PROMOTION

How will the action be promoted and what resources are available?

If an action requires only a few people it may not need any promotion at all, however, large numbers of people are required this will take time. Plan in advance and consider the tools, materials and platforms available and collaboration. Think about collaborating with other groups.

Promotion Coordinator

This is likely to be one of the core organisers of this action. However, in the case of large actions this role could be the coordinator of a Media and Messaging Working Group, a Social Media or a Graphic Design Sub Group, which in turn could be responsible for coordinating social media account holders and media managers.

Name:	Phone	Email

Which social media platforms will this action have access to?

☐ Action Network

Action Network is a suite of online tools that progressive organisations can use to plan for and communicate with their members. Action Network allows XR Australia to directly communicate with its members and can be used to:

- Send mass email to recruit and mobilise new activists
- Organise people to take action with event and action planning and promotion
- Create forms and surveys
- Store files

Action Network Channel Manager

Action Network channel
Manager name:
Contact details:

☐ Facebook

Facebook is the world's most popular social media platform and may be an effective way of promoting actions. Action Network events can be linked to Facebook Event pages and Facebook Event pages can be cohosted by other groups to attract more attention.

Facebook Account Manager

Primary Facebook Page:
Manager name:
Contact details:

☐ Twitter

Twitter is a microblogging, social networking platform which is particularly good for immediate response.

Twitter Account Manager

Twitter account:
Manager name:
Contact details:

☐ Instagram

Instagram is a photo and video sharing social networking platform. Increasingly, organisations are using Instagram as an advertising platform and it may be a useful way tool for promoting an action or event.

Instagram Account Manager

Instagram account:
Manager name:
Contact details:

CONSIDER SECURITY WHEN USING SOCIAL MEDIA

The promotion of some actions and events over social media might not always be appropriate.



QR codes can be used to save paper and to improve digital communication and the distribution of assets to activists. For example this QR code links to a download of this form.

Which Arts and Graphic Design Groups will be supporting this action?

☐ Printed material

Printed material such as flyers, posters and stickers can be used to promote an action. Such materials can be used at community outreach events leading up to the planned action. If these materials don't already exist they will have to be made. Some local groups have a graphic design sub group as part of their Arts Working Group. These groups should be able to provide assistance. Ensure plenty of lead time.

Arts and Graphic Design Coordinator

Primary Art/Graphic Design Group:
Coordinator name:
Contact details:

PROMOTION

Networking

☐ **Networking with other XR Local Groups**

Networking with other XR Local Groups might help to promote an action particularly if those groups have larger memberships or followers on their social media accounts and more active or better resourced working groups. Ask other local groups in your region to co-sponsor your action and to promote it on their social media platforms and through their email communications. Other local groups may have Arts Working Groups that might be able to help with the production of printed materials, screen printing, banner and flag making, etc.

☐ **Collaborate with other groups outside of XR**

Depending on the action, it may be helpful to reach out to other environmental, social or political activist groups to help bring numbers to your event or to share the promotional load. Local politicians may offer to print posters for the action. Reaching out to a local cycling club, for example, might be a way of attracting more people to a cycling based action and may be a way of having other groups help promote XR actions to people who might not have otherwise encountered the Extinction Rebellion movement.

Other groups collaborating on this action

TIMING THE ACTION

When planning an action consider:

- Is the action planned for a significant moment?
- Is there a significant government decision being made or new information being released?
- What time will cause the most disruption?
- Should the action be planned to coincide with the anniversary of a particular event?
- What time will be the best time for media coverage?

Notes:

ACTION SCENARIOS

Consider:

- What is the timeline for how the action should play out?
- What might others do in response?
- Does the timing create a dilemma for the target?
- How might the timing effect the the response of the police?
- Is there a plan B (and C) if the action doesn't develop as expected?
- Has a run sheet been created? (see page X for a run sheet template)
- When will participants be briefed on the action plan?
- Is there an escalation option in the plan?

Notes:

MATERIALS

What materials will be needed for the action? Arts Working Groups can help with supplying or making flags, banners, leaflets and other audio and visual materials.

- What materials will be needed to maximise the visual impact of planned action?
- Will audio equipment be needed?
- What is needed to keep the action sustained for the amount of time it is to run?
- What is needed to ensure the action reflects XR values and is non-violent, safe and inclusive?
- Consider appointing a person to coordinate the management of the material resources needed for an action and allow plenty of lead time.

Material Resources Coordinator

Coordinator name:

Phone:

Email:

Primary Arts Working Group:

MEDIA AND MESSAGING

Every action should have a “story”. A Media and Messaging Working Group can help develop the story the action needs to tell. The right story will impact how effective the action is.

What message should be prepared for the mainstream media?

What message should be prepared for social media?

Media and Messaging Coordinator

This is likely to be one of the core organisers of this action or, in the case that your local group has its own Media and Messaging Working Group, the M&M Internal Coordinator or another person from that working group.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Media release

A media release template can be downloaded from:

https://actionnetwork.org/user_files/user_files/000/060/293/original/Media_Release_-_Template.docx

Consider:

- How can journalists be encouraged to attend the action at the required time?
- How can the action messages be built into a short but logical story?
- The media and messaging coordinator or team may need to communicate with the responsible Promotions coordinator to ensure that the messaging for the action remains consistent across all materials and platforms.

Action messages:

The messaging of the action should be kept as simple as possible. No more than three to five messages should make up the “story” of the action.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

The Media Liaison

- The Media Liaison needs to be prepared for criticism and attempts by the media to frame the actions of Extinction Rebellion negatively. For example: A reporter may say that it is hypocritical for activists to use technology which is itself based on fossil fuels. The response should be: Everything is made of fossil fuels and that is precisely the problem. These they are the only tools available to us, which is why a transition away from them is needed

immediately. This turns a negative comment into a positive messaging opportunity. The Media Liaison can express understanding for why a corporation or an individual may be uncomfortable with XR's tactics, but stress that there is a difference between legitimate protest for a liveable planet and disruption for its own sake.

Media Liaison

This is a person who will be required at the time of the action to be on hand to engage any members of the media that may turn up and require information.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Any action that involves civil disobedience will require legal support. All participants in an action need to give informed consent to participating in non-violent civil disobedience.

When preparing for an action, activists can be organised into one of three “roles”: **Red**, **Orange** and **Green**.

Red Roles

Red roles are those which are considered “arrestable”. Someone who has taken on a Red role is willing to take action that will very likely end with their arrest by the police. Activists that accept a Red role should be made aware of, and be prepared for, what is likely to occur in the event of their arrest. It is important that people who take on Red roles have undertaken NVDA training.

Orange Roles

Orange roles are those which are considered “at risk of being arrested”. Activists that take on Orange roles are willing to commit to actions that are likely to cause the police to intervene but who will comply with police requests in order to try to avoid arrest. Activists who take on Orange roles are unlikely to be arrested but have accepted the possibility that they could be. Activists that accept an Orange role should be made aware of, and be prepared for, what is likely to occur in the event of their arrest. All activists should have undertaken NVDA training.

Green Roles

Green roles are those which are considered “at no risk of being arrested”. However, there is always a risk of arrest at an action – this is why consent is needed.

Legal support phone number to be provided to arrestees.

Permissions required for the **Green** aspects of the action (e.g. Form 1).

The likely charges for those taking **Red** and **Orange** roles

Estimated minimum and maximum number of arrests

 –

Legal Working Group contacted to coordinate post-action support

☐ Yes ☐ No

► Contact the XR NSW Legal Working Group for legal assistance when preparing for an action xrnswlegal@protonmail.com

Police Liaison

It is important for the action to have a dedicated Police Liaison who can speak to the police.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Legal Observer

It is important for the action to have a dedicated Legal Observer who can ensure that the actions of the police are legal and who can collect evidence and information about the action to be used in subsequent legal proceedings.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

STREAM TEAM

Increasingly actions are being live streamed to platforms such as Facebook and Youtube. If you are able to organise an individual or a team to live stream your action include the name of the leader of the team below.

Stream Team Leader

Contact details for the streamer or the leader of the stream team.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Make a list of the photographers who have agreed to photograph this action.

Photographer name	Phone number	Email

AFFINITY GROUPS

There are various affinity groups in XR such as the Red Rebels, the Sybil Disobedients, the Pedal Rebels, etc. These groups can add colour and be valuable as de-escalators.

Affinity Group	Contact person	Contact details

REGENERATIVE CULTURE

Regenerative Culture seeks to bring a different approach to climate and other activist movements. It is about how we move towards practicing and demonstrating the change we want to deeply experience in life in all society. Its purpose is to nurture a new culture that is resilient and robust and which can support us all through the changes we must inevitably face together. attend a Regen in Action workshop

Consider:

- What can we do to ensure we embed our understanding and practise a regenerative culture into this action?
- How can we take care of the wellbeing of Rebels before, during and after this action?
- Has a debrief been planned for this action?
- How will we stay in touch until every participant has their legals completely finalised?
- Have an Action Wellbeing Coordinator and First Aid Coordinator been included in this action?
- Have activists attended a Regen in Action workshop?

Regenerative Culture Coordinator

It is important for the action to have a dedicated Regenerative Culture Coordinator who can bring Regenerative Cultural practice.

Name:	Phone:	Email:

Arrestee Liaison and Support

It is important for the action to have a dedicated arrestee liaison and support person.

Name:	Phone:	Email:

Community Liaison

The community liaisons are used to communicate with members of the community during the action, to reassure them, de-escalate tensions and to explain the action to them.

Name:	Phone:	Email:

Post-action Arrestee Support Leader

In the case of that participants in this action are arrested, one or more arrestee support teams will need to be organised to attend the stations where the arrestees may have been taken after the action. The Post-action Arrestee Support Leader will be responsible for organising these teams and will coordinate with the Legal Working Group.

Name:	Phone:	Email:

Action Wellbeing Coordinator

The Action Wellbeing Coordinator monitors the wellbeing the of the activists taking part in the action.

Name:	Phone:	Email:

First Aid

Someone needs to be responsible for first aid in any action.

Name:	Phone:	Email:

TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Before taking part in an action it is important that those activists taking part have prepared themselves with Non Violent Direct Action (NVDA) training.

Extinction Rebellion runs two NVDA courses:
NVDA 101 basic training and NVDA 201.

NVDA 101

Extinction Rebellion's NVDA 101 course involves basic instruction on how to safely participate in a protest which is likely to involve direct action.

NVDA 201

Extinction Rebellion's NVDA 201 course is a more advanced direct action course which concentrates on training activists in specific roles such as Media Liaison, Action Wellbeing, Arrestee Support, Legal Observer, Police Liaison, etc.

It is essential that all activists risking arrest have received NVDA training.

☐ Have all activists in Green, Orange and Red roles completed basic basic NVDA training (NVDA101)?

Consider:

- Who will need specific roles training (NVDA201)?
- How can this action help train up more people to fill roles in the future?
- When and where will an action briefing be held? Should it be open or closed?
- Has a debrief been planned?
- Are there people or movements we can learn from before and during the action?

Notes:

LOGISTICS

Check through the list below and ensure that you have people in place in the sections above who can manage, create or supply these assets for you. In the section below describe how these assets will be used to run the action.

The types of materials that may be available from the Arts Working Group or which could be made at a Craft Day.

- ☐ Banners
- ☐ Flags
- ☐ Placards
- ☐ Stickers

- ☐ Costumes and props
- ☐ Flyers
- ☐ Song sheets
- ☐ Posters

There are also practical logistical considerations to be provided or to be maintained.

- ☐ Media release
- ☐ Signal group
- ☐ Food
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Computer(s)
- ☐ Spare batteries

- ☐ WiFi hotspot
- ☐ Vehicles
- ☐ First aid kits
- ☐ Hi-Vis vests
- ☐ PA system
- ☐ Livestream phone and battery pack

How will the above assets be used to run the action:

LIST OF ROLE HOLDERS

You may not need all roles but there will be some that are essential. There may also be other roles which are specific to the planned action.

	Name	Phone	Email
Action coordinator			
Action director			
Core organising team			
Media Liaison			
Back Office			
Media Spokes-people			
Social Media			
Stream Team			
Police Liaison			
Legal Observers			
Drivers			
Photos			
Video			
Public Address			
Banner Holders			
Material Resources			
Regen Culture			
Community Liaison			
Worker Liaison			
Debrief Facilitator			
Wellbeing Coordinator			
Indigenous Liaison			
First Aid			

ARRESTEES

print this sheet for the Arrestee Liason

	Name	Phone	Email
Arrestee Liaison			
RED Arrestable activists			
	ORANGE Possibly arrestable activists		

About this document - This Action Planner was initially conceived and designed by the Graphic Design Sub of XR Inner West Arts Working Group for the use of the Inner West's Actions and Logistics Working Group. It's intention is to make the role of the Actions and Logistics Working Group's Internal Coordinator easier and to make actions as safe and as effective as they can possibly be. The design of this document is based on XR's SOS principles and the ideas of "Radical Responsibility" and "Radical Trust". If you have taken on the responsibility of a role you will be trusted to fulfill the responsibilities of that role. Do not take on a role if you feel you do not have the experience or training for it.

As this form gets used it will no doubt be found to be wanting in some parts - amendedments can and will be made to it over time. In the meantime it is good enough to go. It is a work in progress and critiques of it are expected and welcomed. Please contact xrinnerwestarts@protonmail.com if you would like to help us improve this document.

Action Coordinator

Promotions Coordinator

Legal Observer

Media and Messaging Coordinator

Regenerative Culture Coordinator

Stream Team Leader

Arrestee Liaison

Materials Resources Coordinator

Community Liaison

Media Liaison

Media Spokesperson

First Aid

Wellbeing Coordinator

Indigenous Liaison

1000

extinction
rebellion

Date _____

Legal support phone number

Action phone number

Narrative

Scenario

Message for the media

Message for social media

Action Messages

Facebook Account

Twitter Account

Instagram Account