



RFF Connection is a regular newsletter from Resources for the Future that alerts subscribers to new RFF research and policy analysis on environmental, energy, natural resource, and public health issues, forthcoming events, and selected media highlights.

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Event: Senator Alexander on the Perils of Energy Sprawl



In remarks at an October 5th Policy Leadership Forum, Senator Lamar Alexander discussed the land use costs of renewable energy production and why he believes nuclear power should play a major role in America's energy future. [Video is available here.](#)

Event: The Economics of Pandemics

October's First Wednesday Seminar launched RFF's new Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics, and Policy (CDDEP). Speakers covered emerging issues ranging from incentives for reporting disease outbreaks to the impacts of the H1N1 swine flu pandemic. [Video and speaker presentations available here.](#)

Shaping the Future of America's Outdoor Resources



A new RFF report delves into the status of America's outdoor resources, the demand for recreation, and the financing of conservation, parks, and open space. [Read the full feature.](#)

New Research from RFF

[An Experimental Study of Auctions versus Grandfathering to Assign Pollution Permits](#)
[The Definition and Choice of Environmental Commodities for Nonmarket Valuation](#)
[Lose Some, Save Some: Obesity, Automobile Demand, and Gasoline Consumption in the U.S.](#)

Media Highlights

Use of Forests as Carbon Offsets Fails to Impress in First Big Trial

October 15, 2009, *The Washington Post*
RFF Visiting Scholar Nigel Purvis endorses legislative proposals to include more affordable forest carbon credits under a cap-and-trade system. "Including offsets from a tropical forest in a climate bill is a key to affordability," said Purvis. "It would be geopolitically and economically foolish for us to push back on that." [Read the full story.](#)

Senator Lamar Alexander Warns of 'Energy Sprawl'

October 6, 2009, *Nashville Tennessean*
In this article, Tennessee's senior senator, Lamar Alexander, suggested that efforts to promote alternative energy through renewable sources such as wind and solar could come at the cost of ruining thousands of acres of landscape. In remarks at an RFF Policy Leadership Forum, Alexander warned, "Our nation runs the risk of damaging the environment in the name of saving the environment." [Read the full story.](#)

Save the Date

November 5, 2009

[Challenges and Opportunities in Managing the World's Forests](#)

Weekly Policy Commentary

[Tobacco Taxation in the European Union and United States](#) by Sijbren Cossen

weathervane RFF's Climate Policy Blog

Check out Weathervane's new [daily updates](#) on climate and energy news from around the web.

[A Side-by-Side Look at House and Senate Climate Bills](#) by Daniel Morris

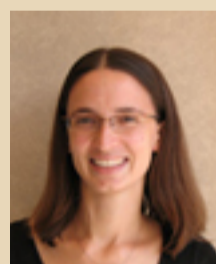
[Curbing Deforestation Emissions: A REDD Primer](#) by Erin Myers Madeira

Publications



[The State of the Great Outdoors](#)

Researcher Spotlight



Carolyn Kousky describes her research on how risk is managed on natural catastrophes and other extreme events. [Watch the video.](#)

About RFF

RFF improves environmental and natural resources policymaking worldwide through objective social science research of the highest caliber.

Take the 1-Minute Web Survey