

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## UVA Climatologist Bill Ruddiman to Speak on Global Warming

*Lexington, VA – March 16, 2016.* Are you curious about the evidence for global warming? Do you want to understand why it is happening? If so, this event is for you.

Dr. William F. Ruddiman, a Rockbridge resident and distinguished scholar in the field, will present a talk titled “Global Warming: Evidence and Origin,” followed by Q&A, on April 5 at 7pm. It will be held at the Old Courthouse (W&L meeting room on ground floor) at the corner of Main Street and Washington Street in Lexington. The talk is sponsored by the Rockbridge Area Conservation Council (RACC), the Geology Department of W&L, [Boxerwood Nature Center & Woodland Garden](#), and the local chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL). The event is open to the public and free of charge.

As a paleoclimatologist, Ruddiman studies past as well as present climate. He is professor Emeritus at the University of Virginia and author of a climate science textbook (*Earth’s Climate Past and Future*) in current classroom use at W&L and other universities. He also has written more than 125 published articles on climate science. You may read his professional biography on Wikipedia ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_Ruddiman](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Ruddiman)) and on the University of Virginia Department of Environmental Science website (<http://www.evsc.virginia.edu/ruddiman-william-f/>).

Dr. Ruddiman’s career began at Williams College, more than 50 years ago, when a professor showed him a container of foraminifera, tiny shelled creatures of many varieties that live in the oceans. He learned that some varieties like cold water, some like warm water. And when they died, the shells of these creatures in the trillions formed layered ocean sediments. The young student suddenly realized that the layered sediment formed on the ocean bottom by these long-dead critters would reflected the ocean temperature, and hence climate, when they lived. Hooked, he decided to make the study of earth’s climate his life’s work. This quest included 15 ocean voyages of scientific exploration, taking him to Norway and Iceland among many other places.

Rockbridge County has been Ruddiman’s home since 1992. He and his wife Ginger love the rolling hills, the forests, and pastures that are our county. Though retired from active teaching, Dr. Ruddiman continues to write and publish in the scientific literature.