

CLIMATE WEEK 2025

ARCHITECTURE'S ROLE IN SHAPING A RESILIENT FUTURE



Aerial shot of an urban solar park. Photo by Anders J. on Unsplash.

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September 2025 —

It's Climate Week: the world's largest climate-focused event, taking place in New York City from September 21 to 28. This globally significant gathering brings together leaders across business, technology, policy, academia, and civil society, united by one urgent mission: to accelerate bold, tangible action in the fight against climate change. This week, global leaders, corporate innovators, scientists, and community changemakers are converging in New York to demand more than talk; they're calling for accountability, urgency, and real impact.

As architects, we stand at a critical intersection of design, environment, and responsibility. The built environment accounts for nearly 40% of global carbon emissions, making our industry one of the largest contributors to the climate crisis. In cities like New

York and Boston, the threats are no longer theoretical; they're here. Rising sea levels, urban heat islands, severe flooding, and more frequent extreme weather events are already reshaping how we live, build, and plan for the future. Designing for climate resilience is no longer a luxury; it's a necessity.

At TRIA Architects, we believe design can and must be a powerful tool for environmental and social change. We are rethinking every aspect of how buildings interact with their ecosystems. From passive solar design and all-electric systems to elevated, flood-adapted ground floors, green roofs, and regenerative landscapes that restore biodiversity and manage stormwater, **we're pushing beyond sustainability toward true regeneration.**

Our mission is not only to design buildings that endure in the face of a changing climate, but to create spaces

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that actively contribute to planetary and community health. We aim to reduce operational and embodied carbon, promote human wellness, and design environments that are resilient, inclusive, and future-ready.

But we can't do it alone.

We call on our peers across the built environment—developers, engineers, urban planners, contractors, and policymakers—to join us in raising the bar. We must think beyond aesthetics and efficiency and prioritize durability, equity, and ecological impact in every decision we make. Climate justice must be at the heart of our work, ensuring that vulnerable communities are protected and empowered through design.

Let's commit to designing buildings that don't just survive the challenges of the future, but help shape a more just, livable, and regenerative world.

The time to act is now. The choices we make today will define the legacy we

leave behind not just for our cities, but for the planet.

Since 2015, TRIA has been at the forefront of designing the human experience toward a better future, creating environments that inspire, engage, and elevate communities. From science and innovation to corporate workplace, multifamily, hospitality, mixed-use, and master planning, TRIA partners with organizations nationwide to create meaningful, enduring spaces that drive progress and transformation.

TRIA is a signatory of the AIA 2030 Commitment, a climate strategy committed to reaching carbon neutrality by 2030. Among other sustainable initiatives, the firm is currently working with a confidential climatetech company to create an innovative headquarters and manufacturing facility in support of their mission to find crucial climate solutions.

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