

## Let's Go GREEN!

A list of simple ways to be green at home (but remember if you must print it, use recycled paper and post your 1 copy for the entire household)

**Replace a regular incandescent light bulb with a compact fluorescent light bulb (cfl)**  
CFLs use 60% less energy than a regular bulb.

**Move your thermostat down 2° in winter and up 2° in summer**  
Almost half of the energy we use in our homes goes to heating and cooling. You could save about 2,000 pounds of carbon dioxide a year with this simple adjustment.

**Clean or replace filters on your furnace and air conditioner**  
Cleaning a dirty air filter can save 350 pounds of carbon dioxide a year.

**Install a programmable thermostat**  
Programmable thermostats will automatically lower the heat or air conditioning at night and raise them again in the morning. They can save you \$100 a year on your energy bill.

**Choose energy efficient appliances when making new purchases**  
Look for the Energy Star label on new appliances to choose the most efficient models.

**Wrap your water heater in an insulation blanket**  
You'll save 1,000 pounds of carbon dioxide a year with this simple action.

**Use less hot water**  
It takes a lot of energy to heat water. You can use less hot water by installing a low flow showerhead (350 pounds of carbon dioxide saved per year) and washing your clothes in cold or warm water (500 pounds saved per year) instead of hot.

**Use a clothesline instead of a dryer whenever possible**  
You can save 700 pounds of carbon dioxide when you air dry your clothes for 6 months out of the year.

**Turn off electronic devices you're not using**  
Simply turning off your television, DVD player, stereo, and computer when you're not using them will save you thousands of pounds of carbon dioxide a year.

**Unplug electronics from the wall when you're not using them**  
Even when turned off, things like hairdryers, cell phone chargers and televisions use energy. In fact, the energy used to keep display clocks lit and memory chips working accounts for 5 percent of total domestic energy consumption and spews 18 million tons of carbon into the atmosphere every year!

**Only run your dishwasher when there's a full load and use the energy-saving setting**  
You can save 100 pounds of carbon dioxide per year.

**Insulate and weatherize your home**  
Properly insulating your walls and ceilings can save 25% of your home heating bill and 2,000 pounds of carbon dioxide a year. Caulking and weather-stripping can save another 1,700 pounds per year.

**Be sure you're recycling at home**  
You can save 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide a year by recycling half of the waste your household generates.

**Buy recycled paper products**  
It takes less 70 to 90% less energy to make recycled paper and it prevents the loss of forests worldwide.

**Plant a tree**  
A single tree will absorb one ton of carbon dioxide over its life time. Shade provided by trees can also reduce your air conditioning bill by 10 to 15%.

**Get a home energy audit**  
Many utilities offer free home energy audits to find where your home is poorly insulated or energy inefficient. You can save up to 30% off your energy bill and 1,000 pounds of carbon dioxide a year.

**Switch to green power**  
In many areas, you can switch to energy generated by clean, renewable sources such as wind and solar.

**Reduce the number of miles you drive by walking, biking, carpooling or taking mass transit whenever possible**  
Avoiding just 10 miles of driving every week would eliminate about 500 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions a year!

**Start a carpool with your coworkers or classmates**  
Sharing a ride with someone just 2 days a week will reduce your carbon dioxide emissions by 1,590 pounds a year.

**Keep your car tuned up**  
Regular maintenance helps improve fuel efficiency and reduces emissions. When just 1% of car owners properly maintain their cars, nearly a billion pounds of carbon dioxide are kept out of the atmosphere.

**Check your tires weekly to make sure they're properly inflated**  
Proper inflation can improve gas mileage by more than 3%. Since every gallon of gasoline saved keeps 20 pounds of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere, every increase in fuel efficiency makes a difference!

**When it is time for a new car, choose a more fuel efficient vehicle**  
You can save 3,000 pounds of carbon dioxide every year if your new car gets only 3 miles per gallon more than your current one. You can get up to 60 miles per gallon with a hybrid!

**Try car sharing**  
Need a car but don't want to buy one? Community car sharing organizations provide access to a car and your membership fee covers gas, maintenance and insurance.

**Try telecommuting from home**  
Telecommuting can help you drastically reduce the number of miles you drive every week.

**Fly less**  
Air travel produces large amounts of emissions so reducing how much you fly by even one or two trips a year can reduce your emissions significantly.