

Global Warming



Here's How YOU Can Help!

Reduce Your Impact at Home:

Change a Light Bulb. Replacing one regular incandescent light bulb with a compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) saves 150 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂) a year. CFLs use 60% less energy than regular bulbs.

Recycle. Save 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide per year by recycling just half of your household waste.

Use Less Hot Water. It takes a lot of energy to heat water. Install a low-flow showerhead (350 pounds of CO₂ saved per year) and wash your clothes in cold or warm water, not hot (500 pounds saved per year). Save another 550 pounds per year by setting the water heater no higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Avoid Products With a Lot of Packaging. You can save 1,200 pounds of carbon dioxide if you cut down your garbage by 10%.

Adjust Your Thermostat and Keep Filters Clean. Moving your thermostat down just 2 degrees in winter and up 2 degrees in summer could save 2,000 pounds of carbon dioxide a year. Almost half of the energy used in our homes goes to heating and cooling. Programmable thermostats can save \$100 per year on your energy bill. Cleaning or replacing a dirty air filter helps, too. www.aceee.org/consumer/consumer.htm

Plant a Tree. A single tree will absorb a ton of carbon dioxide over its lifetime. Shade provided by trees can reduce your air conditioning bill by 10-15%. www.arboday.org

Choose Energy Efficient Appliances When Making New Purchases. Look for the "Energy Star" label on new appliances to choose the most efficient models. If each household in the U.S. replaced its existing appliances with the most efficient models available, we'd eliminate 175 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions every year!

Switch to Green Power

In many areas, you can switch to energy generated by clean, renewable sources such as wind and solar. www.eere.energy.gov/greenpower

Buy Fresh, Locally Grown Foods, Organic when Possible. The average meal in the U.S. travels 1,200 miles from the farm to your plate. Buying locally will save fuel and keep money in your community. Frozen food uses 10 times more energy to produce. Organic soils capture and store carbon dioxide at much higher levels than soils from conventional farms. If we grew all of our corn and soybeans organically, we'd remove 580 billion pounds of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere!

Texas Conservation Alliance

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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 thousands of pounds of carbon dioxide a year.

Run Dishwasher Only When it's Full and Use the Energy-Saving Setting. Avoid 100 pounds of CO₂ emissions 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 almost double that.

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. www.energystar.gov

Reduce Your Impact While on the Go:

Drive Less. Walk, bike, carpool or take mass transit more often. You'll save one pound of carbon dioxide for every mile you don't drive. Avoiding just 10 miles of driving every week would eliminate about 500 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions a year! Sharing a ride just 2 days a week will reduce CO₂ emissions by 1,590 pounds a year.

Check Your Tires. Keeping your tires inflated properly can improve gas mileage by more than 3%. Every gallon of gasoline saved keeps 20 pounds of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere - and saves you \$\$\$!

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.

When it's 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. Consider a hybrid vehicle and get up to 60 miles per gallon!
www.greencars.org

Thanks to Climate Crisis for the information at their website:

www.ClimateCrisis.net

Calculate your carbon footprint:

www.ClimateCrisis.net or www.bp.com or
<http://ge.ecomagination.com/>



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