

- CARBON DIOXIDE REDUCTION TIPS

- FOR ITEMS YOU DON'T USE OFTEN SHARE WITH OTHERS. Sharing decreases the energy and pollution from mining, manufacturing, packaging, and transporting.
- Like a shared tool shed, or book exchanges.
- INSTALL NEW A/C FILTER. Cleaning and replacing your a/c filters increases efficiency.
- GO ON A TREE SPREE. Decreases erosion, removes carbon from the air, filters air,
- LOSE THE HEAVY STUFF. Toting weight in your vehicles decreases efficiency. Increase consumption 1-2%.
- PRACTICE GAS STATION ETIQUETTE. Avoid topping off, spilled gas evaporates into the air creating pollution; fill up during the cooler parts of the day.
- GO ORGANIC. Organic farming captures carbon dioxide from the air and traps it in the soil. Organic soils contain up to 28% more carbon than other soils.
- GO ON A RECYCLING BINGE. Virgin materials require massive amounts of resources and generate green house gases. Increase recycling rate personally, family, and friends.
- MAINTAIN YOUR CAR. Pay attention to smells, sounds, regular maintenance extends a car's life, and improves efficiency. Clogged filters increase gas consumption 10%.
- TALK TO THE MAN. Talk to corporations they listen to their customers. Ask them about using recycled materials, renewable energy, reducing energy consumption.
- TRY ANOTHER WAY. Carpooling, public transit, walking, biking.
- SLOW DOWN. 75 mph used 13% more gas than 65 mph. Aggressive driving requires more braking and keeps the vehicle in a lower gear.
- PRACTICE VOLUNTARY SIMPLICITY. Sometimes less is more. Many people find voluntary simplicity to be a fulfilling and an environmentally kind way to live. Join a simplicity circle to swap ideas and inspiration with others.
- DEAR MS. SENATOR... Local, state, and federal politicians have a dramatic effect on climate change. Let them know you care. Many organizations provide information on environmental initiatives, such as the Union of Concerned Scientists, the Environmental Defense Fund, and Care2.
- Use the library.
- Why buy a book you will read just once when you can borrow it for free? Most libraries are bursting at the seams with good books, magazines, and even music. If you do need to buy books, then buy used whenever possible, have a book exchange with your friends, and sell the books you no longer need. Trees everywhere will thank you.
- Compost everything but the kitchen sink.
- Not only does composting kitchen and yard waste invigorate soil, but it also reduces methane gas emissions. Composting serves as a kind of carbon sink, storing carbon in the soil instead of in the atmosphere.
- Don't get stuck in traffic.

- Not only is driving during peak times boring, but the more you apply the brakes, the more you use gas. Driving during peak times also accelerates wear and tear, so drive at off times.
- Get a hybrid.
- If you do a lot of city driving, a hybrid is a fabulous option. Amazingly, these cars can get better gas mileage with city driving than with highway driving
- Align your tires.
- Rotating tires is good for both tires and planet. It also saves gas, reduces inefficiencies, and extends their life.
- Buy recycled paper.
- Recycled paper requires less energy to produce. Every pound of recycled paper you buy prevents 4 lbs. of carbon dioxide emissions. Look for the highest available post-consumer content.
- Keep the tires full.
- Full tires save gas and wear and increase safety. Under-inflated tires lower gas mileage by 0.4 percent for every pound of drop in pressure. So, if you're down by 10 pounds, you're losing 4% in fuel economy.
- Have a garage sale.
- Is your attic, basement, or closet overflowing with stuff? Do you rarely use your gadgets? Reducing waste can be a win-win situation! You can also sell your stuff on the internet or exchange it with others
- Lighten your impact.
- Compact fluorescent bulbs are a great way to save both carbon emissions and cash. Over the course of a year, replacing ten 100-watt light bulbs with fluorescents saves as much CO₂ as an SUV emits in the same one-year period.
- Turn down your hot water heater.
- For every 10 degrees that you lower your hot water heater, you can reduce your energy consumption between 3%-5%! This lessens emissions produced by your energy provider and also helps extend the life of your water heater. Most homes can set their heaters between 115-125 F.
- Veggi Wednesdays.
- If you gave up beef once a week for a year, you would save over 70 lbs. each of grain and topsoil and 40,000 gallons of water. Grain production requires transportation (fossil fuels), farmland (deforestation), and pesticide use. Also, livestock produces methane—a harmful greenhouse gas—and requires animal feed.
- Buy a star.
- When shopping for a new appliance, find out how much energy it uses. Energy Star appliances meet strict energy guidelines and they keep utility bills low.
- Keep your car in a higher gear.
- In an automatic car, you can help to keep your car in a higher, more efficient gear by accelerating gradually. When driving a car with a stick shift, shift into higher gears as soon as possible.

- Go solar.
- Harvest the sun to produce electricity. The production of electricity generates greenhouse gases, so there's a real need for a safe, renewable alternative. Find out who installs systems in your area. Federal and state incentives reduce their price.
- Buy a low emissions vehicle.
- Are you in the market for a new car? This is a great time to keep the environment in mind. The vehicle's impact goes beyond mere fuel consumption to also include emissions. The lower your car's emissions the better. Car emissions account for nearly a third of U.S. air pollution.
- Be an Ethanol Hawk.
- Ethanol can be an environmentally friendlier and cleaner fuel than gasoline. Ethanol vehicles emit less carbon monoxide, particulate matter, and other ozone-forming pollutants. Flex cars can run off of ethanol fuel or gasoline. Many cars are already designed to use ethanol
- Don't throw it away!
- Did you know garbage generates greenhouse gases? Landfill garbage produces methane, a gas 21 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Transporting and incinerating garbage releases carbon dioxide as well
- Become an energy-saving detective.
- Conduct a home energy audit and examine how you can increase heating and cooling efficiency in your home. Many local energy companies offer free efficiency audits. Give yours a call.
- Vote!
- Register to vote and let your voice be heard. The Sierra Club endorses pro-environmental candidates.
- Shut it off.
- If you are idling for more than a couple minutes, turn your car off. Unless the temperature is below freezing, you don't need to warm your car. In 10-degree weather, you can warm your car for a minute. Gentle driving is also a good way to warm the car.
- Telecommute.
- Do you drive to work? Will your company let you telecommute? Driving is costly and requires lots of time, so telecommuting can be a win-win situation. Whether you're just starting a job or you've been there a while, it never hurts to negotiate a new arrangement.
- Use the vent.
- Did you know that air conditioning increases your fuel use by 13-21%? Rolling down the windows can make the car less efficient too, so when possible, use your vents.
- Get a hybrid.
- If you do a lot of city driving, a hybrid is a fabulous option. Amazingly, these cars can get better gas mileage with city driving than with highway driving.
- Knowledge is power.

- Do you know which of your home appliances uses the most power? What's powering your home: coal, nuclear, hydroelectric, wind? Let your power company know where you want your power to come from. And consider unplugging devices you rarely use since they still use a little electricity.
- Rack up your fuel efficiency.
- Removing your car's roof rack can increase your fuel efficiency by 5 mpg. Unless you frequently use it, the costs are likely to exceed the benefits
- Buy recycled.
- Choosing products made with recycled materials closes the loop. Products made with recycled materials require less energy than those made with new materials.
- Share a car.
- Manufacturing and maintaining automobiles releases lots of greenhouse gases—yet most of the time cars are parked. Why not share a car with a friend or relative? Car sharing also saves money and lessens the hassle of ownership
- Junk your junk mail.
- Eliminating unwanted mail is easier than you think. You can cancel catalog subscriptions, ask companies not to give out your address, and register on this national database. Even if you recycle, reducing is always better.
- Get the right stuff.
- Using synthetic oil may increase your fuel efficiency. Thicker oils can make the engine work harder, using up more fuel.
- Recycle unusual items.
- Did you know you can recycle electronics, batteries, ink cartridges, and cell phones? Take a look here for where to do it in your town.
- At lower speeds, open the windows. This increased the drag and reduces fuel efficiency, but not as much as the AC at low speeds between 50 and 65 km/h (35-40 mph).
- Using your air conditioner on "Max" all the time can rise your gas consumption by roughly 5-25%.
- **Combine trips.** If you can do several short trips in one longer trip, you will save fuel and time. Make lists to avoid having to go back. Call ahead to avoid wasted trips.
- Turn off equipment like televisions and stereos when you're not using them. That little red standby light means they're still using power - and that means a contribution to global warming.
- Save water:
 - turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
 - collect the water used to wash vegetables and salad to water your houseplants.
- Call your local government to see if they have a disposal location for used car batteries and other hazardous household wastes.
- Recycle your paper, glass, plastics and other waste. Call your local government to find out if they offer a collection service.
- Use rechargeable batteries
- Send e-greetings instead of paper cards. Check out the range of free WWF e-cards available.
- Help reduce the world's rubbish dumps - don't use "throw-away" products like paper plates and napkins, and plastic knives, forks, and cups.

- Take your own bags to the shops to carry home your groceries and shopping.
- Look for products that have less packaging.
- Buy organically grown fruits, vegetables, cotton clothing, and hemp-fibre products. Organic cotton clothing is available from many WWF websites.
- Don't buy bottled water if you know your tap water is safe - transporting water from its source to the supermarket shelves is an expensive waste of energy. And the plastic and glass bottles add to the already-high mountains of rubbish that we produce. Find out from your municipality about your tap water. If you do buy bottled water, buy from a local source (read the labels) and buy water that comes in recyclable glass or plastic.
- Choose biodegradable cleaning products so that the chemicals have fewer negative impacts on the soil and water system.
- Buy the most energy-efficient household appliances you can afford.
- Use recycled paper.
- Buy **Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)** certified products - look for the symbol of the tree with the tick on it. What is FSC?
- If you enjoy salmon, look for the **Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)** certified mark. And always buy dolphin-friendly tuna. What is MSC?
- Ask one fresh fish market to stock MSC-certified fish.
- According to a UN report in 2006, the livestock sector generates more greenhouse gases than transport. While the solutions proposed by the report are focused firmly on how the rearing of livestock could be improved to lower emissions - even if it's just a matter of healthy living, and if appropriate, some of us could perhaps do with eating a few more vegetables and a little less meat :-)
- Collect rainwater to water your flowers.
- Let part of your garden grow freely and see what wild flowers appear.
- Plant local species of trees.
- Never take plants or pick flowers from anywhere in the wild.
- Buy bulbs from cultivated stocks only (ask the shop or gardening centre for advice).
- Stop using chemical pesticides - try to use natural products instead.
- Try to attract birds to your garden as they eat aphids and other gardeners' pests.
- Use traps, parasites, and natural predators such as ladybirds.
- Use plants that repel insects. Some herbs and flowers - including basil, chives, mint, marigolds, and chrysanthemums - mixed in with other plants, help keep pests away.
- Use disease-resistant and pest-resistant plants.
- Use Neem oil and mix it up with some garlic oil (which you can make it home) to spray on tree trunks and diseased plants and shrubs. This works like a charm on pests, bacteria and fungus.
- Remove the weeds by spraying them with something to adjust the pH (acidity) in the ground around them. Perhaps use some vinegar directly on the most stubborn ones.
- Use organic compost and mulch to improve soil health and reduce the need for pesticides and fertilizers.
- Don't use peat in your flower beds and vegetable gardens (peat is taken from ancient bog land, destroying some of our most precious wildlife areas). Instead, make your own compost with grass clippings and vegetable scraps from the house. Find out how to make your own compost.
- Choose drought tolerant plants like Nepeta Six Hills Giant (Catmint). It looks like huge lavender flowers but uses very little water.
- Pick only drought or Xeriscape friendly grass seeds that don't require as much as water to maintain.
- Don't use electrical equipment like leaf-blowers as they consume so much energy for so little gain. Use a rake instead - it's better for your health too!

- Never pour antifreeze, oil or other chemicals on the ground, into storm sewers or down the drain. Take these toxic substances to your local waste disposal facility.
- Don't buy garden furniture or decking made of tropical hard wood - mahogany for example - unless it's got a Forest Stewardship Council label (the "tick" tree). Read more about FSC.
- Take time out to sit out in your backyard with friends and family, and appreciate the beauty of nature!
- **Travel smart** - find out how you can make your next vacation environmentally friendly
- You can start cutting your own **global warming pollution** today. How? By cutting down on wasted energy and using more clean energy.