

# 10,000 Things To Do To End Global Warming

(A work in progress. Add your suggestions, email [luke@computercoop.com](mailto:luke@computercoop.com))

July 15 2007 – 164 things to do	April 22, 2008 – 551 things to do
August 25 2007 - 285 things to do	November 11, 2008 – 671 things to do
November 25 2007 - 373 things to do	May 29, 2009 – 721 things to do
January 29 2008 – 443 things to do	August 24, 2015 – 764 things to do
March 6, 2008 – 490 things to do	

## Personal

### Transportation

#### Auto

##### Lifestyle: (9)

- Drive less, bike and walk more
- Carpool more
- Participate in ride sharing programs
- Use park and ride programs
- Plan and combine trips
- Reduce the weight of vehicles by not hauling unnecessary items
- If you have more than one vehicle, use the most efficient one when possible
- Arrive and leave work earlier or later to avoid traffic congestion
- When you rent a car, sign up for the TerraPass carbon offset program

##### Driving Technique (14)

- Accelerate gradually to save fuel
- Plan and take the most fuel efficient routes to destinations
- Don't idle your car more than a minute
- Avoid drive-thrus to avoid idling time
- Use the engine to brake rather than the pedal brake
- Park at the nearest end of parking lots and walk to the buildings and back
- Anticipate and avoid traffic jams
- Drive in the most efficient gear
- Don't warm up the engine – modern engines don't need it
- Plan routes that are shorter, have fewer stop signs/ stop lights and more right turns than left turns
- Drive slower to get better miles per gallon
- Use cruise control set at 55-60.
- Use overdrive gears to make the engine work less
- Keep cool by rolling down windows instead of using air conditioning

##### Buying Decisions: (8)

- Switch to higher mpg vehicle
- Switch to lower emission vehicle
- Retrofit a Toyota Prius as a plug in hybrid
- Buy an electric car (Nissan Leaf, Chevy Volt, etc...)
- See if your gas vehicle can be converted to natural gas
- Sell your car
- Instead of owning a car use Uber or rentals when needed
- Share a car

##### Maintenance: (16)

- Keep tires properly inflated
- Make sure used tires, motor oil and car batteries get properly recycled or disposed of
- You will produce less ozone if you fill your car in the cooler part of the day.
- Seal your gas cap tightly to let fewer fumes escape
- Don't top off tank, more fumes are released that way
- Fix oil leaks
- Before purchasing a new battery, make sure the service station or store will recycle the old one
- Remove unused roof racks
- Keep car tuned up
- Use Radial tires - they get better gas mileage
- Have your car tested for emissions

- Use regular gas instead of premium where possible
- Don't store old batteries, get them to a hazardous waste facility
- If you drain anti-freeze, consider it hazardous waste and get it recycled
- Extend tire life by rotating, balancing, proper inflation and wheel alignment
- When you have the air conditioner serviced make sure the old CFC is collected for recycling

## Airplane (4)

- Fly less
- When flying, also purchase carbon offsets
- Purchase the shortest route
- Travel lightest

## Alternatives (9)

- Pay bills online instead of you or the postal service transporting the payment
- Use mass transit where available
- Reduce commuting by working at home
- Walk more
- Bicycle more
- Skate more
- Plan vacations for lower fuel consumption
- Plan holidays closer to home where you can walk or bike to them
- Walk up and down a few flights of stairs rather than take the elevator or escalator

## Heating/Cooling

### Lifestyle: (3)

- Use box fans instead of air conditioners
- Use ceiling and attic fans instead of air conditioning
- Do an energy audit of the home

### Heating: (6)

- Lower settings in winter
- In the winter, open shades on south windows to increase solar heating
- Wear warmer and more layers of clothing in the winter
- Don't use your wood stove or fireplace when air quality is poor
- For wood burners, use dry fuel to reduce smoke pollution and dangerous creosote
- Use a wood stove newer than 1990 as they meet federal emissions standards

### Cooling: (5)

- Higher settings in summer
- Turn the air conditioner to a warmer setting when leaving for more than an hour
- Use ceiling and attic fans instead to blow in cool air in evenings to cool the house
- Wear lighter, looser clothing in the summer
- Turn off the air conditioner more

### Buying Decisions: (10)

- Use a programmable, timed thermostat
- Add wall and ceiling insulation
- Incorporate passive solar design into your home
- Add a (mostly passive) solar heater to the south side of the house
- When replacing windows, install the best energy saving models
- Make thermal shades for large inefficient glass areas
- Paint your house a light color in hot climates and a dark color in cool climates
- When replacing heating/cooling equipment look for the Energy Star rating and get the most efficient
- When remodeling, add plenty of insulation and energy efficient glass
- See if a passive solar heater is appropriate for your home

### Maintenance: (11)

- Seal and insulate ducts going through unheated areas
- Tune up oil furnaces annually, gas and electric furnaces every two years
- Repair or replace leaky windows or broken or cracked glass
- Consider a plastic layer over single pane glass if too expensive to replace
- Insulate the inside of electric outlet covers
- Reverse your indoor ceiling fans for summer (counterclockwise) and winter operations (clockwise)
- Find and seal other leaks in the building with weather stripping, caulk or insulation
- Inspect and clean air filters regularly
- Have air conditioner serviced every three years to keep it running efficiently
- Clean air filters on your air conditioning unit regularly
- Close off rooms that do not need to be heated or cooled – close vents to those rooms

## Electrical/Gas Use

## Appliances (4)

- Turn off and unplug all unused devices
- Turn off all standby devices including TV.
- Purchase energy star equipment that has low standby power
- Use a smart power strip that turns off energy draining always-on transformers

## Lighting (12)

- Replace all incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescents
- Recycle used compact fluorescent bulbs at Home Depot or a Hazardous Waste center
- Install a light timer instead of leaving lights on when you are away
- Use solar powered holiday lights
- Turn off lights when leaving a room
- Turn off lights when you are watching a movie
- Put timers on outdoor lighting
- Have lights turn on and off based on motion detection
- Clean dust off light fixtures at least every two years
- Use one higher wattage bulb rather than several lower wattage bulbs (more light per watt)
- Use hand power generated flashlights
- Use efficient LED task lighting

## Computer Equipment (6)

- Switch from a conventional CRT monitor to an energy efficient LCT screen
- Set your computer screen to go to sleep after several minutes of non-use
- Shut off your computer if it will not be used for more than a couple hours
- Replace idle processing power with number crunching climate projections – [climateprediction.net](http://climateprediction.net)
- Use the blackle.com site for searching instead of google. The black screen uses less energy.
- Switch from a desktop to a lower power laptop or tablet

## Clothes Washing and Drying (5)

- Use a clothesline or drying rack to dry clothes
- Wash and rinse with cold water when possible
- When using a clothes dryer, keep lint filter clean and keep exhaust hose unblocked
- When replacing a clothes dryer, purchase the most energy efficient model on the market
- Wait until you have a full load to wash clothes

## Washing and Drying Dishes (4)

- Dry dishes using the energy-saving setting
- Dry dishes by hand
- Only run dishwasher when it is fully loaded
- Don't use the heat cycle when drying

## Hot Water Heater (9)

- Turn your hot water heater to off or pilot when going on a trip
- Add a solar heater or preheater to the roof
- With electric hot water heaters, install a timer that turns it off mid-day and overnight
- Turn the water heater temperature down (120 degrees should be adequate)
- Replace old water heaters with energy efficient models
- Add insulation to older hot water heaters
- Use a tankless water heater that heats water just as it is needed
- Insulate the hot water pipe coming out of the water heater
- Once a year, drain a gallon of water from the bottom of the hot water heater to remove sediment

## Refrigerator/Freezer (16)

- Check the tightness of the seal on the refrigerator door, replace if necessary
- Keep refrigerator condenser coils free of dust
- Don't overfill the frig. 60% full is optimum
- A fully loaded freezer compartment retains cool better
- Freeze gallons of water to use up empty space in freezers
- Decide what you want in the frig before opening the door
- Close the frig door immediately after getting something out of the frig
- Don't block air flow paths in the inside of the refrigerator
- Replace old refrigerators with the most energy efficient models
- If you have more than one refrigerator, consolidated them to fewer refrigerators
- Refrigerators with the freezer on the top are 45% more efficient than ones with freezer on side
- Top loading freezers are more energy efficient than upright freezers.
- Locate frig/freezer in coolest spot in room – not near ovens or broilers
- Defrost old freezers often.

Set your refrigerator temperature between 36 and 38 degrees

Set your freezer temperature between 0 and 5 degrees

## Cooking (11)

Cover pans when heating food or boiling water.

Eat more raw foods and less cooked meals

Use pressure cookers

Cook with a crockpot

Use a solar oven

Use steamers

When using an oven, minimize the time you open the oven door

Replace your electric or gas oven with a halogen oven

Using a microwave oven instead of a conventional oven saves energy

Use a 100% natural, additive-free, or lump-brand charcoal marked with either a Forest Stewardship Council or Rainforest Alliance certified logo. Widely accessible brands include Cowboy Charcoal and Greenlink Charcoal.

When purchasing a charcoal grill, be sure that it is equipped with closable vents so you can maximize charcoal usage.

A cleaner-burning gas or electric grill will be more environmentally friendly than one powered by charcoal

## General (5)

Use less

Incorporate photovoltaic solar power into your home

If there is adequate wind energy, add a wind generator

Purchase green energy from your utility company – Check with the Green Power Network

Use electricity at off-peak hours

## Water Use

### Kitchen (5)

Only run dishwasher when a full load

Keep a container of cold drinking water in the frig

Install faucet aerators

Don't keep water running while hand washing dishes

Reuse water used for boiling or cooking beans by using it as a soup base

### Bathroom (13)

Install low flow showerhead

Showers generally use less water than baths

Shower with a partner

Install faucet aerators

Skip showers on days when you don't need one

Take shorter showers

Install a tank dam in each toilet tank

Put one or two bricks wrapped in plastic in each toilet tank

If the toilet is not a low flush design, drop two quart plastic bottles filled with water in the tank

Reduce the number of toilet flushes

Catch warm-up water from showers and use on gardens

Turn off water while brushing teeth

Turn off water while shaving

### Clothes Washing (4)

Wear clothes until they actually need to be washed

Wait for a full load before washing clothes

Turn off washing machine water supply to prevent leaks

Try one of the new small hand washing machines

### Outdoors (11)

Wash car on grass or gravel so runoff does not go directly into the storm sewer system

Don't leave the water running while washing the car.

Wash car with buckets of water instead of running water.

Water plants early or late in the day to reduce evaporative losses

Don't water if the plants don't really need it

Wash the car when it is raining to use rainwater

Mulch garden to retain moisture

With larger gardens consider drip irrigation or grey water systems

Revegetate or mulch disturbed soil as soon as possible

Don't dump toxic liquids down a storm drain

Have your septic tank pumped and inspected regularly

## General (7)

- Turn water off right after use
- Repair all water drips
- If using a water softener make sure it is adjusted correctly to not waste salt
- Use biodegradable soaps
- Dispose of toxic fluids properly
- Follow community water use restrictions or guidelines
- Learn about your watershed

## **Consumption**

### **Paper (30)**

- Recycle all paper, newspaper, cardboard
- Reuse paper
- Print on front and back sides
- Cut up scrap paper for notepads
- Donate old magazines to nursing homes and waiting rooms
- Pass along old magazines to friends
- If the place where you buy paper does not have 100% post consumer waste recycled paper, request it
- Donate colorful magazines to schools for use in art projects
- Use 100% post consumer recycled paper
- Don't buy paper products from Kimberly-Clark (Kleenex, Scott, Viva, Cottonelle) until they quit destroying threatened and endangered forests.
- Reuse cardboard boxes
- Instead of buying cardboard boxes for moving or storage, get boxes from businesses that are throwing them away
- When printing long documents, use the smallest font that is practical to lessen paper consumption
- Save and reuse wrapping paper
- Avoid using butcher or baker paper – they have a plastic lining
- Use cloth napkins instead of paper
- Try selling old unwanted books to a used book store
- Use reusable cloth handkerchiefs instead of paper tissue
- Request those that send you printed material that they use post-consumer recycled non-chlorinated paper
- Use unbleached toilet paper made from recycled paper
- Reuse manila and other envelopes by putting a new label over the old one
- Reduce junk mail. Register with Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Assoc., PO Box 9008, Farmingdale, NY 11735. Tell them you want off 3<sup>rd</sup> class mailings.
- Write to whomever sends you the most junk mail and demand they take you off all their lists
- Keep dish towels in kitchen to replace paper towels
- Eat at restaurants that use washable dishware
- Find the 800 number on unwanted catalogs that come in the mail and cancel mailings
- When sending out invitations to events, email instead of printing and mailing as many as possible
- Use old rags instead of paper towels to clean up spills. Wash and reuse the rags.
- Distribute information digitally instead of printing
- Purchase digital or audio versions of books instead of printed ones.

### **Packaging (12)**

- Save and reuse packaging materials
- Purchase products with minimal packaging
- Refuse a bag for small purchases
- Collect and reuse plastic and paper bags
- Bring a cloth shopping bag or backpack on shopping trips
- Bring containers to the grocery store and buy bulk foods without packaging
- Bring your own containers for restaurant take out or for leftovers
- Buy one large size item rather than several small size items to avoid excessive packaging
- Use a reusable lunch container rather than throw away containers
- Precycle. Purchase items in recyclable packaging
- When you pick up dry cleaning see if you can get it without the plastic bags over it
- Save cork and give it to recycling programs

### **Glass (6)**

- Recycle all glass
- When walking or jogging pick up glass containers on street for recycling
- If there is no municipal glass recycling in your community, choose products in other types of containers
- Intact windows can often be given to a salvage yard
- Recycle old eyeglasses by donating them to the Lions club program
- Save colored wine bottles for artists to reuse

### **Wood (8)**

Buy products labeled as FSC-certified from sustainable forestry  
Particularly avoid teak, mahogany and other rainforest woods unless it is labeled sustainably harvested  
Buy re-used timber  
If you use a Christmas tree, dispose of it in a recycling program  
Consider using a living potted tree, bush or plant instead of cutting down a pine tree for Christmas  
Recycle construction waste wood  
Solid wood doors are valuable and can be reused  
You can add sawdust to your compost – if you have too much, give it to a landscaper

## Plastics (18)

Recycle all plastics  
Use a ceramic, or reusable cup or glass for coffee and other beverages  
Use reusable flatware instead of plastic  
Use cloth diapers, not disposable ones  
Avoid cling wrap made with PVC's  
Reuse spray bottles and dish soap containers by refilling them  
Turn old CDs into drink coasters and artwork  
Recycle CD's to: The Compact Disc Recycling Center of America, 68H Stiles Road, Salem, NH 03079  
Donate CD's DVD's VHS tapes and cassette tapes to free lending libraries  
Reuse plastic water bottles over and over before recycling  
Instead of buying CD's, download the music  
Instead of buying movie CD's, rent them online  
Swap plastic exercise videos with friends  
Avoid plastics that are labeled as "PVC" or "#3." Look for #1 and #2 plastics, which are easier to recycle and don't produce as many toxins.  
Buy a recycled plastic toothbrush or razor from Recycline made from used Stonyfield Farms' yogurt cups.  
Reuse plastic bags over and over before recycling  
When walking or jogging pick up plastic containers on street for recycling  
When buying plastic bins and other products choose products made from recycled plastic

## Metals (12)

Recycle all aluminum including aluminum foil, pie plates, TV dinner trays  
When walking or jogging pick up aluminum cans on street for recycling  
Use a staple-free stapler that pinches paper together  
Avoid buying aerosol cans – they can be more difficult to recycle  
Give extra clothes hangers to dry cleaners or second hand clothing stores  
Steel, Iron, Stainless Steel, Brass and Copper are also valuable recyclables  
Rather than throw away bricks, see if a salvage material business will take them  
Give old bathtubs and sinks to salvage yards or scrap dealers  
If old appliances still work, get them to a Salvation Army or Goodwill store  
Resell or trade in old sports and exercise equipment at Play It Again Sports stores  
Purchase artwork made from recycled metal scrap.  
Give old phones to recycling programs

## Hazardous Materials (27)

Collect and dispose of old batteries, paint and other hazardous materials to a hazardous waste site  
Purchase non-toxic products  
Store toxic materials safely  
Have your house tested for radon  
In older homes test paint for lead. If leaded, cover it rather than sand or burn it off  
When there is no non-toxic alternative, use the least amount of the substance possible  
Instead of harsh chemicals, use corn starch to clean windows, polish furniture and shampoo rugs  
Instead of toxic chemicals, use vinegar to cut grease, remove mildew and odors  
Instead of oven cleaners use baking soda and steel wool  
Instead of bleached coffee filters, use unbleached  
Avoid products using unsafe aerosols in cans  
Buy the right amount of paint for each paint job  
Buy and use recovered or recycled paint  
Choose low VOC (volatile organic compound) paints  
Avoid products containing mercury and dispose of products containing mercury at appropriate drop-offs  
Avoid battery operated toys  
Use rechargeable batteries  
Use a solar powered battery recharger  
Use live animal traps instead of poisons  
Choose a dry cleaner who will guarantee that the solvents are recycled

Instead of mothballs use cedar chips or aromatic herbs  
For cleaning use white vinegar, baking soda, borax, and lemon juice.  
Paint with brushes or rollers instead of spraying to minimize harmful emissions  
Avoid as many of these hazardous household items as possible: spot remover, lighter fluid, paint stripper, pesticides, nail polish, nail polish remover, drain openers, scouring powders, oven cleaners, toilet bowl cleaners, adhesives like “super glue”, caulk, paints and thinners and mothballs.  
Use a chimney or electric charcoal starter instead of lighter fluid or self-starting briquettes. Lighter fluid contains volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that greatly degrade the ozone layer.  
Recycle paint thinner by first putting it in a glass jar and letting it settle. Reuse the clear thinner on top.  
Choose body care products from companies that have signed on to the Compact for Safe Cosmetics

### Food (13)

Purchase organically grown foods  
Purchase foods grown locally  
Avoid fast foods  
Choose food free of GMO (Genetically Modified Organism) ingredients  
Purchase foods from farmers markets and food cooperatives  
Shift diet to more plants and less meat  
Buy foods in bulk to reduce packaging  
Grow sprouts indoors year round  
Compost the tea in tea bags, then recycle the paper tea bag  
Choose fresh vegetables over frozen vegetables  
Don't put food waste into a garbage disposal – compost instead  
If you have extra fresh food give it to a food bank or homeless shelter  
When having a party catered, choose someone who can provide organic and local choices

### Gifting (12)

Give unneeded usable items to family members, friends, neighbors or donate them to service organization charities that resell them or get them reused by selling them in a yard sale or on commission at a second hand store.  
Give gift memberships to environmental organizations  
Give items purchased through fair trade markets  
Give items that are completely recyclable  
Give carbon offsets  
Give fruit and shade trees  
Wrap gifts in recycled paper  
Give a book on creating a better world  
Give old clothing to someone who can continue using them  
Give old clothing to the Salvation Army, Goodwill Industries or St. Vincent DePaul Society or similar  
Give Adopt an Acre from Nature Conservancy  
Give Fair Trade items

### Clothing (5)

Buy used clothing instead of new  
Make rags out of old clothing  
Avoid Rayon as the production process wastes trees and water  
Nike's Reuse-a-Shoe program turns old shoes into playground and athletic flooring. [www.nikereuseashoe.com](http://www.nikereuseashoe.com).  
One World Running will send still-wearable shoes to athletes in need in Africa, Latin America, and Haiti.  
[www.oneworldrunning.com](http://www.oneworldrunning.com).

### General (28)

Choose reusable products over disposable products  
Purchase products produced very locally  
Shop with cloth or canvas shopping bags instead of plastic or paper  
Purchase products from locally owned businesses  
Plan parties to use reusable rather than disposable items  
Repair what can be fixed rather than throw away  
Get a copy of The Better World Shopping Guide and use it  
Purchase the most energy efficient products  
Purchase biodegradable products  
Borrow instead of buying  
Give old furniture to the Salvation Army or Goodwill  
Rent rather than buy  
Find ways to reuse items before recycling  
Regularly audit the trash can – are there items that can be recycled or whose purchase can be avoided  
Choose high quality products that last longer  
Buy less stuff

Use the online services Freecycle and Craigslist to get rid of unwanted things  
Use the online services Freecycle and Craigslist to get and reuse someone else's unwanted things  
Share tools and other items with friends and neighbors  
Find alternatives to compulsive shopping (relaxing, visiting, gardening, etc)  
Wait a day or more before purchasing to really think if the purchase is necessary  
When purchasing building materials, pick non-toxic and safe alternatives  
Buy from companies with better environmental records and policies  
Check consumer reports and avoid products that break easily  
Before purchasing figure out how you are going to dispose of the product and its packaging  
Rather than throw stuff away, have a yard sale so the stuff will get reused  
At the end of a yard sale put the leftovers on the curb with a 'free' sign  
Send unrecyclable items back to the manufacturer and tell them they need to make products more responsibly.

## Education

### Reading (7)

Read Inconvenient Truth  
Read Heat  
Read The End of Nature  
Read The Green Collar Economy  
Read Blessed Unrest  
Read This Changes Everything  
Read Pope Francis's Encyclical Letter Laudato Si

### Viewing (8)

Watch Inconvenient Truth  
Watch The Great Warming  
Watch Forecast Earth on the Weather Channel  
Watch The 11<sup>th</sup> Hour  
Watch The Age of Stupid  
Watch Food, Inc.  
Watch Do The Math  
Watch Disruption

### Word Wide Web Resources (7)

Calculate your carbon footprint at [www.climatecrisis.net/takeaction/carboncalculator/](http://www.climatecrisis.net/takeaction/carboncalculator/)  
Calculate your carbon footprint at [http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind\\_calculator.html](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind_calculator.html)  
Calculate your carbon footprint at <http://www.safeclimate.net/calculator/>  
Calculate your carbon footprint at <http://www.bp.com/sectiongenericarticle.do?categoryId=6908&contentId=7029057>  
Found out which companies are doing more for the environment at <http://www.climatecounts.org/>  
Join The Stop Global Warming Virtual March [www.350.org](http://www.350.org)  
Over 32 million articles on how to stop global warming at [www.itsgettinghotinhere.org](http://www.itsgettinghotinhere.org)

### General (10)

Study the principles of permaculture  
Test your water purity  
Submit ideas to this 10,000 things list  
Be skeptical of information coming from the auto industry  
Be skeptical of information coming from oil companies  
Be skeptical of information coming from large utility companies  
Learn how to conduct an energy audit of your home/business or hire someone to do it  
See if your utility company will conduct an energy audit of your home  
Learn sorting and recycling guidelines from local recyclers and trash collection companies  
Study native American care of the environment. A good book is 1491.

## Yard/Garden

### Yard: (20)

Plant trees to shade your house from summer heat  
Plant trees to shade outside air conditioning units  
Plant trees to sequester carbon dioxide  
Plant fruit trees  
Plant fast growing trees  
Reduce lawn size, plant drought-tolerant native wildflowers, plants and herbs  
Let grass clippings mulch into the yard  
Direct rainwater hitting your roof so it soaks into the yard or gets stored in a cistern not the storm sewer system  
If the grass gets really tall cut it with a sickle

- Make your lawn organic
- Dig up unneeded concrete and let things grow there
- Create a wildlife habitat in part of your yard
- Restore native plants along streams
- Use solar powered pathway lights instead of wired lights
- Repair erosion from streams
- Crowd out weeds by overseeding the lawn
- Use pest and drought resistant native plants
- Cut the grass higher as it keeps more moisture in the soil
- Cut up larger fallen branches to use for firewood
- When putting down concrete, use pervious concrete

### **Garden: (9)**

- Plant organic gardens
- Sign up for a plot in a community garden
- Compost all organic yard and kitchen waste
- Collect kitchen waste from nearby restaurants and compost it
- Collect leaves and yard waste from neighbors and compost it
- Chip or compost yard waste instead of burning
- Use greenhouses or cover plants to extend the growing season
- Plant flowers and herbs that act as natural pesticides.
- Plant crops appropriate for a warmer climate

### **Lifestyle: (3)**

- Start barbecues with an electric probe rather than lighter fluid
- Spend less time indoors and more time in the garden and yard
- Spend more time camping

### **Maintenance: (11)**

- Minimize use of pesticides
- Repair any leaking faucets and hoses
- If fertilizing, use organic or slow release fertilizer
- If using power mowers, let grass grow taller before cutting
- Eliminate the use of fertilizers. Use organic compost instead.
- Reduce or eliminate the use of weed killers. Pull the weeds out root and all
- Take care of unwanted pests without toxic pesticides
- Refuel mowing equipment in cooler weather
- Avoid trash burning
- Avoid using leaf blowers
- Avoid smoldering fires – they produce the most air pollution

### **Buying Decisions: (2)**

- Replace gas mowers with electric mowers
- Better still, trade gas and electric mowers for hand push reel mowers

### **Recreation (11)**

- Plan vacation trips close by
- Sailing and canoeing instead of motor boating
- Wildlife photography instead of hunting
- Off-road bicycling instead of off-road motor vehicles
- When walking, carry a container to pick up aluminum cans, paper, plastic and glass for later recycling
- Some low impact recreation include: walking, jogging, hiking, bicycling, wildlife photography, canoeing, camping, tennis, golf, Frisbee golf, swimming, soccer, football, baseball, basketball, rugby, table tennis.
- When golfing, walk rather than use a golf cart
- When using a golf cart, pick an electric cart over a gas model
- On the golf course find and reuse golf tees
- When fishing don't use lead weights.
- When fishing, consider using poles and gear made from natural materials like bamboo or cork

### **General (8)**

- Purchase carbon offsets with a donation to [www.carbonfund.org](http://www.carbonfund.org)
- Purchase carbon offsets with a donation to [www.carbonneutral.com](http://www.carbonneutral.com)
- Purchase carbon offsets with a donation to [www.renewablechoice.com](http://www.renewablechoice.com)
- Purchase carbon offsets with a donation to [www.terrapass.com](http://www.terrapass.com)
- Purchase carbon offsets with a donation to [www.nativeenergy.com](http://www.nativeenergy.com)
- Use Working Assets Long Distance Service or Working Assets credit cards to have a percent of fees donated to environmental causes
- Place investments only in socially responsible funds that protect the environment

Donate a % of your income to environmental causes

## **Family and Friends**

### Transportation (1)

Ride share when possible.

### Heating/Cooling (1)

Suggest more temperature appropriate clothing to family members that request more heating/cooling

### Electrical Use (1)

Teach electricity conservation to the rest of your family

### Water Use (1)

At gatherings use filtered tap water rather than bottled water

### Consumption (2)

Teach recycling habits to the rest of the family

Share rare or infrequently used tools and electronics

### Education (4)

Share magazine, newspaper articles, audio and video tapes on climate change with them

Share this list with family and friends

Discuss environmental issues and green lifestyle choices

Loan out Inconvenient Truth to friends and neighbors.

### Yard/Garden (1)

Share a garden together

### Recreation (1)

Organize hikes and walks together

## **Neighborhood**

### Transportation (2)

Report smoking vehicles to your local air agency

Support speed reducing design – like speed bumps

### Heating/Cooling

### Electrical Use (1)

Report street lights that do not turn off as it gets light

### Water Use (1)

Report water main leaks

### Consumption (2)

Share rare or infrequently used tools

Have a neighborhood yard sale

### Education (1)

Hand out flyers door to door about how to get recycling started

### Yard/Garden (3)

Consider organizing a community/neighborhood garden

Participate in an existing neighborhood garden if there is one

Organize a neighborhood composting operation

## **Office**

### Transportation (4)

Car pool to work with co-workers

Organize car pooling company-wide

Organize internet video conferences rather than fly or drive to a distant location

Work from home

### Heating/Cooling (4)

Encourage company dress codes that keep people cooler in summer and warmer in winter. Like summer no ties or suit coats necessary.

Programmable thermostats to control temperature more efficiently

Switch computer monitors from CRT's to LCD's which emit much less heat

Set building water heater to lowest possible setting

### Electrical Use (6)

Switch computer monitors from CRT's to LCD's which consume much less energy

Replace incandescents with compact fluorescents wherever possible

Shut off electrical equipment when you leave work

Turn off computer monitors at night

Motion detector light switches in rooms that are less used

Change fluorescents to LEDs

## Water Use (2)

Consider a company policy of not purchasing bottled water

Quickly repair all leaky faucets

## Consumption (25)

Organize the buying of recycled fiber toilet paper

Use ceramic and glass liquid containers rather than throw away cups

Organize the purchase of post consumer waste copy paper

Organize recycling of all office waste paper

Instead of buying packaging peanuts consider using your shredded waste paper

Recycle all cardboard and paperboard

Print using both sides of paper

Reuse items like envelopes, folders and paper clips

Use mailer sheets for interoffice mail instead of envelopes

Use a bulletin board notice rather than send individual notices to each employee

Use email instead of paper

Use sustainable furniture

For lunch bring your own in reusable containers and cups

Recycle all aluminum cans

Recycle ink and toner cartridges

Purchase refilled ink cartridges and laser toner cartridges

Use discarded paper for scrap paper

Encourage the use of printing using soy-based, less toxic ink

Get soy based ink toner cartridges at [www.greenoffice.com](http://www.greenoffice.com)

Reuse packaging peanuts

If you get too many peanuts to reuse, collect them and give them to a business that will use them

For every 30 or so employees designate a recycling coordinator

If the place where you buy paper does not have 100% post consumer waste recycled paper, request it

When having an event catered, choose someone who can provide organic and local choices

When serving food at group events, use regular plates and utensils instead of plastic or paper.

## Education (2)

Organize seminars on recycling and other environmental habits

Publicize the recycling program through company emails, memos and newsletters

## Yard/Garden (2)

Put any landscaping watering on a computerized schedule with sensors to save maximum water

Compost mowed grass, dead leaves and small branches

# Farm

## Transportation (3)

Consider using 100% biodiesel in farm vehicles

Support the most local markets for distributing farm products

Save the pickup trucks for hauling, use more energy efficient vehicles for other trips

## Heating/Cooling (1)

Use passive solar energy systems to heat space and water

## Electrical Use (6)

Produce your own electricity with methane from animals

Use flowing water to generate electricity

Use small wind turbines to generate electricity or pump water

Use solar energy to dry crops and for wood kilns

Replace incandescent lights with compact fluorescents wherever possible

Use LED lighting was much as possible

## Water Use (1)

Use water conserving drip irrigation systems

## Consumption (1)

Use soil samples to keep from over fertilizing soil

## Education (1)

Read and act on all conservation bulletins

## Yard/Garden/Field (7)

Switch to low till or no till practices

Plant more winter cover crops

Improve the soil by returning all organic waste to the soil

- Plant more grasses and trees along waterways
- Switch to organic farming methods
- Compost mowed grass, dead leaves and small branches
- Market garden produce directly to local consumers
- Offer a program of work share where consumers trade labor for part of the harvest (CSA's)

## **School**

### Transportation (2)

- Support carpooling to school events
- Support alternative fuels like natural gas in school buses

### Heating/Cooling (2)

- Use passive solar energy systems to heat space and water
- Programmable thermostats to control temperature more efficiently

### Electrical Use (6)

- Use small wind turbines to generate electricity or pump water
- Turn off classroom lighting when classes are not in session
- Use natural lighting in classrooms when possible
- Replace incandescent lights with compact fluorescents wherever possible
- Use LED lighting as much as possible
- In dorm rooms, choose energy efficient appliances like smaller tv's

### Water Use (2)

- Quickly repair all leaky faucets
- Install auto shutoff faucets in bathrooms

### Consumption (13)

- Reuse back sides of used paper
- Recycle all school paper waste
- Organize the buying of recycled fiber toilet paper
- Organize the purchase of post consumer waste copy paper
- Print using both sides of paper
- User recycled notebook paper
- If the place where you buy paper does not have 100% post consumer waste recycled paper, request it
- Reuse items like envelopes, folders and paper clips
- Use a bulletin board notice rather than send individual notices to each student
- Use email instead of paper
- User recycled paper
- Use discarded paper for scrap paper
- Encourage the use of printing using soy-based, less toxic ink

### Education (7)

- Add recycling curriculum
- Add climate change curriculum
- Add eco-system curriculum
- Teach students and faculty how to recycle
- Consider a career in the recycling field
- Consider a career in energy efficiency work
- Consider a career in renewable energy

### Yard/Garden/Field (4)

- Have a school organic garden to teach and provide food for the school
- Compost waste from the school cafeteria
- Compost mowed grass, dead leaves and small branches
- Put any landscaping watering on a computerized schedule with sensors to save maximum water

### Recreation (2)

- Teach nature appreciation classes
- Organize field trips to learn about the natural world

## **Church**

### Transportation (3)

- Organize carpooling to church events
- Purchase the most fuel efficient church vehicles
- Keep vehicles well maintained and correct tire pressure

### Heating/Cooling (1)

- Programmable thermostats to control temperature more efficiently

### Electrical Use (2)

Install compact fluorescents to replace incandescents wherever possible  
Switch to LED lighting

## Water Use (2)

Consider a church policy of not purchasing bottled water  
Quickly repair all leaky faucets

## Consumption (15)

Organize the buying of recycled fiber toilet paper  
Use ceramic and glass liquid containers rather than throw away cups  
Organize the purchase of post consumer waste copy paper  
Organize recycling of all waste paper  
Recycle all cardboard and paperboard  
Print using both sides of paper  
If the place where you buy paper does not have 100% post consumer waste recycled paper, request it  
Reuse items like envelopes, folders and paper clips  
Use email instead of paper  
Recycle all aluminum cans  
Recycle ink cartridges  
Use discarded paper for scrap paper  
Encourage the use of printing using soy-based, less toxic ink  
Reuse packaging peanuts  
If you get too many peanuts to reuse, collect them and give them to a business that will use them

## Education (2)

Eco-tips and environmental articles in newsletter and bulletin  
Request sermons and Sunday school lessons on Earth stewardship

## Yard/Garden/Field (3)

Put any landscaping watering on a computerized schedule with sensors to save maximum water  
Convert some of the church grounds to an organic garden  
Compost mowed grass, dead leaves and small branches

# Community

## General (10)

Help pass legislation to reduce greenhouse gasses at least 80% by 2050  
Help get your city to pass the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement  
Encourage the city government to put an environmental expert in climate change on staff to advise all city departments on ways to reduce carbon emissions.  
Purchase carbon emission credits that fund alternative energy development  
Write to candidates for public office and urge them to take action to combat global warming  
Vote for climate friendly politicians  
Write to a local official about an environmental issue at least three times a year  
When you see a business doing something wasteful, talk to the management about correcting it  
Promote the use of the local hazardous waste facility

## Transportation (8)

Purchase only hybrid and super ultra low emission vehicles  
Promote the creation of high density developments that reduce vehicle trips  
Create parking for car share and multi-passenger vehicles  
Talk to your local car dealerships about your desire to have 100+mpg plug in hybrids available  
Promote electric car charging stations and alternative fuel stations  
Support government purchasing of plug-in hybrids  
Demand better mass transit solutions  
Purchase electric cars

## Heating/Cooling (4)

Require energy efficiency in design of new buildings  
Support zero-emissions new buildings  
Encourage on-site renewable energy development  
Programmable thermostats to control temperature more efficiently in all public buildings

## Electrical Use (11)

Install energy efficient lights in public buildings  
Use LED traffic signals  
Use high pressure sodium street lights  
Require energy efficiency standards in appliances  
Require energy efficiency standards in office equipment  
Require energy efficiency standards in lighting

- Explore generating electricity through methane recovery at water treatment facilities
- See if there are ordinances that inhibit renewable energy use and get them removed.
- Close down any local coal fired power plants
- Write to your bank and urge them not to fund proposed new coal plants
- See if the municipal landfill is designed where methane gas could be used for power generation

## Water Use (2)

- Require water reuse systems
- Encourage solar water heating

## Consumption (9)

- Encourage expansion of recycling programs
- Promote charging trash pickup based on poundage
- Shop at the greenest stores for durable goods
- Shop at the greenest grocery store
- At the dry cleaner, bring your own garment bag when picking up your clothes
- Use a green dry cleaner that doesn't use harmful chemicals
- Promote community recycling drop off centers
- Support creating a recycling station at the entrance to the municipal landfill
- Participate in recycling drives by non-profits like the Boy Scouts or Lions Club

## Education (6)

- Keep track of candidates and elected officials environmental positions
- Support efforts to create a greenhouse gas emissions inventory for the community
- Join and take part in a local environmental organization
- Talk with local officials about creating a community energy plan
- Make sure local elected officials are educated about climate change and solutions
- Make sure local elected officials are aware of deep commitment to find local solutions to warming.

## Yard/Garden (5)

- Plant trees with a city beautification project
- At city landfills, develop methane recovery technology
- At city landfills, support a composting operation
- Promote and participate in community gardens
- Support and protect existing green spaces

## Recreation (3)

- Support walking trails
- Support sidewalks
- Support bicycle paths and routes

# State

## General (5)

- Help pass legislation to reduce greenhouse gasses at least 80% by 2050
- Require city governments to include greenhouse gas reduction when updating their general plans
- Remove sales tax for production or purchase of renewable energy equipment
- Support states joining other regional states in greenhouse gas reduction programs
- Write to candidates for public office and urge them to take action to combat global warming

## Transportation (2)

- Support government purchasing of plug-in hybrids
- Support government purchase of electric cars

## Heating/Cooling (4)

- Support zero-emissions new buildings
- Support stringent building efficiency standards
- Support government implementation of high efficiency new government buildings
- Programmable thermostats to control temperature more efficiently in all state buildings

## Electrical Use (3)

- See if there are state laws that inhibit renewable energy use and get them removed.
- Close down any state coal fired power plants
- Support a moratorium on new coal power plants that do not sequester carbon

## Water Use (1)

- Support municipal water systems and funding for their maintenance

## Consumption (1)

- Write to state representatives to support legislation that support recycling and packaging reduction

## Education (2)

- Keep track of candidates and elected officials environmental positions

Support efforts to create a greenhouse gas emissions inventory for the state

### Yard/Garden (3)

Plant trees with a conservation group

Support state plans for planting more trees – twice as many.

Support existing forests

## Nation

### General (13)

Urge your senators and representatives to support the strongest legislation for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Support physical limit of CO<sub>2</sub> for all large fossil fuel users with the cap declining to 0 before 2050.

Support eliminating subsidies and tax breaks for fossil fuels and nuclear power.

Have federal contracts give an advantage to early adopters of CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction.

Create a standing committee on Energy and Climate under the US Environmental Protection Agency

Write to candidates for public office and urge them to take action to combat global warming

Support a strong replacement to the Kyoto protocol

Sign petitions to stop off shore oil drilling

Join Earthjustice as they supply free legal council to halt global warming. [www.earthjustice.org](http://www.earthjustice.org)

Join Environmental Defense – receive monthly newsletter

Join Sierra Club and read their publications

Join Nature Conservancy and read their magazine

Vote for the candidates with the best environmental records and positions

### Transportation (8)

Support regulations that promote zero emission vehicles

Support stricter emission standards

Support the production of non-crop biofuels

Support eliminating subsidies for biofuels from food crops

Support higher fuel efficiency standards

Support research into microalgae for liquid fuel production

Support government purchasing of plug-in hybrids

Support government purchasing of electric cars

### Heating/Cooling (4)

Support stringent building efficiency standards

Support zero emission new buildings

Support government implementation of high efficiency new government buildings

Support removal of policies that inhibit renewable energy use.

### Electrical Use (7)

Support adding 3 million 1-megawatt wind generators

Support adding 2,000 gigawatt-peak solar photovoltaic units

Work toward a ban on new coal fired power plants that do not have CO<sub>2</sub> sequestering

Work toward getting older, dirtier coal plants decommissioned.

Support substituting natural gas power generation over coal generation in the short term

Support demonstration plants for solar thermal and photovoltaic technologies

Support higher energy efficiency standards for appliances

### Water Use (1)

Support enforcement of the Clean Water Act

### Consumption (1)

Support manufacturing standards that make products more easily recyclable

### Education (1)

Keep track of candidates and elected officials environmental positions

### Yard/Garden/Farm (3)

Support federal plans for planting more trees – twice as many.

Protect existing forests.

Support Farm Aid

### Recreation (2)

Protect wilderness areas

Support funding for developing nature appreciation programs

## Global

### General (1)

Support the strongest possible agreement at the next global climate conference

### Transportation (1)

Work toward increasing fuel economy from 30mpg to 60mpg

## Heating/Cooling

### Electrical Use (1)

Support technology transfer that promotes renewable electricity generation

### Water Use (2)

Support international agreements to improve water quality

Support international agreements to conserve water resources

### Consumption (1)

Support a cultural shift to move away from throw away mentality

### Education (4)

Take part in Earth Day (April 22) Celebrations

Join Stop Global Warming Virtual Walk

Use email to share carbon reducing ideas with people around the world

Take part in World Environment Day activities (June 5)

### Yard/Garden (1)

Support global plans for planting more trees – twice as many.

### Recreation (4)

Support a shift to ecotourism

Support taking advantage of recreation that involves shorter travel

Support forest preservation

Purchase land through organizations that are setting forests aside from development. An acre costs as little as \$100

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