

General:

Use a nontoxic, natural bug spray

Buying low- or no-VOC paint

Green credit card every purchase triggers a donation to an environmental nonprofit

Change one incandescent light bulb to an ENERGY STAR® qualified bulb

Wrap gifts in recycled or reused wrapping paper or funny papers- give gifts that don't require much packaging, such as concert tickets or gift certificates

Create-your-own-decorations party

Buy Rechargeable Batteries

Have a Green Thanksgiving

- Use homemade decorations
- Carry reusable bags
- Use cloth napkins
- Open up windows to help cool down the house instead of turning on the A/C.
- Share leftovers with guests -give doggie bags
- Seek out locally grown goods
- Shop online on Black Friday in the comfort of your home.
- A six-pack of recycled aluminum cans saves enough energy to drive a car 5 miles.
- Recycle one glass bottle saves enough energy to light a 100-watt light bulb for 4 hours.
- Recycle a one-gallon plastic milk jug will save enough energy to keep a 100-watt bulb burning for 11 hours.
- Recycle a one-foot high stack of newspapers saves enough electricity to heat a home for 17 hours.

Have a Green Halloween

- Use pillow cases or cloth bags instead of paper bags for collecting candy
- Buy candy that uses the least amount of packaging
- Buy disposable items that have recycled content
- Use a community compost pile in your area
- Use Halloween decorations again next year to save money as well as landfill space.
- Urge children to dispose of their candy wrappers in their bags or in trash cans rather than on the street.

Cellular Phones and other devices often contain lead and mercury, it is important to properly dispose of them.

Choose a reusable shopping bag instead of paper or plastic

HOME:

- Install compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs, one-fourth the operating cost and one-fourth the heat output
- Make Your Fridge More Efficient - a new ENERGY STAR qualified refrigerator uses about 40 percent less energy
 - Set your refrigerator temperature to 37-40 degrees
 - Clean a refrigerator's coils every six months
 - Keep a full refrigerator
- Maintain Your A/C
 - Be sure to clean and maintain your air filters – incr. efficiency by 5 to 15%.
- Green Your Swimming Pool

- - Use natural alternatives to pool chemicals.
- - Cover your pool - it keeps both water and heat from evaporating at dramatic rates and it helps keep pool chemicals, if you use them, from polluting the air.
- - Landscape close to your pool - water plants from water that splashes out
- - Add trees and shrubs close to the pool, which will create a wind break that decreases water evaporation - not blocking the sun on the pool, which creates natural solar energy.
- Be a fan-atic
- Buy Local - Your food will be fresher, taste better and the air will be cleaner
- April is Water Conservation Month -
- - **Repair leaky fixtures.** One drop per second from a leaky faucet can waste as much as 10 gallons of water each week

Install low-flow showerheads, faucets and toilets - the cost of heating water by as much as 50 percent - using a low-flow toilet can save Americans 2.1 trillion gallons of water and \$11.3 million nationwide every day.

Turn the water off. Don't allow the water to run when brushing your teeth. This can waste two gallons of water per brushing

Green Spring Cleaning - Many common household cleaners contain toxic solvents, fragrances, disinfectants, and other ingredients that can pollute the air and cause respiratory, skin, and other reactions.

- Use a Reel or Electric Mower - You can save gas, save money and reduce noise and air pollution.
- - More fuel is spilled while refueling lawn equipment
- - Using an electric mower, you'll pay about \$5 per year for the electricity costs.
- - gas-powered lawnmowers account for up to 5% of US air pollution.
- - reel mowers and electric mowers which make just a tenth of the amount of noise as gas-powered ones
- Buy Recycled Paper Towels - save: 1.4 million trees, 3.7 million cubic feet of landfill space, and 526 million gallons of water, and prevent 89,400 pounds of pollution
- Pack a Waste-free Lunch - Buy in bulk, not single-serving packages
- - Prepare eco-friendly lunch in a long-lasting reusable bag or box with reusable utensils and a cloth napkin

- - Just Say No To Bottled Water - Invest in a filter for your faucet or a filtered pitcher to go in the refrigerator - fill up a reusable neoprene or stainless steel bottle
- Donate or Sell Your Old Electronics - Donate your old computer to a school even if not working they have technician that can refurbish them
- Video games and video game equipment can be sold to many electronics dealers. Another option is to donate old video games to youth charities.
- Call your local county or city services to see if they accept donations, or if they recycle cell phones
- Now You're Cookin' - They say a watched pot never boils, but a covered one boils extra quickly, saving cooking time--and energy. Using smaller appliances, like a microwave, toaster oven, rice cooker, or crock pot when appropriate to the task; choosing the right size pan and burner for meals prepared on the stove; and keeping the oven door closed while baking are other great ways to conserve energy in the kitchen. It also doesn't take as much energy to reheat food as it does to cook it in the first place, so make enough for leftovers.
- Reuse everything - think twice before throwing anything out
- "Green" Pet Owning - Find a Local Vet; Investigate Healthy Food Alternatives; Recycle Food Containers; Make Waste Disposal Environmentally Friendly; Buy Your Pet Sustainable Toys- made from recycled soda bottles.
- Grasscycling - the natural practice of leaving clippings on the lawn when mowing. The clippings quickly decompose returning nutrients to the soil. Grasscycling can reduce water and fertilizer requirements, mowing time and disposal costs.
- - Laundry Tips - Wash clothes in cold water and use cold-water detergents whenever possible.
- -Dry towels and heavier cottons in a separate load from lighter-weight clothes.
- -Clean the lint filter in the dryer after every load to improve air circulation.
- -Look for the ENERGY STAR® and EnergyGuide labels. ENERGY STAR qualified clothes washers use 50 percent less energy than standard washers.
- -Use environmentally-friendly or "green" cleaners to replace traditional products, which can contain hazardous materials.
- - Household Hazardous Waste - Americans generate 1.6 million tons of household hazardous waste per year. The average home can accumulate as much

as 100 pounds of household hazardous waste in the basement or garage and in
ts. When improperly disposed of, household hazardous waste can create a
potential risk to people and the environment

- - Slow the Flow - In a typical household, four people use approximately 9,000 gallons per month or 108,000 gallons per year
 - Greenscaping - When organic wastes, such as leaves, grass clippings, food waste, and paper are recycled, we reduce the generation of methane gas in landfills. Almost 60 percent of the municipal solid waste produced in the United States (including paper) is compostable material. Second only to fossil-fuel combustion, landfills are a leading source of greenhouse gases. In 2005, 79 million tons of waste material was diverted away from disposal through recycling and composting.
 - Everyday Energy Saver - Programmable thermostats automatically adjust your home's temperature settings, allowing you to save energy while you're away or sleeping.
 - Fix a Leak! - Leaky toilet flappers, faucets, and other valves are easy to fix and usually require only a few tools and hardware

Office

Print Smarter - print on both sides or use the back side of old documents

Recycle Toner and Ink - Recycle toner and ink cartridges and buy remanufactured ones

Turn off your screen saver - using a computer's "sleep mode" reduces its energy consumption by 60 to 70 percent.

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Paper Waste - Recycling of each ton of paper saves 17 trees and 7000 gallons of water. Recycled paper also saves 60 percent energy in comparison to new paper and generates 95 percent less air pollution. Since one-fifth of all wood harvested in the world ends up in paper it just makes sense to recycle and conserve this valuable resource

Go Paperless -

Travel - Attend a National Marina Day Event

No-Idle Zone - This pollution contains a nasty mix of small particles and chemicals that are considered "hazardous." Exposure to car exhaust increases the risk of heart and lung problems.

- Idling consumes ½ to 1 gallon of gas per hour.
- Excessive idling causes your engine's components, including cylinders and spark plugs, to wear prematurely.
- Children's asthma symptoms increase as a result of car exhaust.

Leave No Trace - how to reduce their impacts when they hike, camp, picnic, snowshoe, run, bike, hunt, paddle, ride horses, fish, ski or climb. The program strives to educate all those who enjoy the outdoors about the nature of their recreational impacts as well as techniques to prevent and minimize such impacts. The Seven Principles of Leave No Trace are 1- Plan Ahead and Prepare; 2-Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces; 3-Dispose of Waste Properly; 4-Leave What You Find; 5-Minimize Campfire Impacts; 6-Respect Wildlife; and 7-Be Considerate of Other Visitors.

Pumpout - Boaters add to the pollution problem when they fail to dispose of boat sewage properly

The Great Green Get Away - locate *Green Lodging* properties and Florida state parks close to home

Clean Boating - adopting environmentally friendly practices such as proper trash management, using bilge socks and fueling collars as well as practicing recycling habits

Green Travel - Designated properties have implemented a variety of environmentally friendly practices, such as: installation of low flow plumbing fixtures, linen and towel reuse programs, installation of ENERGY STAR® appliances and programmable thermostats, recycling in guest and staff areas, bulk and recycled content purchasing, use of green cleaners and use of high efficiency air filters

Check Traffic - Crawling traffic can contribute eight times as much air pollution as traffic moving at regular highway speeds - learn about traffic, road closures and construction for locations and roadways throughout the state

Gas Saving Tips

Keep tires properly inflated. This reduces tread wear and conserves fuel. When tire pressure is low it creates more rolling resistance for the car and requires more gas to push the car along.

Don't idle. It is estimated one minute of sitting in neutral or park uses the same amount of gas consumed as when you start your engine. When possible turn off your engine.

Don't overfill. Most new cars have an automatic 'stop' when the tank is full. Adding a few extra squirts to reach an even amount on the price readout or to 'top it off' is just wasting fuel.

Recycle Motor Oil - Never put motor oil in the trash or pour it on the ground or into a storm drain. Motor oil can be 100 percent recycled. Many oil change centers and auto part stores will take your oil hassle free

Drive Less, Drive Smart

One of the biggest contributors to air pollution is vehicle exhaust - It is estimated that one billion gallons of gasoline could be prevented from entering our air if everyone biked to work or the store just once every two weeks.

Slow down - engines are designed to operate most efficiently at the speed limit. Driving the car 75mph instead of 65mph increases your fuel consumption by 20%. Slow down to enjoy the ride and the cost savings.