

Things we can do as individuals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Replace incandescent light bulbs

with compact fluorescent lights (CFLs). A replacement CFL for a single 60 W conventional bulb will save \$26 or more in electricity costs over the life of the CFL and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 580 pounds of carbon dioxide. CFLs also last up to 10 times longer and generate 70 percent less heat.

Reduce your driving by 15 miles a week (by riding the bus, biking, walking or carpooling) and eliminate 900 pounds of carbon dioxide per year.

If remodeling or building a new home, consider solar water heating and ground source heat pumps for heating/air conditioning.

Buy locally-produced food, preferably locally-produced organic food. It is even better to grow your own vegetables and spices.

Purchase energy efficient EnergyStar™ appliances (refrigerators, washers/dryers, dishwashers, etc.) and reduce your use of electricity.

Turn off lights when they're not needed, turn off computers when they're not being used and unplug chargers for cell phones and other devices when they're not in use (they consume electricity even when you're not charging).

Turn your thermostat up 3 degrees in hot weather and turn it down 3 degrees in cold weather. Contact your utility company about installing a programmable thermostat (it may be free).

Reduce lawn mowing by planting ground cover, flowers, native grasses and rain gardens.

Recycle aluminum, metal cans, plastic and paper from your home through the City's curbside collection program.

Regular oil changes and properly inflated tires increase your miles per gallon.

Contact your local utility company regarding an energy audit of your home - it may be free or very low cost and it can identify opportunities to save energy, increase the comfort of your home and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Drive fuel-efficient vehicles that save money by reducing fuel consumption.

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