



REDUCING YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT



Tips for Reducing Waste in Your Home & Neighborhood

Here are some easy ways to do your part to reduce solid waste in your home!



1. Recycle!

Get recycling guidelines from our local solid waste carrier, Allied Waste of San Mateo County (592-2411) and make sure you're recycling all you can.

2. Reduce unnecessary packaging by:

bringing your own reusable cloth bags when shopping, buying in bulk, selecting items with less packaging and buying reusable items.

3. Reduce junk mail

by writing to:
Mail Preference Service
Direct Marketing Assoc.
PO Box 9008
Farmington, NY 11735
www.dmchoice.org

Request that your name and address be removed from all 3rd class mailing lists.

10 Things You Can Do At Home to Reduce Carbon Emissions

1. Change a Light

Replacing one regular light bulb with a compact fluorescent light bulb will save 150 pounds of carbon dioxide a year.

2. 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 by yourself.

3. Recycle More

You can save 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide per year by recycling just half of your household waste.

4. 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.

5. Use Less Hot Water

It takes a lot of energy to heat water. Use less hot water by installing a low-flow showerhead (reducing carbon dioxide output by 350 pounds per year) and washing your clothes in cold or warm water (reducing carbon dioxide output by 500 pounds per year).

6. Avoid Products With a Lot of Packaging

You can save 1,200 pounds of carbon dioxide if you cut down your garbage by just 10%

7. Adjust Your Thermostat

Moving your thermostat down just 2 degrees in winter and up 2 degrees in summer saves about 2,000 pounds of carbon dioxide a year.

8. Plant a Tree

A single tree will absorb one ton of carbon dioxide over its lifetime.

9. Turn off electronic devices

Simply turning off your television, DVD player, stereo, and computer when you're not using them can save you thousands of pounds of carbon dioxide per year.

10. Tell Others How to Reduce Energy Use and Carbon Dioxide Emissions!

Energy Fact

The average American generates about 15,000 pounds of carbon dioxide every year from personal transportation, home energy use, and from the energy used to produce all of the products and services we consume. Use these tips & see how many pounds you can lose!



Four Easy Steps to Wise Water Use in Your Home

Great Sources For Energy Savings:

1. Calculate your CO₂ emissions at www.cool-it.us
2. Learn more about recycling at www.recycleworks.org
3. Have a healthy green home at www.simplesteps.org
4. Learn to protect our planet at www.earth911.org
5. Find more ways to save energy at www.pge.com
6. Start an Earth Hour in your community at www.earthhour.org
7. Learn about what companies are doing to go green at www.climateatbay.net
8. Learn lots of ways to conserve water at www.h2ouse.org & www.redwoodcity.org/conservation

Redwood City offers so many ways to save water - here's what we consider the top four steps, that you can accomplish with your free SMART Home Water Conservation Kit. Call 780-7436 to get your free kit.

1. Check for Plumbing Leaks

Most faucet leaks are visible as drips coming out of the aerator. However, many silent leaks, especially those in the toilet, cause water and your money to go down the drain. Studies demonstrate that you can **waste nearly 14 percent of your water use due to leaking**, a cost to both you and to the environment. Remember, every drop counts!

2. Measure Shower & Faucet Flow-Rates

Save water and energy

by installing a new showerhead. If you have a high-flow showerhead you could be using 3-5 gallons per minute (GPM). A showerhead flow restrictors only uses a little over 2 GPM.

3. Replace Faucet Aerators in Bathrooms & Kitchen

The free conservation kit we provide includes one kitchen faucet aerator and one bathroom faucet aerator. Both are rated at 1.5 GPM. Additional aerators are available to Redwood City customers. If you would like us to mail you one or for additional information, call us at 780-7436. They are easy to replace and save you water and money!

4. Determine The Number of Gallons

Per Flush/Per Toilet

The most important thing you can do to improve toilet efficiency is to replace your old water-wasting toilet with a new efficient model. Toilets made before 1992 use anywhere from 3.5 gallons per flush (GPF) to five GPF. If your toilet was built between 1981 and 1992, then it's likely a 3.5 GPF toilet; and if its manufacture date is 1992 to the present, it should be a 1.6 GPF and is already water-efficient.

The City has a toilet replacement/rebate program that will help you to save water every time you flush! Call 780-7436 for more information.



*See our climate control protection
web pages for more
information and ideas:
www.redwoodcitycool.wetpaint.com
www.redwoodcity.org/coolcity*