



PRESENTED BY THE CLOSTER ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

We have all thought about our environment and the many things that can affect it. We have even taken steps to help. We recycle our newspapers, cans and glass, sometimes those plastic bottles and even a plastic bag or two. All these things help, and even better, when we can do recycling and it costs little or nothing to do. Did you know that there are many other things that you and I can do that will have an impact on our immediate environment and if enough people contribute, can have a real effect on a national scale? These aren't hard or difficult tasks and even if you don't work on it every day, you can still have an impact. The key is to reduce the pollutants commonly referred to as "greenhouse gas emissions". Arguably one of the biggest offenders is the man made production of CO2 gases.

Better yet, some of these steps only require a single effort to keep producing a steady stream of reduced CO2 production. It isn't always necessary to think sacrifice, it is better to think smart. Sacrifice does tend to wear you down after a while making it very difficult to continue over long periods of time. So lets' look at some of the easier things to do and some of those one time changes that can keep paying back results time after time.

ACTION	CO2 SAVED IN ONE YEAR	OTHER SAVINGS
Replace a 60 watt bulb and a 75 watt bulb with a 13 and 19 watt florescent bulbs	300 pounds	Lower electrical costs
Turn off the computer screen saver after 10 minutes instead of 3 hours	250 pounds	Lower electrical usage
Cancel printed catalogs from unused venders - 10 companies	154 pounds	Save 1/2 of a tree
Stop rinsing dishes before putting them in the dishwasher	200 pounds	Save 800 gallons of water
Only run your dishwasher when it I full and use energy saver setting	100 pounds	Save on electric costs
Lower the thermostat at night 1 degree (winter) raise one degree summer	1000 pounds	Lower heating and cooling bills

Lower the thermostat at night 2 degree (winter) raise one degree summer	2000 pounds	Lower heating and cooling bills
Laundry whites using a warm/ cold setting instead of warm/ warm	62 pounds	Lower energy costs for hot water
Caulking your windows and weather stripping exterior and garage doors	1700 pounds	Lower heating and cooling bills
Replace furnace and air conditioning filters before they become filled	350 pounds	Lower gas and electric expense
Plant a tree (CO2 reduction during trees lifespan)	2,000 pounds	Shade reduces a/c needs
Reduce or share car use (saving for reducing by 10 mi. a week - 520 mi.)	520 pounds	Reduced gas bill
Check your cars tire pressure every month	200 pounds	Up to 3% better gas mileage
Install a low flow shower head	350 pounds	Reduced water bill and lower hot water costs
Place an insulating blanket on your hot water heater	1,000 pounds	Lower heating costs
Carpool to school or work- average savings per person	1,590 pounds	Extended vehicle life, higher resale value
Downsize your next vehicle (savings per car/ truck/ SUV)	2,500 pounds	Reduced gas expense
Reduce your 8 minute shower to 5 minutes	513 pounds	Lower water and heating costs

Over the years there have been many theories, pronouncement and statements issued by scientist and statesmen concerning global warming. Some have not stood the test of time and evidence and many have. There is however one simple truth about **global temperatures** that is irrefutable- **“The ten warmest years in the past 150 years have all been since 1990.”**

According to the United States Department of Environmental Protection *“Currently, the US recycles about 30 percent of its waste—equivalent to removing nearly 25 million cars from the road. Increasing this percentage to just 35 percent would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by an additional 10 million metric tons of carbon equivalent.”*