

Significant Steps to Reduce Energy Use

To reduce our greenhouse gas emissions by 35% it is useful to have a list of major household actions that reduce carbon dioxide CO2 emissions.

CLICK EACH CATEGORY, BELOW, TO SEE MORE INFORMATION

AREA OF ENERGY USE	HIGH-IMPACT ACTIONS	Percent of Overall Energy Reduction*
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>TRANSPORTATION</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Drive 2000 miles less/year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Take a bus, walk or bike. * Carpool to work, church, meetings. * Drive high MPG vehicle. * Fly 3000 miles less/year. 	up to 22%
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>SWITCH TO SOLAR</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Install a 3000- or 4000-Watt PV system. * Install a solar attic fan &/or water heater. 	up to 13.8%
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>THERMOSTATS, HVAC</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Install -and use- a programmable thermostat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Set back thermostat 2° F both winter & summer. * Set back thermostat even more when away & at night. * Have HVAC system professionally serviced 2x/year. * Shut off heat to a room in winter. * Replace furnace with high-efficiency model/type. 	up to 11%
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>BUY LESS STUFF</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Reduce your purchase of new clothing, furnishings. * Use <i>reusable</i> bottles (cold/hot) and shopping bags. * Reduce residential remodeling. 	up to 8%
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>WATER/WATER HEATERS</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Reduce showers to under 5 minutes. * Set water heater to 120° F. * Insulate hot-water supply pipes. * Install faucet/shower flow restrictors. * Switch from electric to gas water heater. * Switch to an on-demand water heater. 	up to 6%
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>LAUNDRY</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Air-dry clothes year-round. * Wash full loads, using cold water. 	up to 5.7%
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>SEAL & INSULATE</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Increase attic insulation to 14", sealing gaps. * Seal air leaks at windows, doors, fireplace. * Seal warm air ducts, add wall insulation. 	up to 4.5%
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>FOOD</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Eliminate meat at least 2x/week. * Plan menus and shop to waste less food. * Eat a mostly vegetarian or vegan diet. 	up to 3.5%
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>APPLIANCES, LIGHTING</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Replace all remaining incandescent light bulbs. * Install motion sensors on exhaust fans. * Replace inefficient pre-1993 refrigerator & dishwasher. * Reduce need to mow lawns: plant bushes/trees! 	up to 2.8%

*Percentages saved depend on how many of the suggested actions a household takes.