

Help Save our Planet, Fight Global Warming

The burning of oil, coal, gas and forests is fueling dangerous global warming by increasing the amount of heat-trapping "greenhouse gases" like carbon dioxide within our atmosphere.

If we fail to control greenhouse gas levels, scientists predict that rapid global warming will increasingly trigger:

- 1) Severe fresh water shortages and droughts
- 2) Crop failures, food shortages and famine
- 3) Rising sea levels and severe flooding
- 4) Damaging storms, heat waves and smog
- 5) Growing pest, disease and wildfire outbreaks
- 6) Extinction of many animals and plants

The average Canadian produces three times as much carbon dioxide as the average Swede and 25 times the average Pakistani.

10 Steps to Reduce Pollution and Global Warming and Save Money

1. Reduce Energy Use

Use energy efficient lights and appliances ★ Turn-off lights, computers, TV, appliances ★ Program your thermostat to reduce heating and air conditioning costs ★ Air dry laundry ★ Upgrade your insulation ★ Get an energy audit ★

2. Support Green Power

Purchase electricity from renewable sources (solar, wind) ★ Install a smart energy metre ★ Use solar panels ★ Join a green power co op ★

3. Drive Less

Walk, ride a bike, or take transit ★ Car pool and plan for fewer trips ★ Buy hybrid or fuel efficient cars ★

4. Eat Local and Healthy

Eat more vegetarian meals ★ grow food in your backyard ★ Eat local and/or organic food ★ Try the "100 mile diet" ★

5. Help Mother Nature

Plant native trees and wildflowers ★ Use a rain barrel to conserve water ★ Don't pave your greenspace ★ Pick up Litter ★

6. Live Local

Live, work, shop and play within your neighbourhood ★ Use tele-commuting and planning to reduce trips ★ Take vacations which require less airline travel ★

7. Waste Not

Avoid over packaged goods and plastic bags ★ Choose durable products over disposable ★ Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Compost ★

8. Buy Less, Buy Green

Consume less ★ Buy environmentally friendly products ★ Look for eco labels ★ Invest responsibly ★

9. Prevent Pollution

Avoid using pesticides and toxic chemicals ★ Safely dispose of hazardous materials at recycling centres ★ Avoid dry cleaning ★

10. Support Environmental and Social Justice

Donate and Volunteer to improve your environment and community ★ Encourage environmental and social leadership ★

Text adapted from www.weconserve.ca Conservation Council of Ontario

LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT YOU CAN DO!

Conservation Council of Ontario - www.weconserve.ca

Green Saver - www.greensaver.org

World Wildlife Fund - www.wwf.org

Community Go Green - www.gogreenontario.ca

EcoAction - www.ecoaction.gc.ca

United Nations on climate change - www.unfccc.int

Green Peace - www.greenpeace.org

Bull Frog Power - www.bullfrogpower.com



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