

Scarlet Fletcher

Writing

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14 Ways to minimise your carbon footprint

Want to be a model citizen, do your bit for the environment and reduce your carbon footprint? Having drastic needs to change, take this charge here and there and it'll be beneficial for your finances, and of course the environment.

Take a shower

If you're prone to a long soapy bath, change your mindset and have a shower instead. Bathing uses a tonne of water and energy - it should be a luxury, certainly not an everyday occurrence.







Unplug all devices when not in use

Charging devices when not needed wastes plenty of electricity - not to mention it can ruin your device too.

Use the top shelf of the oven

The heat gets emitted from the bottom and rises to the top - the top of an oven therefore retains plenty of heat.







Use the cold tap, not hot!

A lot of energy goes towards heating water, so if there's no need for hot water, switch on the cold tap instead.

Forget about desktop PCs

Desktop PCs are still affordable, a laptop should be perfect for your requirements, and it uses up to 80% less energy whilst in operation. And as soon as it is not functional any more you can send it for waste recycling.






Purchase in-season produce

Again, this will reduce the amount of food getting shipped and transported across the world to be on your plate.

CFL bulbs are the way to go

Choose compact fluorescent bulbs for a longer-lasting lightbulb. They last for 10 times longer than regular bulbs and use far less energy. When it comes to saving electricity they are some 75% better.







Buy local ingredients

Support local produce. To support local farmers, but buying local also reduces transport costs and getting the food to your area in the first place.

Get planting

Plant a tree and it'll mop up carbon dioxide and provide oxygen - one of the easiest ways of doing your bit for the environment. Use its leaves to make a compost pile instead of bothering with garden waste clearance.







Always choose energy efficient appliances

The most obvious - they're clearly energy efficient for a reason. To always go with the highest of possible.

Public transport services

Consider your travel arrangements. Public transport is not only the most eco-friendly way to travel, but it's also the most cost-effective. It's usually no trouble to get on a train, bus, or tram.







Driving

If driving is an absolute necessity, carpool or drive hybrid - these little things can make a whole lot of difference.

Zap your food in the microwave

It may not have the same effect of heating food on the stove, but it definitely saves energy. (Right?)





Get your news online

There's something comforting about rifling through a paper full of news with information and you'll be saving plenty of trees, printing costs and paper waste removal costs.

It's not difficult
Reducing your carbon footprint is in actual fact really straightforward. Change some of your habits - some minor modifications - and you'll be well on your way to becoming an eco-friendly warrior.

Infographic created by
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