

MAKE YOUR IMPACT



1 EVALUATE YOUR POTENTIAL

- ☐ Complete an online Carbon Footprint Calculator, such as the simple one available at [Conservation.org/carbon-footprint-calculator](https://www.conservation.org/carbon-footprint-calculator)

What is your carbon footprint? _____ tons

- ☐ Request a free home energy audit from your electricity provider, or complete your own audit using an online resource such as www.energystar.gov/campaign/assessYourHome

What top 3 improvements will you consider based on your assessment?

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

- ☐ Search your address at Google's Project Sunroof to see if installing rooftop solar is right for your home. <https://sunroof.withgoogle.com/>

2 ENERGY IMPACT

- ☐ How many incandescent vs LED lightbulbs do you have in each room of your home? Take an inventory and be prepared to buy LED next time you replace each bulb.

	# Classic Bulbs	# LED Bulbs		# Classic Bulbs	# LED Bulbs
Kitchen			Bedroom 1		
Living Room			Bedroom 2		
Dining Room			Bathroom 1		
Other Room 1			Bathroom 2		
Other Room 2			Hallway		
Other Room 3			Outside		

- ☐ Install a smart thermostat to save 8% off your energy bill
- ☐ Check all vents to ensure no furniture or other objects are blocking the vents.
- ☐ Change your home air filter every 3 months to save up to 7.5% off your energy bill
- ☐ When it's cold out, open your blinds and curtains during the day to let the sunlight warm your home naturally. In the evenings, close the blinds to keep the warm air in. When it's warm out, close blinds and curtains to block the sunlight.

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3 RECYCLING IMPACT

- ☐ Place small recycling collection bins where they are most accessible in addition to a large bin in the kitchen, such as in each bathroom and in the laundry room.
- ☐ For items that are not recyclable in your curbside bin, place bins in garage or somewhere to collect over time and bring to recycling facility.
- ☐ Collect all soft plastics such as bread bags, produce bags, dry-cleaning bags, bubble wrap and bring them to your grocery store drop-off bin.
- ☐ Rinse and collect all styrofoam such as to-go containers and cups and bring to your grocery store drop-off bin.
- ☐ Metal, batteries, ink cartridges and electronics are all recyclable. Search to find a drop-off location near you.
- ☐ Textiles (old socks, stained clothes, etc) and worn shoes are all recyclable. Search to find a drop-off location near you.

4 FOOD IMPACT

- ☐ When possible, purchase food from local sources. Locally grown food has a lower carbon footprint and supports our local food systems.
What percentage of your food supports local food systems? _____ %
- ☐ Increase the amount of plant-based food you eat and decrease the amount of animal-based food. A plant-forward diet has about half the carbon footprint of animal-based alternatives.
What percentage of your food is plant-based? _____ %
- ☐ Compost your excess fruits, vegetables, coffee grinds and tea bags in your backyard or find a compost drop-off site near you.
- ☐ Reduce the amount of food you throw out by buying less, using food past the expiration date if edible, and eating leftovers.
How many pounds of food do you throw in the trash each week? _____ pounds

5 CLEANING IMPACT

- ☐ Wash clothes in cold water when possible to minimize energy needed to heat the water.
- ☐ Hang dry clothes when possible rather than using a dryer. In addition to saving electricity, your clothes will last longer.
- ☐ Use wool dryer balls instead of liquid fabric softener or dryer sheets. They are reusable & reduce drying time.
- ☐ Buy eco-friendly cleaning products including laundry and dishwasher detergents. Concentrated detergents to include pods and sheets have a smaller carbon footprint.
- ☐ Buy cleaning products sold in 100% recyclable packaging, preferably cardboard or aluminum.
- ☐ Use rags instead of paper towels to clean throughout the home. Cut old t-shirts & other textiles to use as rags.