

An Environmental Checklist

The Master Teacher helps colleagues and students through an environmental checklist.

In the home

- ☐ Do you recycle plastics, aluminum, and paper?
- ☐ Do you use only essential electric power, turning it off when not needed?
- ☐ Do you try to buy cleaning products with few hazardous ingredients?
- ☐ Have you tested the paint in your home for lead?
- ☐ Do you have compact fluorescent light bulbs that use less energy than traditional bulbs?
- ☐ Is your home insulated?
- ☐ Do you have trees to shade your home?
- ☐ Do you minimize your use of pesticides?
- ☐ Do your appliances rely on rechargeable batteries?
- ☐ Are you careful when disposing of potentially hazardous items such as batteries or computers?
- ☐ Do you conserve water and make sure that there are no water leaks in your plumbing systems?

Outside the home

- ☐ Does your car get good gas mileage and have pollution controls?
- ☐ Do you drive as little as necessary – walking, riding a bike, carpooling, or using public transportation where possible?
- ☐ Do you carry reusable bags for groceries and have reusable containers to store food?
- ☐ Do you follow your community's restrictions on burning trash and watering lawns?
- ☐ Do you limit your use of paper at work?
- ☐ Do you pick up litter when you see it and dispose of your own litter in public trash receptacles?

Community

- ☐ Have you participated in community programs?
- ☐ Are you aware of zoning issues and do you attend your city's zoning meetings?
- ☐ Do you participate in a community garden?
- ☐ Are you involved in special environmental actions such as "clean air" initiatives?