**So here are 12 ways you can start to protect the environment today:**

[1. Consume less.](https://www.greenmountainenergy.com/en/why-renewable-energy/protect-the-environment#consumeLess)

[2. Compost.](https://www.greenmountainenergy.com/en/why-renewable-energy/protect-the-environment#compost)

[3. Choose reusable over single-use](https://www.greenmountainenergy.com/en/why-renewable-energy/protect-the-environment#chooseReu)[.](https://www.greenmountainenergy.com/en/why-renewable-energy/protect-the-environment#upcycleMore)

[4. Upcycle more.](https://www.greenmountainenergy.com/en/why-renewable-energy/protect-the-environment#upcycleMore)

[5. Recycle properly.](https://www.greenmountainenergy.com/en/why-renewable-energy/protect-the-environment#recycleProperly)

[6. Shop secondhand.](https://www.greenmountainenergy.com/en/why-renewable-energy/protect-the-environment#shopSecondhand)

[7. Buy local.](https://www.greenmountainenergy.com/en/why-renewable-energy/protect-the-environment#buyLo)

[8. Use fewer chemicals.](https://www.greenmountainenergy.com/en/why-renewable-energy/protect-the-environment#useFewer)

[9. Walk, bike or carpool.](https://www.greenmountainenergy.com/en/why-renewable-energy/protect-the-environment#walkbikecarpool)

[10. Use less water.](https://www.greenmountainenergy.com/en/why-renewable-energy/protect-the-environment#useLess)

[11. Use your purchasing power for good.](https://www.greenmountainenergy.com/en/why-renewable-energy/protect-the-environment#PurchasePower)

[12. Conserve electricity.](https://www.greenmountainenergy.com/en/why-renewable-energy/protect-the-environment#conserveElectricity)