



Top Ten Actions You Can Take to Protect our Planet

To protect our planet, we need to

- work together to demand the move to 100% clean energy.
- do what each of us can in defense of our climate.

Climate change is driven by greenhouse gasses, a point on which 99% of scientists agree. We do have options to get to net-zero emissions!

1. **Speak up!**

- Vote for candidates who will help stop climate change.
- Participate: volunteer to get out the vote, go to meetings, contact your representatives.
- Vote!

2. **Talk about climate change.**

- Talk about what you are doing to fight climate change. This encourages others to act.
- At your workplace, advocate for environmentally sound policies by your employer, such as recycling and having a green supply chain. If possible, show how the change saves money.

3. **Reduce energy use.**

- Use cold water for laundry and other tasks.
- Install a heat pump in place of a failing furnace/water heater
- Install sensor-driven switches and lighting.
- Work from home regularly, if your job permits.
- Install a smart thermostat, which you can program to turn down the heat at night.
- Replace appliances with energy-smart systems.
- Turn down the thermostat when you are on vacation.

4. **Use renewable energy.**

- Renters and owners: get renewable energy through the utility / Xcel Energy's Renewable Connect program.
- Consider adding solar panels.

5. **Reduce food waste and eat sustainably.**

- Track food you pitch over a week; then buy less the next week.
- Get creative with leftover meals and ingredients.
- Compost at home or through city services..
- Add a plant-based meal to your weekly diet.

local action
global change

6. Rethink transportation

- Reduce air travel, especially the short hopper flights.
- Drive less, and walk or ride, when possible.
- Use public transportation when you can.
- Consider car-sharing options, available in some cities.
- Purchase and use an electric vehicle—car, bike, or scooter!

7. Reduce, reuse, and recycle (in that order).

- Reduce: Buy less, which uses fewer resources and less energy.
- Reuse: Second-hand saves energy & resources, and reduces waste..
- Recycle and buy products made with recycled content.
- Buy from companies that provide recycling for products and packaging.

8. Use your money to shape change.

- Buy from sustainable businesses.
- Support and invest in climate-friendly companies.
- Consider investing in green projects, such as those listed by the UN Climate Convention.

9. Preserve and protect the natural world.

- Plant trees and support organizations that do.
- Use ECOSIA search engine-it plants trees with 80% of its ad revenue.
- Don't use chemicals on plants.

10. Go electric! Part of the move away from fossil fuels that generate greenhouse gasses involves electrifying your household. The following are mentioned above, but worth repeating.

- Replacing furnaces and water heaters with heat pumps reduces fossil fuel use. Check for incentives through the Inflation Reduction Act.
- Consider replacing your car with an electric or perhaps a hybrid.

Most of us can only do a few of these, but everyone can do something. Everything we do makes a difference!

Let us know what you are doing: contact@climatealliancecg.org. We want your ideas and suggestions in the race to reduce carbon emissions.

