

# ***GREEN HOME TIPS***



## **Recycling and Waste Reduction**

- Recycle your household wastes
- Buy recycled-content products
- Purchase reusable items versus one-time disposable
- Stop your home Junk Mail (contact [www.stopjunkmail.org](http://www.stopjunkmail.org))
- Properly dispose of electronic wastes and hazardous wastes (contact your local waste hauler for drop-off locations)

## **Reduce Energy Costs**

- Use low-wattage compact fluorescent light bulbs
- Turn off you home computer/printer and other electronics when not in use, for more savings unplug or turn off at surge protector (especially during vacations)
- Insulate ceilings, windows and doors and install shades on south or west facing windows
- Set furnace thermostat at <68 degrees and air conditioners at >78 degrees (3-5% more energy is used for each degree)
- Set water heater thermostat at 140 degrees or "normal" if you have a dishwasher otherwise set at 120 degrees or "low"
- Purchase energy efficient appliances (i.e., Energy Star models)

## **Conserve Water**

- Fix dripping faucets as a slow steady drip wastes 10 gallons a day
- Install low-flow aerators on your faucets and showerheads (free aerators are typically available to customers by contacting your water company)
- Replace older toilets (pre-1992) with ultra-low flow toilets or high-efficiency toilets (check your water company for rebate information)
- While brushing your teeth, turn off the tap and save 14 gallons of water
- Purchase high-efficiency dishwasher and clothes washer that typically use 30% less water and 40-70% less energy (check your water company for rebate information)

## **Pollution Prevention**

- Use mass transit, bike or walk
- Buy less toxic and polluting products
- Avoid buying plastics and excessively packaged materials

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