



AT HOME

Our homes represent a huge opportunity for us to take small steps to reduce our impacts on the environment. The following tips will help you live more sustainably and most will also save you money.

SWITCH TO COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHTBULBS (CFLS)

Switching from traditional lightbulbs to Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs (CFLs) is the most cost-effective way to reduce your energy use. CFLs will last 10 times as long and save you up to 25% on your monthly electricity bill. [Learn more.](#)

BUY ENERGY STAR

ENERGY STAR® appliances use 10-50% less energy and water than traditional appliances. Check out energystar.gov to find refrigerators, dishwashers, and other appliances that meet ENERGY STAR® standards. [Visit *energystar.gov*.](#)

FULLY LOAD DISHWASHER

Save water and energy by running a full dishwasher and choosing the air-dry setting. You can also open the door after the final rinse, and allow the dishes to air dry.

WASH CLOTHES ONLY IN COLD WATER

Cold water cleans clothes while saving about 90% of energy used in a traditional washer and keeping clothes brighter. For additional savings, only wash full loads of laundry. [Learn more.](#)

SIGN UP FOR GREEN POWER

If 10% of New Yorkers purchased pollution-free electricity, it would prevent three billion pounds of CO2 every year from reaching the atmosphere. It's easy! [Sign up for green power at *PowerYourWay.com*.](#)

USE POWER STRIPS

75% of the electricity used to power a home's electronics is consumed while electronics are plugged in, but turned off. Power strips stop the electricity drain and save up to \$200 on your annual electricity bill. [Learn more.](#)

DRINK TAP WATER

NYC tap water is pure, clean, refreshing, and calorie-free. It's better for the environment and your wallet than plastic water bottles. [Learn more about NYC water here.](#)



CHOOSE GREEN CLEANING PRODUCTS

Many cleaning products contain toxic chemicals that can damage the environment, irritate eyes and skin, and cause chronic health problems. Green cleaning products clean just as effectively without these risks. [Learn more.](#)

USE NON-TOXIC PAINT

Paint with low or no volatile organic compounds (VOC) paints for a healthier home, family, and environment. Typical paint contains up to 300 known toxins, including metals, solvents, and fungicides. [Learn more.](#)

PLANT A TREE

Planting a tree is an easy and cost-effective way to improve NYC's air quality, increase property value, encourage neighborhood revitalization, and cool streets, sidewalks, and homes. [Learn more at MillionTreesNYC.org.](#)

DO AN ENERGY AUDIT

A typical home can find hundreds of dollars in annual energy savings by doing a simple home audit. Locate the areas where you can easily improve your home's energy efficiency to save money. [Learn more.](#)

STOP JUNK MAIL

The 80 billion pieces of junk mail Americans receive annually create over 4 million tons of paper waste. [Learn how to stop the flow to your home.](#)