## Better For Better

## DO SOMETHING TODAY TO MAKE THE WORLD BETTER

Revision 1, April 2020

- 1. Turn off unused lights. A light on in an unused space is pure waste! Did you know: If you leave a 60 watt light on for 1 hour, it burns  $\sim$  1 cubic inch of coal or equivalent in terms of power generation.
- 2. Share this campaign. The more people doing better, the bigger difference we can make. Influence is everything!
- 3. Cut down on your shower time. It takes a lot of energy to heat water for a hot shower. Did you know: A typical 10 minute shower will burn~ 18 ounches of liquified natural gas or equivalent.
- 4. Unplug devices when not in use. Digital devices or things like phone chargers will still consume electricity.
- 5. Recycle more and less. Try to recycle everything you can. At the same time try to eliminate the need to do so. Recycling is very power intensive.
- 6. Cut down on water use where you can. It takes about 1.5 watt-hours per 1 gallon of water to be sourced, treated, and distributed to your home.
- 7. Try to eat locally produced foods. It takes energy to deliver the food, so the further it needs to go the more energy it takes.
- 8. Use re-usable shopping bags. Numerous estimates show 100 billion plastic bags are thrown away each year.
- 9. Work from home when you can.

- 10. Install a whole house fan. If you live in a climate that has hot summer days but cool nights, a whole house fan will save a lot of energy and money.
- 11. Use re-usable cups for beverages. Did you know: Recycling is not all that good as it's very power intensive.
- 12. Carpool when you can. Even 1 day a month can make a difference.
- 13. Pick up trash. Tip: Keep a small bag in your car and you can pick up a little trash while your out.
- 14. Compost your food scraps and lawn clippings.
- 15. Replace lightbulbs with energy efficient ones. They do initially cost more but in the long run will provide cost savings while making solid improvements in energy savings.
- 16. Make your house more energy efficient.
- 17. Maintain your vehicle for maximum efficiency. It's all about getting the most out of what you drive. Visit our full list page for some tips.
- 18. Maximize your refrigerators efficiency. Visit our full list page for some tips.
- 19. Use good driving habits. Small changes can go a long way. Visit our full list page for some tips.
- 20. Maximize the efficiency of your HVAC system.

- 21. Reduce your junk mail. Just think, if we don't read it, isn't pollution being produced for nothing? Visit our junk mail page for 3 simple steps to reduce your junk mail.
- 22. Plant a Tree. They help reduce runoff and cut down on greenhouse gasses.
- 23. Help the coral reefs.
- 24. Use re-usable dry clean bags. This is especially good if you regularly dry clean your cloths.
- 25. Help the honey bee. Bees perform 80% of all pollination worldwide.
- 26. Hang dry your clothes when possible. A typical laundry load will consume ~ 14 ounces of liquified natural gas or equivalent.
- 27. Use re-usable ramekins.
- 28. Consider installing solar for your home. Most references state the environmental breakeven is  $\sim$  2-3 years when compared with fossil fuels.
- 29. Organize a trash clean-up. It could be just a few friends or a large group.
- 30. Use re-usable water bottles. The world has a big plastic problem.
- 31. Avoid using trash bags for your green waste. If you have a green waste pickup, use reusable cans instead of bags.
- 32. Use re-usable coffee K-cups. If you use a single cub brewer, it takes only a little effort to wash re-usable cups.

- 33. Reduce the number of products you use that contain microbeads.
- 34. Share a homegrown plant or tree with someone. This is a low cost way to 'Do Something Nice for Someone Today' while you 'Do something today to make the world better'.
- 35. Go paperless when you can. Many of the bills we pay through the mail can be done online without receiving a paper bill.
- 36. Use your own bag or no bag at all for food to go. Typically a bag is used for only 5-10 minutes and then discarded into the trash.
- 37. Turn off your sprinkler timer when it rains. Watering lawns and plants during or after a rain is wasted energy. After a good rain, you can usually skip multiple watering cycles.
- 38. Wash your cloths on cold when you can. For every load you wash on cold, you'll save ~ 6.7 ounces of liquified natural gas or equivalent.
- 39. Use re-usable containers for packing lunches for you and your family. Just one container could save 200+ plastic bags from the landfill every year.
- 40. Use re-usable straws or none at all.
- 41. Collect rain water for watering plants.
- 42. Say no to the paper receipt. Many places now offer your receipt through email.
- 43. If your Passionate about an environmental topic, share its importance with others.

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