

# CREATION TIPS: BUILDING & ENERGY

Caring for Creation is easier than you might think. Simple switches in our home and place of worship can provide energy savings as well as demand less of the environment and its resources.



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## CHANGE LIGHT BULBS TO ECO-FRIENDLY TYPES

CFL and LED bulbs can emit 25-80% less energy than traditional incandescents, plus they last longer! Consider this greener alternative when it comes time to replenishing those bulbs.

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## TURN OFF THE LIGHTS WHEN NOT IN USE

If you're not in the room, the light doesn't need to be on. Leave yourself post-its to help you remember to flip the switch off when you leave the room. Remember, practice makes permanent!



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## FEND OFF "ENERGY VAMPIRES"

Use cold water when washing clothes to reduce energy use. Energy is needed to heat water. You can also opt for a shorter wash cycle. Only do laundry when the load is full. Not only does this save water and electricity but it also saves you money and time. You can either wait until you have more items to wash or combine your partial load with your family or housemates.

Avoid using energy to dry your laundry by hanging a laundry line or using a drying rack. This cuts down on your electricity bill as well!

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## USE GREEN TRANSPORTATION

How do you get from place to place? Make a plan for how you can reduce your footprint. Does your city/town have public transportation? Are there places where you can walk or bike instead of drive? Make a commitment and plan to improve your transit carbon footprint. Flights are a huge emitter of harmful substances for the earth. Consider not flying or reducing the number of flights you make each year. Instead of going to that conference, Zoom in!



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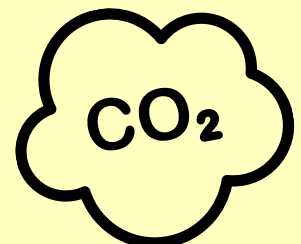
## CALCULATE YOUR WATER FOOTPRINT

Find out what your water footprint is and how you can reduce your impact. This calculator will show you how your lifestyle impacts the rest of the world and how you can make a positive difference. Find it [here](#)!

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## INSTALL MOTION SENSORS

Take a walk around your office and notice how many offices and conference rooms have lights on despite nobody using the space. Instead of leaving it to employees to turn off lights as they leave rooms, install motion-activated light switches. They'll turn the lights on for a designated period of time (eg: 15 minutes) whenever somebody passes in front of the switch or moves about the room.

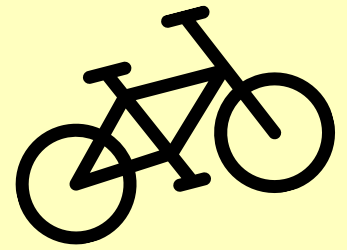


# CREATION TIPS: BUILDING & ENERGY II

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## USE GRAY WATER

Gray water is water that has been used but is not necessarily contaminated. You can use dishwashing water, hand washing water, and cooking water to water plants. There are even systems you can install now that allow you to make use of gray water more effectively.



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## CHECK YOUR CAR'S TIRE PRESSURE

Properly inflated tires improve the car's gas mileage. This will not only decrease your carbon emission but also save you money.

9

## STOCK REUSABLE PENS

U.S. residents alone throw out over four million disposable pens – daily. Consider stocking the office with reusable pens instead. Stock the supplies cupboard only with refills for these pens. This creates incentives to keep track of and use their pens, and they're actually cheaper in the long run and usually much nicer to use.



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## RESEARCH HOW YOUR COMMUNITY REGULATES WASTE

Each city or town has its own trash, recycling, and compost system. What is the system where you live? Regulations change frequently so take some time today to update yourself on your specific location. Here are some questions for you to find the answers to: Does my town/city have recycling curbside pick up or do I take it to the recycling center?

What can I throw in the recycling bin? Do I throw plastics, paper, glass, and aluminum together or do I separate them?

Does my city/town have a curbside composting program?

Can I compost in my own backyard?



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## CHECK OUT A CARBON CALCULATOR

You are leaving your mark on planet Earth. Check out this fun and informative [carbon footprint calculator](#). With the resulting benchmark and the helpful tips the website provides, you can choose ways to live more lightly.

