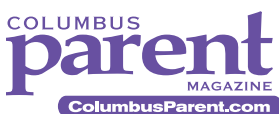


1. Replace incandescent light bulbs with high-efficiency compact fluorescent bulbs. Compact fluorescent bulbs use less energy and last longer.
2. Unplug electrical items when they are not in use. Appliances still use electricity while in standby mode.
3. Turn the water off while you brush your teeth. Turning off the tap while you brush can save up to eight gallons of water per day.
4. Drive less. Consider walking, biking and carpooling to save fuel and reduce auto emissions.
5. Fill a plastic bottle with water and a few pebbles and place it in your toilet tank. A bottle in the tank will displace enough water to save half a gallon to a gallon each use, or up to about 10 gallons a day in a typical home.
6. Adjust your thermostat. Lowering the temperature a few degrees in the winter and raising it a few degrees in the summer will save energy. Consider buying a programmable thermostat that will automatically adjust your thermostat throughout the day and night.
7. Buy local produce and products because buying local saves fossil fuels. Many, if not most, items sold in grocery stores were likely trucked, shipped or flown there from other parts of the world. Sending produce around the world uses fossil fuels.
8. Take shorter showers. Every two minutes you eliminate from your shower time can save more than 10 gallons of water.
9. Use natural cleaning products. This will limit your family's exposure to toxins.
10. Don't buy bottled water. Buy a reusable container and fill it with tap water. It prevents bottles from going to the landfills.

For more information about living a green lifestyle, log on to ColumbusParent.com/green



This feature written by Melissa Kossler Dutton originally appeared in Columbus Parent Magazine in April 2009. Visit ColumbusParent.com to read the entire feature, including safe ways to get rid of items you no longer want or need.



10 TIPS TO GO GREEN

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