GRENLIVING STRATEGIES

FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN SAVE MONEY AND FOCUS ON A BRIGHTER TOMORROW BY GOING GREEN!



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Introduction

If you're looking for easy ways to go green and help to not only save our planet but reduce your monthly costs and living expenses, then you'll want to read every word in this special report.

From what you can recycle, to choosing your energy source, we make it simple to decrease your carbon footprint and focus on a better future.

All it takes is some careful and strategic planning, making some small but important changes to your daily life, and you'll be on the path towards living a greener life.

Let's begin!

Tip #1: Use LED Lightbulbs

One of the first places you can start to go green is by switching out your current lightbulbs for LED ones. There have been some debates on what type of lightbulb is the best for the environment, and the clear choice is LED.

When you use fluorescent and incandescent lightbulbs, it takes a significant amount of energy just to produce a little bit of light.

LED lightbulbs, on the other hand, are approximately 80% more efficient.

By using lightbulbs that are 80% more efficient than others, it helps reduce greenhouse emissions from power plants that are harmful to the environment. That's because LED lightbulbs consume less power per unit (lumen).

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Regular lightbulbs, such as fluorescent ones, convert upwards of 95% into heat and a mere 5% into actual light. Whereas LED bulbs convert 95% into light and only 5% is wasted as heat.

Conversion rates alone can have long-term benefits for the environment.

While the upfront cost of LED lightbulbs is a bit higher than others, it's important to keep a few things in mind. First of all, they are significantly more affordable than when they first came out. That cost may continue to decrease as more people go green and there's a bigger demand.

Second of all, the long-term energy savings far outweighs the cost per bulb.

The Consumer Federation of America recently came out with a report stating the average household, over the course of a decade, can save upwards of \$1,000 just by switching to LED lightbulbs.

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In addition to this 10-year outlook, LED lightbulbs last much

longer than other lightbulbs. The average LED lightbulb lasts

about 50,000 hours, whereas incandescent ones last around 1,000

hours.

They also create a more focused glow than incandescent bulbs,

which means you may not have to have as many lightbulbs going

at one time.

When the time comes to discard lightbulbs, contact your local re-

cycling center. Recycling lightbulbs is a specific process that your

area may or may not do.

The next time you go shopping for lightbulbs, take a look at your

LED options and consider switching. The environment and your

bank account will thank you!

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Tip #2: Switch to Green

Power

When it comes to supplying energy to your home, you may have

the option to choose a more environmentally-friendly source. All

it takes is a quick phone call to your electric company to see if

they offer green power.

Right now, your energy source might be coming from something

that's harmful to the environment.

There are three types of energy sources: those that are the least

beneficial to the environment, those that are better and renewa-

ble, and those that are considered the best.

The latter, of which, is referred to as green power.

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Green power is energy that comes from the following types of sources:

- 1. Small scale hydropower
- 2. Solar
- 3. Wind
- 4. Geothermal
- 5. Biomass

Solar power is simply taking energy from the sun and converting it into reusable energy. You can do this by installing solar panels in and around your home.

Wind power comes by placing wind turbines in locations where there's plenty of wind velocity, and they have to be up pretty high. Aside from blocking the view, there are no downsides or harmful effects to the environment.

If something is burnable, then it can be used as biomass. For example, wood chips and animal manure. This is a good way to turn potential waste into energy.

Geothermal energy transfers heat from within the earth into energy. In order to use this as an energy supply, you need to be near an underground spot that has plenty of heat.

As you can see, all of these energy sources are natural and ecofriendly. They also save you money in the long run.

If your energy company doesn't offer any of these energy sources, then see if they have large hydropower or municipal solid waste.

Large hydropower, meaning water, is a clean source of fuel. Unlike fossil fuels, natural gas and coal, it won't harm the environment.

It's also powered by the sun, which makes it a renewable energy

source. This type of hydropower isn't quite as eco-friendly as

smaller ones, but it's still a good source.

Municipal solid waste takes local waste and turns it into energy

through different types of processes, such as anaerobic digestion

and combustion.

By keeping it local, you reduce the need for trucks to travel out-

side of your area and emit carbon into the atmosphere.

All of these options are vastly better than energy sources that are

not environmentally friendly, such as:

1. Coal

2. Oil

3. Natural Gas

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Coal is very toxic for the environment, since it produces metals that harm both the earth and our health. It's a huge source of carbon dioxide.

Oil is incredibly harmful to the environment. When oil spills, it kills wildlife and destroys natural habitats. It can also affect water if it goes deep enough into the soil.

Even though natural gas is slightly better than coal, it still contributes to air pollution in the form of sulfur and carbon dioxide. It also gives way to nitrogen oxides, which then turn into smog.

Tip #3: Use Cloth Diapers

Disposable diapers are incredibly harmful to the environment. It takes approximately **500 years** just for one diaper to decompose, and that's only if it's exposed to enough sunlight and oxygen!

Switching to cloth diapers can help alleviate this impact on the environment.

Most babies use upwards of 3,000 diapers before being trained to use a toilet. That means it'll take 1.5 million years for the diapers from just one baby to decompose.

In America alone, 9 out of 10 babies use disposable diapers. This contributes to 27.4 billion diapers ending up in landfills every year. The good news is that 30 cloth diapers equal about 4,000 disposable diapers!

If you're a family who plans on having more than one baby, you can be even greener by passing on those cloth diapers to new babies.

It's important to take into consideration the number of trees needed just to make disposable diapers, too.

Over 200,000 trees are cut down every year to produce them, and they play a crucial part in our environment. Not to mention all of the side effects that lumbering has on our ecosystem.

If you're still not into the idea of using cloth diapers, or if you're concerned about water usage, then at least consider switching to biodegradable ones.

These still contribute to landfills, but they don't take nearly as long to decompose. Choose organic diapers to avoid any harmful chemicals.

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Tip #4: Harvest Rainwater

Collecting the rainwater not only helps the environment, but it'll save you money.

By collecting water, you're also able to educate your household members about how much water they use. Everyone can be part of the process of collecting and redistributing it among your household. This might make them think twice about their usage.

In addition to minimizing your need for municipal water, using rainwater reduces stormwater runoff. This alone helps prevent the erosion of stream banks, which is vital to your local environment.

If you have a garden, or even just some household plants, there's yet another reason to collect and use rainwater. This water contains absolutely no chlorine or fluoride, meaning it's pure and beneficial to your greenery.

It's also perfect for drinking too, since it has zero hardness, which is also why untreated water is better tasting.

Fill up reusable water bottles each day with rainwater and bring it with you. You'll save money by not buying drinks throughout the day. Plus, it's good for your body.

Your local municipality needs to pump and treat water before sending it your way, so by using rainwater you'll reduce the need to rely on this service.

The less demand they have, the better it is for the environment since they won't need to use vehicles and machinery that emit harmful gasses.

As the world continues to work toward saving the environment, water efficiency ratings and codes are always being developed.

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