

ECO-TIPS

GARBAGE

1. Keep in mind the four conservation R's:
Reduce: waste and hazardous materials.
Reuse: everything you can.
Recycle: glass, aluminum, steel, paper, plastic and oil.
Reject: excess packaging, disposable items, non-biodegradable items and non-recyclable packaging.
2. Donate unwanted items to a charity or thrift store instead of throwing them away.
3. Reuse grocery bags or use a cloth shopping bag.
4. Use reusable containers to store food instead of covering it with foil or plastic wrap.
5. Yard waste and kitchen scraps make up 23% of our trash. Compost instead of throwing them away.
6. Buy products in bulk to minimize packaging.
7. Buy products in recyclable containers such as glass or aluminum.
8. Buy products packaged in recycled materials whenever you can.
9. When purchasing items such as plates, cups, and razors, choose durable and high-quality items over disposables to save resources and money.
10. Use cloth towels and napkins instead of paper towels and napkins.
11. Reuse before you recycle.
12. Use both sides of the paper before you recycle.
13. Don't litter and pick up the litter you see. It is deadly to wildlife.
14. Cut plastic soda pop rings before you throw them away. They strangle animals if they get into lakes, rivers and oceans.

WILDLIFE

1. Avoid products made from endangered animals such as tortoise shells, reptile skins, ivory, coral, certain furs, etc.
2. Stay away from exotic plants or animals that may have been stolen from the deserts or the rainforest.
3. Use alternatives to chemical pesticides. Pesticides kill many beneficial insects, bats, birds, etc.
4. Support parks, preserves, wild areas, sanctuaries, and the organizations that help create and manage them.
5. Practice Leave No Trace principles while hiking or camping, (leaving wildlife areas exactly the way that you found them).

HAZARDOUS WASTE

1. Recycle used oil and car batteries.
2. Take unwanted household chemicals to the Boulder County collection site.
3. Use alternative cleaning products like baking soda for cleaning sinks, and vinegar and water for windows.
4. Allow paints to dry out before throwing paint cans in the trash.
5. Use soap instead of detergents whenever possible.

ENERGY AND WATER CONSERVATION

1. Turn off lights and appliances when not in use.
2. Compact fluorescent light bulbs use 1/4 to 1/3 of the energy that incandescent light bulbs use and last ten times longer.
3. Wash and rinse clothes in cold water. Hang clothes on a line to dry (solar energy is free).
4. Insulate your home. Insulate your hot water heater. Let dishes air dry in the dishwasher.
5. Keep the thermostat set at 68 degrees during the day and 55 degrees at night.
6. Buy energy efficient appliances.
7. Turn off lights, TV, etc. when not in the room.
8. Take short showers instead of baths.
9. Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
10. Run dishwashers and washing machines only when full.
11. Install water saving toilets, shower heads and faucets.

AIR AND WATER POLLUTION

1. Use cars less. Walk, ride a bike or use public transportation such as buses and trains whenever you can.
2. Combine several small trips into one.
3. Don't burn leaves or weeds - compost them.
4. Plant trees. They absorb CO₂ and create animal habitat.
5. Wash your clothes with phosphate-free laundry detergent to reduce over-fertilization of our rivers and streams.
6. Use fewer pesticides and fertilizers on your lawn. These chemicals often end up in underground water supplies and waterways.
7. Do not pour used motor oil on the ground or in storm drains.