

Global Warming: What Can I Do Now?

Make your home more energy efficient

- Energy-efficient lighting and appliances
 - <http://www.18seconds.org>
- Properly operate and maintain appliances
 - <http://www.energystar.gov>
- Heat and cool your house efficiently
- Insulate your house
 - <http://www.simplyinsulate.com>
- Get a home energy audit
 - <http://www.energyguide.com>
 - <http://hes.lbl.gov/>
- Reduce standby power waste
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Standby_power
- Switch to green power
 - <http://www.epa.gov/greenpower/locator>

Use less energy on transportation

- Walk, bike, carpool, or take mass transit
 - <http://www.erideshare.com>
 - <http://www.publictransportation.org>
- Drive more efficiently
 - <http://www.fueleconomy.gov/>
- Lobby for pedestrian and biker friendly roads
 - <http://www.americawalks.org>
 - <http://www.bikeleague.org>
- Telecommute
 - <http://www.telcoa.org>
- Reduce air travel

Cut your consumption

- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
 - <http://www.newdream.org>
 - <http://www.epa.gov/msw/reduce.htm>
- Avoid paper waste
 - <http://eetd.lbl.gov/paper>
 - recycle used paper
 - limit use of paper towels and napkins
 - stop unwanted junk mail
 - <http://www.newdream.org/junkmail/>
- Use reusable bags for groceries
- Compost food scraps and garden waste
 - <http://www.epa.gov/compost>
- Buy local, from farmers' markets and community-supported agriculture
 - <http://www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/pubs/csa/csa.shtml>

Help make a change

- Learn more – check out the booklist included in your packet for starters!
- Talk to your family and friends
- Encourage your school or business to reduce emissions and waste
- Support eco-friendly businesses
 - <http://www.coopamerica.org/programs/rs/>
- Evaluate your investments
 - <http://www.socialinvest.org>
- Take political action
 - League of Conservation Voters <http://www.lcv.org/>
 - Project Vote Smart <http://www.vote-smart.org>
- Support an environmental group
 - <http://www.eco-usa.net/orgs>

Many of these ideas and websites were drawn from Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth* (Emmaus: Rodale, 2006).

More on the Web:

There's much more information available on the Web about all of these strategies. Here are a few sites that can help you find more.

Yahoo! Green – an internet portal for all things green.
<http://green.yahoo.com>

Librarian's Index to the Internet: <http://www.lii.org>

A highly respected Internet directory of websites compiled by librarians. Browse to your subject of interest, or search by keyword. Some suggestions for browsing:

Science > Weather > Global Warming

Society and Social Science > Environment > Energy

Local Resources: A selection of what's going on in our area.

Find information, or get involved!

Bridging the Gap: Web: <http://www.bridgingthegap.org/> Phone: 816-561-1087

"We work to unite business, government and individuals in a way that benefits us all and preserves our natural resources for generations to come. We seek ways to protect our environment, while balancing economic impact and bettering community."

Heartland All Species Project: Web: <http://www.allspecies.org/> Phone: 816-361-1230

"The Heartland All Species Project mission is to encourage neighborhood community that addresses the environmental crisis through a broad range of programs including teens, organic markets, educational festivals, energy saving classes, film discussion series and more."

Heartland Renewable Energy Society: Web: <http://www.heartland-res.org/>

The MO/KS chapter of the American Solar Energy Society.

Heartland Utilities for Energy Efficiency: Web: <http://www.huee.org/>

"Organized in 2002, Heartland Utilities for Energy Efficiency (HUEE) is a vehicle for participating electric and gas utilities to promote energy efficiency in the Greater Kansas City marketplace through energy education, resources and actions to help assure a secure energy future for area residents. As such, it is one of the few local utilities collaboratives in the nation working together on residential energy efficiency issues."

Kansas City Power and Light – Energy Efficiency: Web: <http://www.kcpl.com/residential/hee.html>

Phone:

Advice on how to improve the efficiency of your home and lower your utility bills.

Kansas Natural Resource Council: Web: <http://www.knrc.ws/>

"The Kansas Natural Resource Council searches for ways to balance our demands with our available resources. KNRC's goal is to build sustainable natural resource policies - to harvest our inheritance at a rate that assures an equal abundance of resources for our children."

Metropolitan Energy Center: Web: <http://www.kcenergy.org/> Phone: 816-835-7593

"The Metropolitan Energy Center's mission, when it was founded, was to assist people in the Kansas City region to manage and control their energy use. This nonprofit organization has evolved to become a catalyst for community partnerships focused on energy efficiency, environmental stewardship and economic improvement."

Missouri Department of Natural Resources – Energy Center: Web: <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/energy>

Phone: 800-361-4827

"The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Energy Center is a nonregulatory state agency that works to protect the environment and stimulate the economy through energy efficiency and renewable energy resources and technologies. "

ReEnergize KC: Web: <http://reenergizekc.org/>

"ReEnergizeKC is educating the people of greater Kansas City area about the challenges and opportunities presented by the inevitable peaking and decline of oil & natural gas production worldwide as well as the ongoing climate crisis. We are working to build the support necessary to begin regional preparations to relocalize our way of life and switch to alternative, renewable energy sources."

Sierra Club:

Kansas Chapter: Web: <http://kansas.sierraclub.org/> Phone:

Kansas City Area Chapters:

Thomas Hart Benton Group: Web: <http://missouri.sierraclub.org/thb/>

Kanza Group: (see KS Chapter website) Phone: 888-774-3772

Missouri Chapter: Web: <http://missouri.sierraclub.org/>

Phone: 800-628-5333



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