

# Save Green by Going Green.

You don't need to build a home from the ground up to reap the benefits of an environmentally friendly home. Check out these ways to be green and save some green.

## Start in the front yard.

Your lawn requires constant watering, mowing with a gas-powered engine and fertilizing with chemicals. Consider replacing some grass with ground cover, decorative grass or eco-friendly grass that requires less maintenance.

## Now go in the backyard.

Turn loose nature's secret weapons: install birdhouses to shelter birds that will eat garden pests and release green lacewings or praying mantises to eat aphids.

## Color your world with all "green" paints.

New paints low in volatile organic compounds are better for your lungs and the planet.

## Light up your world.

Replacing traditional light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs will save 5 percent on your annual electric bill.

## Buy local, organic food.

When you go organic, you'll reduce the amount of diesel fuel need to ship the food and fossil fuel consumed to create commercial fertilizers.

## Recycling dos and don'ts

Plastic items with a 1 or 2 marked on their bottom qualify to be recycled. In addition, don't place light bulbs, broken glass or bits of food in your recycle bin.

## Have a cookout.

Outdoor grills use less energy than electric kitchen stoves. Propane and natural gas grills emit half the carbon dioxide as charcoal grills.

## Use solar power.

Solar panels on your hot water heater can lower your annual electric bill by 12 percent. Solar powered outdoor lights cost nothing to operate after their initial purchase.

## Friendly high-tech.

LCD televisions use less than half the energy of plasma TVs and offer comparable picture quality. LCD computer monitors use as little as one-third the energy as a tube monitor and offer much better picture quality.



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