

Earth Day 2010

40th Anniversary

40 Ways to Go Green

Conserve Water:

1. Look for leaks and fix them right away
2. Replace old toilets, showerheads and faucets with high-efficiency models
3. Use drought-tolerant plant and grass varieties
4. Harvest rainwater and ac condensate to use for watering plants
5. Sweep driveways and sidewalks instead of hosing them down
6. Use mulch in your garden beds to reduce evaporation
7. Wash fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of using running water
8. Use a bucket to wash your car or take it to a commercial carwash that recycles water

Save Energy:

1. Use compact fluorescents bulbs instead of standard incandescents
2. Replace your old appliances with EnergyStar models
3. Add insulation to your attic and walls
4. Set your thermostat no higher than 68 in winter and no lower than 78 in summer
5. Seal air leaks around doors, windows and pipes
6. Set your water heater thermostat between 120-125 F
7. Change air filters monthly
8. Use solar screens, blinds or draperies to reduce solar gain during the summer months

Drive Clean:

1. Turn off your car while waiting instead of letting it idle
2. Carpool, use public transportation, ride a bike or walk instead of taking the car
3. Tune up your vehicle regularly
4. Combine errands instead of making multiple small trips
5. Replace clogged air filters and oil regularly
6. Keep tires properly inflated and aligned
7. Avoid speeding, rapid acceleration and frequent braking
8. Fill gas during the cooler evening hours, and avoid topping off your tank

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle:

1. Use non-toxic cleaning products
2. Use cloth grocery bags instead of plastic bags

3. Compost your yard and food wastes
4. Use refillable water bottles instead of disposable ones
5. Buy recycled products
6. Look for items with less packaging
7. Recycle your electronics instead of throwing them away
8. Properly dispose of old or unused chemicals at hazardous waste collection events

Keep San Marcos Beautiful:

1. Adopt a park or greenspace
2. Participate in river cleanup events
3. Report graffiti and taggers
4. Use native plants to beautify your landscape
5. Grow your own fruits and vegetables or buy locally grown
6. Plan a neighborhood cleanup event
7. Take a bag when you go to the park and pick up litter along the way
8. Pick up after your pet