

HOW CAN I CONSERVE WATER?

- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
- Replace shower heads with Ultra oxygenics shower heads and use 70% less water. Find at <http://gaiam.com>
- Fix/replace leaky toilets. Dual-flush toilets conserve 50% more water, than. Leaky toilets can waste more than 50 gallons a day. Find at <http://sterlingplumbing.com>
- Only run full loads in dishwasher and laundry machines.
- Install/replace aerators on all faucets.
- Avoid excessive lawn watering. Always water early in the morning or in the evening to slow evaporation. Turn off the sprinklers in the rain!

HOW CAN I TRAVEL MORE EFFICIENTLY?

- Save gas by planning your route when running errands. Combine multiple errands into one trip.
- Do not use the drive thru (unless you have small kids, that is...). Idling in your car wastes a tremendous amount of gas and increases smog (unless it's a hybrid).
- Drive "gently." Jack-rabbit starts greatly reduce fuel efficiency.
- When it's hot out, refuel early/late in the day to reduce emissions.
- Service cars and inflate tires to ensure optimal fuel efficiency. <http://pumpemup.org>
- Carpool/vanpool if possible.
- Invest in a hybrid vehicle. Saves money, looks cool, and might be allowed in HOV lanes eventually.

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

- Purchase local, organic foods whenever possible. Organic foods are produced without the use of harsh chemical pesticides and fertilizers, and do not use genetically-modified ingredients. They are better for the environment and better for you! Get local produces via community supported agriculture (csa).
- Use sustainable household cleaning products. Many clean just as well, cost the same, and you can feel comfortable with what you put down the drain.

For more information on the following topics, visit the websites below:

Trinity's Sustainability Ministry
www.trinityatlanta.org/min_community.html

To find a csa or farmer's market in your area:
www.localharvest.org/csa/

Green Energy from Georgia Power:
www.southernco.com/gapower/green/home.asp

Sustainable Development and Home Audit:
www.southface.org

Home Energy Audit:
<http://hes.lbl.gov>

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy:
www.eere.energy.gov

Geothermal Heat Pumps:
www.geoexchange.org

What Easy Changes Can I Make at Home to Help the

ENVIRONMENT

(and save money too)?



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Through its mission ministries, Trinity strives “to be a church in the world, believing that wholeness comes from reaching beyond ourselves and serving the common good” and “to be bold in addressing human need through social action, working to make God’s justice, and love a living reality in our own lives, in the larger community, and in the world.”
- Strategic Plan,
adopted January 11, 1999

As a part of this strategic plan, Trinity Presbyterian Church supports an Environmental and Sustainability Mission, which focuses on sustaining and restoring God’s creation as part of striving towards the wholeness of the world.

This brochure is a quick guide of some easy changes, as well as some more involved changes, you can make at home that work towards fulfilling this mission, as well as the additional benefits of reducing energy consumption and saving money.

Remember, if we each make only one of these small changes, together we can make a big difference!

HOW CAN I SAVE ENERGY?

- Replace standard light bulbs with compact fluorescent ones. This can reduce energy consumption by 75%. Costco is a great place to find deals!
- Turn off lights when leaving a room.
- Turn the thermostat down in winter (65° - 68°) and up in summer (75° - 78°).
- Utilize a programmable thermostat to regulate temperature during the night and while you are away during the day.
- Turn hot water heater down to 120°.
- Close the fireplace flue when the fireplace is not in use.
- Replace HVAC air filters monthly.
- Open the drapes when it’s sunny outside. Close them at night to retain heat.
- Wrap insulation around water heater and any pipes/ducts that go through unheated space.
- Check house for air leaks. In addition to weather-stripping and caulk around doors and windows, pay close attention to pipe cut-throughs from plumbing, etc.
- Check ductwork for, and repair any, leaks.
- Check attic insulation for proper thickness and coverage. Add insulation if necessary.
- Install rooftop solar panels.
- Plant deciduous (leafy) trees on the south and west facing sides of the house. The shade will cool your house in the summer, and the sun will warm your house in the winter.
- Replace inefficient HVAC systems with

new, efficient models. This includes traditional or geothermal heat pumps.

- When replacing appliances, be sure new purchases have the EnergyStar certification: <http://energystar.com>
- Sign up for Georgia Power’s Green Energy Program.
- Perform a home energy audit to determine other ways to reduce energy usage. Go to this link for more information: <http://hes.lbl.gov>

HOW CAN I RECYCLE/ REDUCE WASTE?

- Sign up for curbside recycling in Fulton County (not available in Cobb and DeKalb - yet).
- Bring paper, magazines, cardboard, and newspapers to the bin at Trinity.
- Use a mulching mower to eliminate the need to dispose of grass clippings.
- Use a leaf mulcher to reduce/eliminate the need for leaf pickup.
- Register for electronic copies of all financial documentation, including monthly statements, annual statements, proxy reports, etc.
- Sign up for online bill pay. You save not only paper, but stamps and time.