

Outdoor Energy Conservation Tips

- Plants and shrubs
- Hand garden, lawn, and workshop tools
- Rain water container
- Alternative fuel cars

Yard and Garden: Plant shade trees on South and West sides of house, to cool in summer and protect in winter. Plant shrubs around foundation. Make a compost pile for fertilizing (artificial fertilizers use petroleum products). Grow your own fruits and vegetables. Don't water if rain is forecasted in the near future. Don't idle gas mower for long periods. Use hand clippers and pruners. Keep pool filters and strainers clean.

Home: Consider installing a wood stove. Dress in wool blends as they are warmer than polyester knits or leather. Get a humidifier – it uses electricity but makes you more comfortable at lower temperatures and saves fuel.

At The Store: Buy clothing that doesn't require ironing. Buy recycled products when possible. Get unwrapped produce. Avoid disposable products.

On the Road: Save errands for one trip. Combine trips with friends. Schedule trips to avoid rush hour traffic. Patronize one-stop shopping centers. Bicycle, walk, or use public transportation to and from the store. Join a carpool to get to work. Don't carry excessive weight in the car as it wastes gas. Don't put baggage on top of car – it creates wind drag, thus uses more gas.

Vacationing: Rediscover the pleasure of walking, bicycling, horseback riding, etc. Vacation closer to home. Try day-cations. Be an energy-efficient traveler - turn off lights in hotel room, don't use more heat, light, hot water, or air conditioning than you really need. Make reservations ahead of time so you don't spend time driving around to several hotels looking for one that has a room available.

Workshop: Use hand tools when possible. Buy tools with the least horsepower adequate for the job. Keeps tools in top operating shape (well sharpened and lubricated)