

SAVE THE PLANET

The Earth's ability to sustain life is being degraded as a result of global warming.

The world's carbon dioxide (CO2) component has increased 30% in the last 200 years - from 280ppm to 380ppm. CO2 levels have never been above 300ppm in the last 650,000 years according to glacial ice core data. This situation is not explainable by "natural causes." We can, and must, reduce our use of fossil fuels, which are increasing CO2 and other greenhouse gases.

Action is needed!

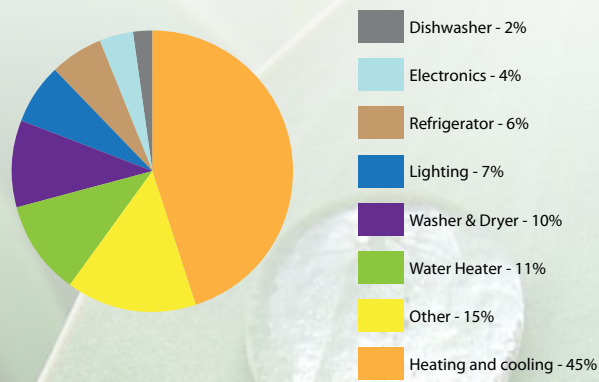
By one estimate, we would have to achieve a global reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of "80% below 2006 levels by 2050."

— James Hanson, Director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies

"Global warming is one of the greatest moral issues of our time."

— Reverend S. Bingham, Episcopal Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, Executive Director of the Interfaith Power & Light Climate Change Campaign

HOUSEHOLD ENERGY USE



For additional information:

www.energystar.gov

Solar: www.renewableenergylongisland.org

www.getenergysmart.org

www.neighborhood-network.org

LIPA offers inexpensive home energy audits, so make use of them! A professional will visit your home and tell you how you can save energy.

www.lipower.org/cei

www.nationalgridus.com/niagaramohawk/home/energyeff/energyeff.asp



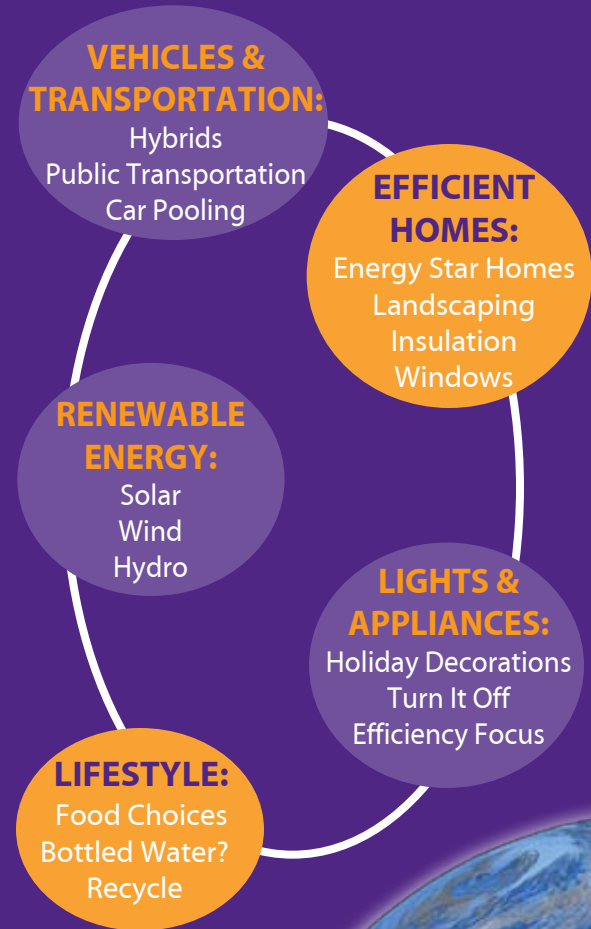
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15 THINGS LONG ISLANDERS CAN DO TO BE ENERGY EFFICIENT



SAVE MONEY



LIGHTS & APPLIANCES:

1



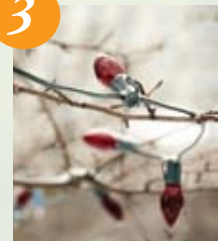
The easiest and most cost effective way to start becoming energy efficient is to replace wasteful incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs, which use 70% less electricity. Replacing ten 75 watt incandescent lights will save \$96 in energy costs every year or \$576 over the estimated 6-year life of the bulbs.

Be an Energy Star. When shopping, always look for the Energy Star® label on appliances. Energy Star air conditioners, refrigerators, dish washer, and clothes-washer generally use 30% less energy than standard models.



2

LED holiday lights are 90% more efficient than a regular strand of window or Christmas tree lights. For example, one typical C7 bulb (strawberry shaped) uses about 4-5 watts, which is what an entire strand of 100 similar LEDs use. LED lights cost a little more but they last so much longer (20 years) they save money on replacement costs in addition to the energy savings.



3

Lights, TVs, computers, and many appliances and electronic devices such as VCRs, DVD players, stereos, computers, and battery chargers use power even when they are turned off. Unplug them, or use a power strip with a switch to cut off these “energy vampires” when not in use.



4

EFFICIENT HOMES:

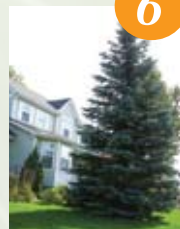
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There are two different programs for efficient homes. When buying a newly constructed home, insist on an **Energy Star Home**, which utilizes a combination of energy efficiency mea-

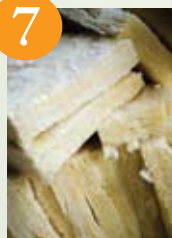
sures and requires a test before the home is occupied. The Sustainability Institute is urging their local town codes be changed so all new homes meet this higher standard. For existing homes, there is the **High Performance Energy Star Homes** program, which begins with an energy audit, and provides financial incentives for energy efficiency improvements.

Landscape for shade. Plant deciduous trees, which drop leaves in winter, on the south and west sides of your house to provide shade in summer and let the winter sun in to warm your home. Awnings that shade southern-facing windows in the summer and let the lower winter sun in can have a similar effect.



6

7



Insulate your attic and water heater. Blow-in insulation is available for hard-to-reach walls and attics. According to the NY State Public Service Commission, a blanket of insulation around your water heater can save 14% of your energy bill. **Do not wrap gas water heaters, it creates a fire hazard.**

Replace windows with efficient double-paned glass. Caulk and weather-strip around windows and doors. Leaky windows can account for 10-25% of your heating bills (according to the US Department of Energy).



8

RENEWABLE ENERGY:

9



By having solar panels installed on the roof of your house, you can join the 1,000+ Long Islanders who are generating renewable, non-polluting energy and selling it back to LIPA.

Solar panels do require a significant investment which takes years for pay-back, but there are financial incentives available from government: Up to \$37,500 from LIPA's *Solar Pioneer* program for residential

customers; income tax credits on your federal and state tax returns; and “Net Metering” (you can sell unused energy back to LIPA).

In order to support clean energy generation, join the *Green Choices* program. By paying a few dollars more through your electric bill, the designated money goes directly to one of three companies upstate who are generating power using wind, solar, and hydro. (*The money does not go to LIPA!*) This investment allows for development of new renewable energy generation.



10

VEHICLES & TRANSPORTATION:

11



Buy the most fuel-efficient car that suits your needs; consider a hybrid. Hybrids do not need to be plugged in — they convert the power from gasoline into electricity that is stored

in a battery and used as needed. The federal government offers a tax credit for hybrids, and certain models are eligible to be “Clean Pass Vehicles” which can travel on the HOV lane with 1 passenger. If you drive a diesel vehicle, consider using biodiesel, made from vegetable oil.

Use public transportation whenever possible, for example when you go to NYC or Kennedy Airport (AirTrain).



12

LIFESTYLE:

13



Eat healthier for you and the planet by eating lower on the food chain (more grains and vegetables). Consider vegetarianism. Animal agriculture is responsible for 18% of greenhouse gas emissions worldwide, according

to the U.N. in 2006. A 2006 University of Chicago study found that livestock emissions and the energy involved in meat production is so high that cutting out meat would do more to reduce greenhouse gas emissions than trading in a gas-guzzler for a hybrid car. Also, choosing fresh, organic produce from local farms reduces the energy used in producing and transporting food. Rodale Institute also estimates that organic farming requires 63% less fossil fuels than “conventional” methods.

Recycle at home and work, and choose recycled products such as recycled paper which uses less energy to make than products made from virgin materials.



14

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Choose bottle-less water. Manufacturing the PET plastic bottles for American bottled water consumption requires the equivalent of more than 17 million barrels of oil/yr (not including transportation). The energy used for

manufacturing, transportation, cooling, recovering and recycling is equal to filling each bottle a quarter-full with oil, or over 49 million barrels of oil/yr.