

CLIMATE ACTION TIPS

AHIP (ahipva.org): Install a high-efficiency HVAC system. Poor indoor air quality either causes or aggravates 50 percent of all illnesses, according to many industry professionals. • Switch to LED light bulbs. A single 12-watt LED bulb used for two hours a day costs \$1 per year versus costing five times as much for a 60-watt incandescent. • Check household faucets for leaks. Consider a faucet that drips 15 times per minute adds up to almost 3 gallons of water wasted per day, 65 gallons wasted per month, and 788 gallons wasted per year!

ALBEMARLE COUNTY (albemarle.org): Contact LEAP for your home and business efficiency needs

APPALACHIAN VOICES (appvoices.org): Support efforts against ACP and MVP, pipelines in general. • Set-up ride shares and push local/state government for good public transportation. • Read The Movement for Black Lives platform on divestment from fossil fuels (<https://goo.gl/RLwJSf>)

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE (charlottesville.org): Reduce landfill waste and help plants grow naturally – compost with the free & easy Charlottesville/Albemarle drop-off programs! (INFO: charlottesville.org/composting) • Power Down & Unplug: find which home electronics are using energy – even when you’ve turned them “off”. Borrow a Kill A Watt Kit from your local Jefferson-Madison Regional Library (JMRL) today! • Improving the energy usage of your home – it’s often easier and cheaper than new windows. Contact LEAP for your Home Energy Check Up! (available for City of Charlottesville residents only)

CVILLEREA (cvillerea.org): Close the doors and windows when you have the AC or heat running. • Change your light bulbs to LED to reduce heat energy waste and increase efficiency. • Drive electric cars. Electric is better: safer, cheaper fuel, lower maintenance costs, and are faster, smoother, quieter.

CONNECTIONS, INC: Switch to a plant-based diet to cut your carbon footprint in half. • Shop less, share more--join your local Freecycle group or organize a free swap shop. • Know what is in your cart! Conscious consumers read labels and ask questions.

COVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (covepresbyterianchurch.org): Switch your light bulbs to LEDs...they use only 10% of the energy of an incandescent bulb and can last a decade. • Plant natives – they know how to grow here and are good for our winged neighbors (<https://www.audubon.org/native-plants>) Minimize waste: reduce; reuse; recycle – when you “throw it away” consider where “away” is.

FEAST! (feastvirginia.com): Eat food grown close to home to minimize the environmental impact of transportation. • Eat minimally processed food to minimize the environmental impact of food processing and packaging. • Compost food scraps and return the nutrients to the earth.

GENERATION 180 (generation180.org): Reduce the load of “vampire” devices in your home with power strips and products with energy-saving features—Vampire devices can account for 12% of a home’s electricity use on average. • Switch to LED lighting in your home—Residential LEDs use at least 75% less energy, and last 25 times longer, than incandescent lighting. • Join our Keep It Cool campaign and change energy at your community’s doorstep this summer—learn more at www.KeepItCool.org

LEAP (leap-va.org): Call a pro (like LEAP) to come to your home and identify the smartest energy-saving investments. • Pay attention to your energy bills. Your everyday choices affect what you pay. Aim for less! • Ask LEAP about what clean energy rebates or incentives you might qualify for.

LATITUDE 38 (latitude38llc.com): Air seal your house • Increase insulation in your attic • Put only benign cleaning ingredients down your drains • Remove formaldehyde furniture and flooring out of your home • Install high efficiency HVAC • Install heat pump hot water heater

PEARL (pearlcertification.com): Plant a tree or make a donation to an organization that will plant trees on your behalf. • Check your tire pressure and inflate where needed. • Make your purchasing decisions count: buy from companies that align with your cares and concerns about climate change.

THE PIEDMONT ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL (pecva.org): Get involved in local planning --decisions on where and how we develop, produces reductions in the number of miles that people drive. This cuts fuel use, greenhouse gas emissions, air pollution and traffic. • Be a good land steward ---utilize more native plants, install agricultural best management practices, consider a conservation easement. • Support the local food economy --use a copy of The Piedmont Environmental Council's Buy Fresh Buy Local guide to find farm and food options close to home. Our Charlottesville area guide features more than 210 local food producers and businesses. More at www.buylocalvirginia.org.

THE PIEDMONT GROUP OF THE SIERRA CLUB (sierraclub.org/virginia/piedmont): Whenever possible, dry your clothes on a clothesline or wooden drying rack. Electric clothes dryers use a large amount of electricity. • Plant native species in your flower garden: Black Eyed Susan, Goldenrod, Purple Coneflower, Tickseed, Milkweed, etc. They attract pollinators and require little watering. • Avoid using lawn and garden pesticides. They are harmful to pollinators, our water supply, and community health. For safer alternatives go to www.beyondpesticides.org.

SIGORA SOLAR (sigorasolar.com): Getting an energy audit performed on your home is an extremely affordable way of understanding where in your home you are wasting money and how to improve the efficiency of your most important systems. • For every \$1 decrease in annual energy costs, the market value of a home increases by \$20, according to a study published in the Appraisal Journal. By decreasing your energy costs by \$300 per year, the value of your home increases by \$6,000. • Solar energy creates clean, renewable power from the sun and benefits the environment. Alternatives to fossil fuels reduce carbon footprint at home and abroad, reducing greenhouse gases around the globe.

THINK LITTLE (think-little.com): Switch all of your lighting to LED bulbs today. If you want to match the look of incandescent bulbs, look for Energy Star-rated LED bulbs with color temperature of 2700K or less and "warm dimming" (as the light output is dimmed, the color temperature gets warmer). • Switch to a heat pump water heater. The best models are more than 3 times as energy efficient as a standard electric water heater, and outperform even the very best gas models. In addition, heat pump water heaters will get "cleaner" as they age due to increased renewables on the grid or at home. • Say goodbye to your gas bill! Cut your heat load in half through better air-tightness and insulation and replace your gas furnace with a variable speed heat pump for high performance heating and cooling.

UVA COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION (uvacreditunion.org): Replacing your old heating and cooling equipment (more than 10 years old) with ENERGY STAR qualified equipment can cut your annual energy bill by more than \$115. Check out our low-rate PowerSaver Home Loan Program designed for energy efficiency and renewable energy home improvements. • A fuel-efficient, hybrid electric, plug-in electric, or other alternative fuel vehicle could cut your fuel costs and help the environment. Our low-rate PowerSaver Auto Loan Program is designed for these vehicles and will save you even more! • If you're a City of Charlottesville business owner or manage a business in the city, consider the long-term savings of making lighting, refrigeration, HVAC or even solar panel improvements to your building. Save even more with a special financing provided by the City of Charlottesville, LEAP, and UVA Community Credit Union with rates as low as 0%.

WILD VIRGINIA (wildvirginia.org): Learn about your public lands. • Experience your public lands. • Protect your public lands...with Wild Virginia.