



Easy Does It
PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZING

HAPPY EARTH DAY

April 22, 2008

Your World *More Organized*

DON'T THROW AWAY YOUR OLD PC OR COMPUTER

Just because you've updated to the latest computer doesn't mean your old machine can't be put to good use. Rather than leaving it on the curb or dropping it in a dumpster, consider donating your unwanted CPU, monitor or peripherals to an organization that will put them in the hands of students and other people who would otherwise have no access to the technology. Even if the computer cannot be used as-is, it may contain valuable parts that can be re-used. At PCS for Schools, a 501C3 non-for-profit organization, all donations are tax deductible with a deduction receipt that they provide. For donors offering ten or more systems, the group will arrange free pickup of the computers.

www.pcsforschools.org

AVOID THE DAILY WASTE OF FAST FOOD AND SHOPPING

Next week, keep track of how much trash you generate by eating out and making trips to the store. I guarantee you'll be amazed! All of those bags, cups, and containers really add up and are stuffing our landfills to capacity. Use reusable shopping bags whenever you go to the store. Say "No Thanks" when the pharmacist or fast food clerk tries to put your one or two items in a bag. Use reusable cups for coffee and other beverages including for soda and fountain drinks.

DRIVE SMARTER

Hybrids, biodiesels, electric - today we have more choices than ever when it comes to efficient transportation. But, some simple changes in our existing driving habits can improve fuel efficiency by up to 25%. Tips include driving at (or near!) the speed limit, keeping your tires inflated, making sure oil and air filters are clean, and stepping on the gas / brakes carefully. Driving like a drag racer may be fun, but it has a substantial environmental cost!

LOAD UP THE WASHING MACHINES

Make sure you run dishwashers and clothes washers only when they're full. Clothes washers are huge energy and water users, so make sure you're doing full loads (or adjusting the water setting) whenever possible.

REPLACE HIGH-USE INDOOR LIGHTS WITH COMPACT FLUORESCENTS OR LEDs

Today's compact fluorescent bulbs are better than ever. No long waits to get up to full power, high-quality light, sizes for almost any fixture and even versions that are dimmable for all of those recessed lights. They're more expensive to begin with, but between energy savings and much longer lifespan they pay for themselves in less than two years. Also, consider LED bulbs for those non-dimmable circuits (especially for holiday lighting). They are true energy misers, and will last for as long as you live in your house.

USE HIGH-EFFICIENCY OUTDOOR LIGHTING

A typical 100-watt floodlight, if used for six hours per day, can consume up to \$40 of electricity over the course of a year and produce upwards of 400 pounds of CO2 depending on where you live. For starters, replace those floodlights with compact-fluorescent versions — they're just as bright and use 1/4 the energy. Next, replace low-wattage halogen landscape bulbs with LED versions. They cut energy use by over 80 percent and can last for 10 years or more.

IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF YOUR EXISTING HOT WATER HEATER

Tankless and solar hot water heaters are great, but simple changes to your existing setup can cut your energy bills and carbon emissions by 25 percent or more. Reduce the temperature of your hot water heater to 120 degrees, wrap it in a water heater insulating blanket and insulate the first 3' of hot and cold water pipes.

GET A HIGH-EFFICIENCY SHOWERHEAD.

A high-efficiency showerhead saves up to 3,000 gallons of water per person per year. You'll also save \$50 of energy costs and 1,000 .lbs of carbon dioxide per person per year. Today's latest and greatest are specially designed to conserve resources while still feeling like a decadent showerhead.

Organized FACTS



More than 70% of Americans are routinely unable to find matching lids for their 15 or more food-storage containers.

You can save time during the week by spending a half hour on the weekend planning the week's menus. This also will save you from making multiple runs to the grocery store.

An average three bedroom home has more than 350,000 items in it.

We wear 20% of the clothes we own 80% of the time.

Sixty-six percent of U.S. homes have three or more television sets.

The average American receives 49,060 pieces of mail in their lifetime. One third of it is junk mail.

Sixty-three percent of U.S. households own a pet.

A gas dryer will save you about 50% in annual dryer energy costs over an electric model.

Visit www.ezdoesitpo.com or

Call for a free consultation 1-800-998-6439

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