How to Reduce Your Home's Impact on Climate Change

KNOW YOUR ENERGY CONSUMPTION

Check bills to see how much energy you actually use. Hire a professional to audit your home's energy consumption. Cooling, heating, and hot water tend to be the biggest energy hogs.

CHANGE YOUR ENERGY SOURCE

Install solar panels or sign up for your utility's 100% renewable energy option.

ADJUST HEATING AND COOLING

Set thermostats lower in the winter and higher in the summer.

SAVE ENERGY

Use energy efficient appliances, LED lights, cold-water wash, shorter wash cycles, and line drying.

ELECTRIFY YOUR HOME

Push to decarbonize the electrical grid, while switching to electric heat pumps, water heaters, and induction ranges.

REDUCE, REUSE, AND REPAIR

Buy fewer things, shop secondhand, and repair what you can to reduce your carbon footprint.

SPEAK UP!

Talk to neighbors, colleagues, friends, and family. Let your utility company know you support bold changes. Appeal to local, state, national, and world leaders.



Prepared by Members of the University of Richmond Osher Special Interest Group on Addressing the Climate Crisis (2024-25)