

SOME EXTRA TIPS ¹

ACTION	IMPACT
Recycle more	= Recycling just half of your household waste can save 1,000 kg of carbon dioxide per year
Check your tyres	= Keeping tyres inflated properly can improve your car's fuel efficiency. Every litre of petrol saved keeps 2.5 kg of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere.
Avoid products with a lot of packaging	= Cutting down your garbage by 10% saves around 545 kg of carbon dioxide.
Turn off electronic devices	= Turning off your TV, DVD, stereo and computer (instead of leaving them on standby) will save thousands of kilograms of carbon dioxide a year
Plant a tree	= A single tree will absorb one tonne of carbon dioxide over its lifetime.
Learn more and get active (www.climatecrisis.net)	= Your personal carbon dioxide emissions will decrease further.

¹ derived from Al Gore's book: *An Inconvenient Truth*.

Australian Federal and State governments will need to adopt a courageous and vital role in reducing emissions. However, they are unlikely to act quickly unless people demand it.

**FOR THE SAKE OF
YOUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN
PUT CLIMATE CHANGE
AT THE TOP OF YOUR AGENDA
THE NEXT TIME YOU VOTE**



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CLIMATE CHANGE

WHAT YOU CAN DO RIGHT NOW TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION

- It is the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that leads to global warming and climate change.
- Human health, and security of supply of water and food, will come under increasing threat from climate change.
- Whether we allow Earth's average temperature to increase by a single degree or by three degrees will decide the fate of hundreds of thousands of species and, most probably, billions of people.
- The best scientific evidence indicates that humanity needs to decrease its carbon dioxide emissions by 70% by 2050.
- If millions of individual Australians reduced their personal carbon dioxide emissions we would make an immediate contribution to decreasing carbon dioxide emissions in the atmosphere.
- This leaflet shows you how to do it.

- **Australia emits more carbon dioxide per person than any other nation on Earth.**
- **We all need to be part of the fight to win the war on climate change.**

SOME WAYS YOU CAN REDUCE CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS

Power plants that use coal to generate electricity are the most dangerous emitters of carbon dioxide. 90% of Australia's electricity is produced by burning coal.

- Focus on understanding how you use electricity. This enables you to make effective decisions.
 - Try to find a power supplier who provides a Green Power option (where the provider guarantees to source a percentage of power from renewable sources e.g. wind, solar). This can cost as little as a dollar a week.
 - If a power monopoly reigns in your area then lobby authorities for change.
 - Convince your children of the need to turn off appliances when they finish using them. Get the family to examine the power bill together and set a target for reduction. When the target is met give the children the savings.
 - Avoid using air conditioners.

The billions of engines that run on fossil fuels play a major role in carbon dioxide production.

- Focus on how you can reduce the use of fossil fuels for personal transport.
 - Consider buying a hybrid fuel vehicle that combines the use of petrol with a revolutionary electric motor, or buy the smallest vehicle capable of doing the job you most often require.

CLIMATE CHANGE CHECKLIST ¹

ACTION	=	IMPACT
Change to an accredited Green Power option	=	Eliminate household emissions from electricity
Install solar hot water systems	=	Up to 30% reduction in household emissions from electricity.
Use energy-efficient whitegoods	=	Up to 50% reduction in household emissions from electricity
Use a triple-A rated shower head		Up to 12% reduction in household emissions.
Use energy-efficient light globes	=	Up to 10% reduction in household emissions.
Check fuel efficiency of next car.	=	Up to 70% reduction in transport emissions
Walk, cycle or take public transport	=	can reduce transport emissions
Calculate carbon footprint	=	Can eliminate transport and household emissions.
Suggest a workplace audit	=	Up to 30% reduction in emissions
Write to a politician about climate change	=	Can change the world

1. from Flannery, T. 2005. The Weathermakers: the history and future impact of climate change. Text Publishing Melbourne.