**GREENING YOUR PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD LIFE**

**We have a God given mandate to care for all people and all creatures and all plants. This is stewardship. This is love.**

**BUY LESS STUFF – BUY USED – RE-CYCLE – REPAIR** -**REUSE**

Everybody needs energy. But how you obtain energy and how you spend that energy are the keys to developing a greener world.

How to start

1. **Educate** yourself
   1. **Drawdone.org – best general web site about climate change and our response to it**
   2. **EPA.gov>greener-living;**
   3. **Episcopal Diocese of California: www.diocal.org/resources/eco-justice**
2. **Advocate** locally, state and regionally and nationally
3. **Communicate** with family, neighbors, friends. Share ideas

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**Food** Industrial farming damages the ecosystem through waste and pollution and severe deterioration of the soil and biodiversity. It is responsible for ~ 25% of emissions. **Reducing food waste** saves emissions at all levels of food production

1. **Eat low on the food chain**: fruits, vegetables, grains and beans
2. **Eat less meat particularly beef**
   1. Industrial raised animals CO2 Equivalent Emissions Kg/1000 kcal: Beef 37, Lamb 12, Pork 5
   2. Use ground turkey or pork instead of ground beef
   3. Use a local butcher using local farmers with pastured raised animals
3. **The more you eat locally**, the less transportation of food is involved with its incumbent greenhouse gas emission and excess packing
   1. Use a CSA – Community Supported Agriculture
   2. Shop at Farmers Markets
   3. Grow your own vegetables – consider a community garden

Housing

1. Install Solar Panels – some communities will help with financing this project
2. Weatherization: windows, doors, insulation of walls, ducts, pipes and attic
3. Change incandescent light bulbs to LED bulbs.
4. Switch off lights and unplug electric devices when not in use
5. Use smart power strips to reduce electrical use of devices on standby
6. Invest in a Smart Thermostat
7. Consider a whole house fan in the summer to minimize AC
8. Turn water heater down to 120F
9. Use low flow faucets and shower heads
10. Buy energy efficient appliances
11. Assess your fireplace which can be a big loss of heat and be polluting. Consider glass doors, inserts and use of gas. Catalytic features with a wood burning insert can almost eliminate polluting smoke
12. Use non-toxic household cleaning materials

Transportation

1. Walk or bike when possible – Consider adult tricycles and e-bikes

Walking 1 mile takes about 20 minutes and about 2000 steps

1. Travel thoughtfully – combine errands, use public transportation, share rides
2. Take care of your car i.e. tire inflation etc.
3. Vacation locally. Wisconsin has great places to visit

Decreased Plastic/Paper

1. Reusable shopping bags and produce bags
2. Use both sides of paper and the back of envelops
3. There are a large range of commercial products which replace plastic
   1. Shampoo and conditioner bars
   2. Non-plastic food storage bags
   3. Bamboo paper goods i.e. toilet paper
   4. Multiple products for laundry
4. No paper towels/ facial tissue – ruse rags and hankies