Improve Your Personal Sustainability and Reduce Your Personal Carbon Footprint

Life Style

Buy less stuff http://www.storyofstuff.org/

Calculate your own carbon footprint, and then reduce it
   http://www.nature.org/greenliving/carboncalculator/ or
   http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind_calculator.html

Eat less meat http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/meatless-meals/my00752

Eat more locally produced food www.a2gov.org/market

Eat more organically produced food http://ypsifoodcoop.org/

Get active in a local or national environmental organization
   Sierra Club http://michigan.sierraclub.org/huron
   Huron River Watershed Council www.hrwc.org/
   Ecology Center http://www.ecocenter.org/
   Growing Hope http://www.growinghope.net/
   Leslie Science Center http://www.lesliesnc.org/

Get out and enjoy nature http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/parks_recreation

In the summer, use a fan instead of an air conditioner

In the winter, set thermostat to 65° or lower in the day and 55° or lower at night

Make your voice heard in local, state and national government through letter writing, lobbying, voting and working with organizations. http://cec-mi.org/communities/programs/climate-action/

Plant a garden http://www.growinghope.net/ or community garden http://projectgrowgardens.org/

Recycle all containers possible in your area http://www.recycleannarbor.org/

Recycle all paper http://www.recycleannarbor.org/

Reduce household waste by 10 gallons or more per week

Reduce number of dishwasher loads per week

Reduce number of dryer loads

Reduce number of hot or warm laundry loads

Reduce shower times to 5 minutes

Set hot water heater temperature to 120°

Turn off computers and other electronics when not in use

Turn off the lights when not in use http://www.energysavers.gov/your_home/lighting_daylighting/index.cfm/mytopic=12280

Unplug chargers and other "vampire" devices when not in use
    - http://www.pbs.org/newshour/updates/vampire-electronics-sucking-power-money-heres-can/

Use a reusable water bottle instead of buying bottled water

Transportation

Bicycle more and drive less http://wheelsinmotion.us/ https://www.facebook.com/Recycled-Cycles-Bike-Shop-LLC-580860975347002/ http://www.treefortbikes.com/ http://www.human-electric-hybrids.com/

Carpool more and drive solo less http://www.mirideshare.org/

Combine trips to drive less

Keep your car tuned up and replace filters on schedule

Keep your tires inflated to the proper level https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTst6ZdlVtg

Reduce miles traveled in an airplane

Take the bus more and drive less http://www.theride.org/

Walk more and drive less http://www.wbwc.org/   http://www.annarbor.com/B2B.pdf

Drive a low emission/high gas mileage vehicle to campus (small car, hybrid, motorcycle, scooter) http://www.genze.com/

Home Systems

Get an energy audit done on your home http://www.meadowlarkenergy.com/

Install low-flow shower head http://energy.gov/energysaver/reduce-hot-water-use-energy-savings

Install solar PV panels to produce your own electricity http://www.sur.biz/ http://sunventrix.com/ http://ajleo.com/

Insulate hot water heater http://energy.gov/energysaver/projects/savings-project-insulate-your-water-heater-tank

Replace old light bulbs with LEDs

Replace an old dishwasher with a new Energy Star unit

Replace an old refrigerator with a new Energy Star unit http://www.energystar.gov/

Replace an old washing machine with a new front load Energy Star unit

Help WCC be More Sustainable and Reduce Our Carbon Footprint

Getting to Campus

Walk to campus more and drive less http://www.wbwc.org/

Bicycle to campus more and drive less http://wheelsinmotion.us/ https://www.facebook.com/Recycled-Cycles-Bike-Shop-LLC-580860975347002/ http://www.treefortbikes.com/ http://www.human-electric-hybrids.com/

Take the bus to campus more and drive less http://www.theride.org/

Carpool to campus more and drive solo less http://www.mirideshare.org/

Drive a low emission/high gas mileage vehicle to campus (small car, hybrid, motorcycle, scooter) http://www.genze.com/

Combine trips to campus to drive less

Keep your tires inflated to the proper level https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTst6ZdlVtg

Keep your car tuned up and replace filters on schedule

Don't leave your engine running http://nationswell.com/car-idle-damaging-to-environment-health-wallet/

While on Campus

Re-use and fully use paper, pens, folders and other office supplies before buying new

Eat food that has the least disposable packaging

In the summer, wear appropriate clothes for 76° building temperatures

In the winter, wear appropriate clothing for 68° building temperatures

Minimize printing when possible

Recycle all containers http://facilities.wccnet.edu/regre/recycle-operations/

Recycle all paper and cardboard http://facilities.wccnet.edu/regre/recycle-operations/

Recycle all "techno trash" http://facilities.wccnet.edu/regre/recycle-operations/

Turn off computers, monitors, printers, projectors and other electronics when not in use

Set PC power options https://www.energystar.gov/products/low_carbon_it_campaign/power_management_computer

Turn off the lights when not in use.

Unplug chargers and other "vampire" devices when not in use.

Use a reusable water bottle instead of buying bottled water

Report water faucets and toilets that are malfunctioning and wasting water. http://facilities.wccnet.edu/famis/

Get out and enjoy the woods and the river trails.

Discuss how the campus could be more sustainable in your classes.

Read the WCC Greenhouse Gas Inventory report and then reduce your share of it
http://sustainable.wccnet.edu/WCC%20GHGI%202014_narrative.pdf

Read the WCC Climate Action Plan and help implement it
http://sustainable.wccnet.edu/WCC%20Climate%20Action%20and%20Sustainability%20Plan%202014.pdf

Let other students, staff and faculty know how they could do something more sustainably

Start, or get active in a student environmental club

Get active in the WCC Sustainability Council. Contact info at http://sustainable.wccnet.edu/getinvolved.html

Educate yourself! http://libguides.wccnet.edu/environment

Contact the WCC Sustainability Council at http://sustainable.wccnet.edu/contact.html