

Checklist to Improve Your Personal Sustainability (with Web Links)

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://ypsiifoodcoop.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/>
- _____ Recycle all containers possible in your area
- _____ Recycle all paper
- _____ 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://virginia.sierraclub.org/greatfalls/Vampire_flyer.pdf
- _____ Use a reusable water bottle instead of buying bottled water



Transportation

- _____ Bicycle more and drive less <http://wheelsinmotion.us/>
- _____ Carpool more and drive solo less <https://mirideshare.org/en-US/>
- _____ Combine trips to drive less
- _____ Keep your car tuned up and replace filters on schedule
- _____ Keep your tires inflated to the proper level
- _____ Reduce miles traveled in an airplane
- _____ Take the bus more and drive less <http://www.aata.org/>
- _____ Walk more and drive less <http://www.wbwc.org/>
- _____ Drive a low emission/high gas mileage vehicle to campus (small car, hybrid, motorcycle, scooter)



Home Systems

- _____ Get an energy audit done on your home <http://www.meadowlarkenergy.com/>
- _____ Install a solar hot water heater <http://www.sur.biz/> www.mes1.com/ <http://sunventrix.com/>
- _____ Install low-flow shower head
- _____ Install solar PV panels to produce your own electricity <http://www.sur.biz/> www.mes1.com/ <http://sunventrix.com/>
- _____ Insulate hot water heater
- _____ Replace old light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs
- _____ 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

Checklist to Help WCC be More Sustainable (with Web Links)

Getting to Campus

- _____ Walk to campus more and drive less <http://www.wbwc.org/>
- _____ Bicycle to campus more and drive less <http://wheelsinmotion.us/>
- _____ Take the bus to campus more and drive less <http://www.aata.org/>
- _____ Carpool to campus more and drive solo less <https://mirideshare.org/en-US/>
- _____ Drive a low emission/high gas mileage vehicle to campus (small car, hybrid, motorcycle, scooter)
- _____ Combine trips to campus to drive less
- _____ Keep your tires inflated to the proper level
- _____ Keep your car tuned up and replace filters on schedule
- _____ Don't leave your engine running



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 (see guidelines)
- _____ Recycle all paper and cardboard (see guidelines)
- _____ Recycle all “techno trash”
- _____ Turn off computers, monitors, printers, projectors and other electronics when not in use
- _____ Set PC power options to maximize power savings
- _____ 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
- _____ Get out and enjoy the woods and the river trails
- _____ Prepare and submit a proposal to the WCC Green Fund. Contact Environmental Committee at <http://sustainable.wccnet.edu/> or call Student Development and Activities at 734-973-3500.
- _____ Discuss how the campus could be more sustainable in your classes
- _____ Read out the WCC Greenhouse Gas Inventory report and then reduce your share of it <http://rs.acupcc.org/>
- _____ Let other students, staff and faculty know how they could do something more sustainably
- _____ 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>



What Else Can You Think Of?

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