

The World is Hot Enough



Do you remember the floods in November 2000?

? One quarter of the UK's overall CO₂ emissions come from our homes. An average house produces 6 tonnes of CO₂ every year, more than the average car.

Have you ever noticed there are an increasing number of news stories about flooding, drought, storms and other erratic weather patterns?



? Every nine months the UK produces enough waste to fill Lake Windermere. 80% of what we call waste can be recycled.

Burning fossil fuels (coal, oil and gas) provides energy to heat and light our homes, fuel our cars and power our industries but fossil fuels also produce gases that contribute to climate change.

Scientific evidence suggests that these are the result of Climate Change - a real and serious threat to the world as we know it!

? Recycling one glass jar can save enough energy to light a 15-watt energy efficient light bulb for 24 hours.

? In 6000 miles a car will produce approximately its own weight in CO₂.



There are 22 million cars on the road today – imagine the pollution!



Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) is one of the most harmful gases produced by human activity.

By addressing issues such as waste, energy, water usage and transport you can help make a difference. This leaflet provides a few tips on how you can help minimise the effects of Climate Change. You may not want to follow all of them but every little helps.

Climate Change is the term used for variations in global temperature and weather caused by a number of gases present in the atmosphere. It is a natural process that has been made worse by human activity.

It is thought that the effects of climate change will take the form of extreme weather conditions - hotter, drier summers and wetter winters. There will be more floods and droughts, more devastating storms and there is evidence that the polar ice caps are beginning to melt.

The UK has a legal obligation to reduce the production of CO₂ by 12.5% below the 1990 levels by 2010.

What You Can Do



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Almost everything around the house can be reused or recycled – mobile phones, computers, batteries, clothes, glass, cans, furniture and paper so:

- Buy products with minimal or recyclable packaging
- Use refill packs where possible for products like washing powder
- Take your own carrier bags when you go shopping
- Donate second hand goods to charity
- Junk mail can be halted by writing to the Mailing Preference Service, Freepost 22, London, W1E 7EZ



Make your house energy efficient: there are some simple, low cost measures to reduce the amount of energy needed to heat and light your home which will save you money. Phone Broxtowe Borough Council's Energy Co-ordinator for information on **(0115) 917 3426**

- Swapping an ordinary 100-watt bulb for an energy saving one could save you up to £10 on your electricity bill per year and last up to 12 times longer.
- Turn down your boiler by 1°C and save up to 10% on your heating bill
- Tuck curtains behind central heating radiators that are under a window, this prevents heat loss through the window
- Ensure your hot water cylinder is properly insulated – you can buy an insulating jacket for around £10



Monitor your water usage: Energy is used to heat your water, pump it from reservoirs to your home and to treat waste water. There are many simple ways to reduce the amount of water you use each day and the energy needed to heat it. These will also help you to reduce your energy bills.

- Have a shower instead of a bath. An average shower uses 1/3 of the water and less energy than a bath
- Only fill your kettle with the amount of water you need
- Fit a water saving device to your toilet cistern. These are often free from your water company and easy to install
- If you have a dripping tap, fix it immediately. In just one day a dripping hot water tap can waste energy and enough water to fill a bath.
- Collect rain water in a water butt and use it to water your plants instead of a hose or sprinkler



Consider alternative travel: The air you breathe inside cars can be 3 times more polluted than on the street. Walking, cycling and using the bus to make short journeys can help to reduce CO₂ emissions and are much better for your health. Nottingham Travelwise Centre provides a traffic and travel information service to help plan journeys more effectively. The centre collates a variety of information from road works, bus and train time tables to cycle maps, congestion, promotions and Initiatives. **Tel: 0845 6088 608.**



Buy food produced locally: The further food has to travel to reach your plate, the more CO₂ gets pumped into the atmosphere from the planes, trucks, trains and boats used. Consider buying food from your local farmers market at Eastwood. Local food is healthier, has less packaging and produces less transport pollution. Get your 'Notts Nosh' guide to fresh, locally produced food and drink from the **Sustainability Team Nottinghamshire County Council—call 0115 977 4222.**



Purchase energy efficient appliances: All appliances use differing amounts of electricity. When buying new appliances look at the Energy Label - this will tell you the exact energy consumption of the appliance. You could save up to £450 in running costs over ten years and help reduce the impact of climate change. An energy saving washing machine uses a third less electricity for each wash - saving you money.

For more advice and information about issues relating to Climate Change and any of the topics in this leaflet, please contact **Broxtowe Borough Council** on **0115 917 3742**. Broxtowe Borough Council also gives advice on where to apply for grants to improve your house heating **0115 917 3426**. Call the recycling section on **0115 917 3660** for information on your local recycling centre.