

Save the Planet Action Ideas

1. **Reduce your carbon footprint.** Www.mycarbonfootprint offers a calculator to do this.
2. **Make your home, office, place of worship energy efficient.** DOE Building Technologies Program can help you audit various kinds of buildings. Gwipl.org will do an audit of your church in the Washington DC area.
3. **Give green.** Donate to Co-op America or other organizations devoted to sustainability. Be creative in gift giving. A friend came laden with a huge package - a bundle of twelve rolls of recycled toilet paper. That began our conversion!
4. **Travel green.** You can volunteer for two weeks to band birds in Costa Rica, restore dunes in Denmark, and join others in earth friendly projects. *Volunteer Vacations* by Bill McMillon *et al* will give you lots of enticing ideas.
5. **Restore the earth one nature spot at a time.** STRAW (Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed) tells you the adventures of one group that did this. Global Restoration Network is a clearinghouse for opportunities.
6. **Make particular holidays or seasons green.** There is a growing movement to take a carbon fast during Lent (www.tearfund.org and gwipl.org/lent.asp has ideas). Rock Spring United Church of Christ compiled tips for going green for Christmas (www.rockspringcongucc.org/html/GoingGreen.htm).
7. **Support local and state efforts to go green.** Get ideas from Mayors for Climate Protection and the National Governors Association: Securing a Clean Energy Future: A Call to Action.
8. **Contribute a green agenda for candidates** to electoral office. Tell them why it is necessary to put sustainability at the top of their political agenda. If we don't have a thriving earth, nothing else that they propose matters.
9. **Thank newspapers for their environmental coverage.** Ask whether there is a department for global environmental news similar to the domestic and world news departments. If not, suggest they establish a global desk to cover global issues, trends, and stories.
10. **Keep informed.** Lester Brown's *Eco-Economy* and *Plan B: 3.0* are good places to start. Co-op America Quarterly provides excellent coverage. The Web is full of information.
11. **Involve all generations.** Seniors at a retirement community have formed a group to look in depth at various forms of green technology and how to incorporate "going green" concept into their future. School children are participating in tree planting projects. Grow-a-Tree Project is an example from Canada.
12. **Have a party.** Pete Seeger corralled some friends, built a vintage sailing sloop, named it the "Clearwater", and then sailed it with groups of folks to have fun singing together and to raise support for cleaning up the Hudson River.
13. **Stage an event.** One man swam the Amazon to call attention to its need for cleanup. A group put on a satire to raise money for green groups.

Be the change you wish to see in the world. Mahatma Gandhi

This paper was created by Jackie McMakin in 2008 (info@faithatwork.com). Please distribute widely.

