

# 101 Ways to 'GO GREEN'

1. Buy products with no packaging or packaging you can reuse or recycle. Buy in bulk to avoid excess packaging.
2. Use materials with high post-consumer recycled content.
3. Bring in your own bags in the market.
4. Use reusable glass or metal containers for water. Do not use plastic water bottles.
5. Forego disposable plates, napkins, and flatware and use linens from organic, sustainable and fair trade resources.
6. Switch to reusable coffee filters and supply your home office with fair trade, organic coffees and teas.
7. Wash and reuse plastic sandwich, snack and storage bags.
8. Bring your own mug or thermos to our favorite coffee spot.
9. Bring lunch to work in reusable containers.
10. Lease or build your home or office in urban areas where daily needs are easily accessible by walking, biking or public transportation.
11. Take advantage of all square footage and install a green roof. [www.greenroofs.org](http://www.greenroofs.org)
12. Capture rainwater to water your plants.
13. Install low-flow dual flushing toilets and waterless urinals.
14. Use low-flow dual flushing sinks faucets and showerheads.
15. Turn off the lights when you leave the room.
16. Shut off your computer and monitor when you're not using it.
17. Set the thermostat at 78 degrees in the summer and 65 degrees in the winter.
18. Change air filters regularly.
19. Get a professional energy audit done at home and at your business. [www.resnet.us](http://www.resnet.us)
20. Know your local salvage yards and antique shops. Use them instead of new.
21. Don't always buy new, someone's trash may be your treasure -- and visa versa. [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org)
22. Get off junk mail lists. [www.directmail.com/directory/mail\\_preference/](http://www.directmail.com/directory/mail_preference/)
23. Sign up for online banking to stop receiving paper statements.
24. Set up a recycling center at home and the office. Recycle glass, paper, newspaper, metals and cardboard. [www.earth911.org/recycling/start-recycling-program/](http://www.earth911.org/recycling/start-recycling-program/)
25. Set up a compost bin at home. [www.epa.gov/compost](http://www.epa.gov/compost)
26. Turn off the dishwasher's drying cycle.
27. Use green cleaning products.
28. Use public transportation, walk or bike--especially to appointments and run errands. [www.publictransportation.org](http://www.publictransportation.org)
29. Cluster many errands into one trip.
30. Drive a hybrid car.
31. Check the air pressure in your tires to optimize fuel efficiency.
32. Dress sustainably--wear organically grown fibers and fair-trade produced clothing.
33. Skip the elevator and use the stairs.
34. Save single-sided paper for notes and children's sketch paper.
35. Send cards and notes on recycled paper, or send e-cards.
36. Get a library card and borrow books.
37. Donate old design magazines to your doctor, dentist, veterinarian or real estate agent for their lobbies.
38. Recycle all carpet.
39. Find a green dry cleaner and bring your own garment bag. [www.greenearthcleaning.com](http://www.greenearthcleaning.com)
40. Do not litter.
41. Offset your energy you use at home and office by purchasing green power. [www.green-e.org](http://www.green-e.org)
42. Go carbon neutral. [www.davidsuzuki.org/climate\\_change/what\\_you\\_can\\_do/carbon\\_neutral.asp](http://www.davidsuzuki.org/climate_change/what_you_can_do/carbon_neutral.asp)
43. Subscribe to Building Green Suite and get a 30 percent discount through your ASID membership. [www.buildinggreen.com/go/asid](http://www.buildinggreen.com/go/asid)
44. Buy or rent a house or office that is already built and/or in green-certified building.
45. Create spaces that have views to the outside. Take advantage of daylight. Add a skylight.
46. Design smaller more efficient spaces. Maximize vertical space wherever possible.
47. Create green standards for each of your projects.
48. Request that your manufacturers use less packaging.
49. Know, tour, and support your local manufacturers.
50. Support local and sustainable forestry practices. [www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org)
51. Use rapidly renewable materials like bamboo, strawboard, linoleum and wool carpet.
52. Reuse and reupholster furniture.
53. Donate outdated samples to a local design school, or to an elementary school, church or nursery school for their arts and craft projects.
54. Take your clients to locally owned restaurants.
55. Teach school children about what you are doing to make homes and businesses greener, and what they do in their own families.
56. Specify and purchase responsibly from fair-trade and/or local resources for all products.

57. Specify and use Energy Star rated appliances. [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)
58. Specify and install ceiling fans to improve circulation of heat and cool-air.
59. Specify and use radiant heat. [www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/radiant\\_heating](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/radiant_heating)
60. Specify and use low- or zero-volatile organic compound (VOC) paints. [www.greenseal.org/certification/standards/paints.cfm](http://www.greenseal.org/certification/standards/paints.cfm)
61. Specify and use daylighting and occupancy sensors.
62. Specify Greenguard Air Quality-certified furniture. [www.greenguard.org](http://www.greenguard.org)
63. Specify upholstered furnishings free of PBDE (polybromide diethylene). [www.thegreenguide.com/doc/108/pbdesum](http://www.thegreenguide.com/doc/108/pbdesum)
64. Specify products from local resources (i.e. within a 500-mile radius of the product's end use).
65. Specify LED or fluorescent lighting.
66. Specify and use daylighting and occupancy sensors.
67. Use live indoor plants and suggest a green plant maintenance program.
68. Offer only non-toxic materials when giving options.
69. Specify and use Energy Star-qualified double-pane windows for better insulation. [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)
70. Specify and use tankless water heaters. [www.tanklesswaterheaterguide.com](http://www.tanklesswaterheaterguide.com)
71. Specify and use urea -and formaldehyde-free and composite wood.
72. Specify remanufactured furniture.
73. Specify and use entryway systems that will capture dirt before it enters the office or home.
74. Specify and use operable windows.
75. Specify and use carpet and padding that meet the Carpet and Rug Institute's Green Label testing.
76. Fill products libraries with green options. [www.asid.org/NR/rdonlyresA9A7E712-83C2-4C06-8BE0-2071C2FC19F9/0/TurningGreen2006.pdf](http://www.asid.org/NR/rdonlyresA9A7E712-83C2-4C06-8BE0-2071C2FC19F9/0/TurningGreen2006.pdf)
77. Provide incentives for your employees to carpool, walk, bike or take public transportation to work. Most major transit systems offer employee discount programs.
78. Install a bike rack at your office and provide a place for employees to shower. [www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org)
79. Have a non-smoking facility.
80. Buy recycled office products including paper, toilet paper and envelopes. [www.seventhgeneration.com](http://www.seventhgeneration.com)
81. Provide a paper recycling bin at each employee's desk and a few throughout the office.
82. Print letterhead, business cards and marketing material and post-consumer recycled paper. [www.thegreenoffice.com](http://www.thegreenoffice.com)
83. Buy a printer that prints on both sides of the paper.
84. Invest in, and provide socially responsible investments for employees.
85. Read a book about sustainability movement. [www.asid.org/knowledge/sustainable-books](http://www.asid.org/knowledge/sustainable-books)
86. Volunteer your time at local conservation agencies.
87. Take a walk on your local trail system. Learn about the local flora and fauna.
88. Visit a horse-logged forest and revel in its beauty. [www.community.roanoke.com/healingharvestforestfoundation](http://www.community.roanoke.com/healingharvestforestfoundation)
89. Set up a worm bin and share the experience with kids.
90. Plant an herb garden and grow a tomato plant.
91. Insist on native plants suited to the local climate for landscaping.
92. Buy locally grown or organic flowers at home and at the office. [www.organicbouquet.com](http://www.organicbouquet.com)
93. Join a community supported agriculture program. [www.localharvest.com](http://www.localharvest.com)
94. Eat locally grown food. Encourage restaurants and caterers to use local organic foods.
95. Eat seafood that is safely and sustainably produced and harvested. [www.mbayaq.org/cr/seafoodwatch.asp](http://www.mbayaq.org/cr/seafoodwatch.asp)
96. Ask restaurants near your home and office to use recyclable or compostable "to go" containers instead of styrofoam.
97. Know, visit and support your local artists.
98. Select hotels with green or eco-lodging programs. [www.greenhotels.com](http://www.greenhotels.com)
99. Consider an eco-tourism vacation to learn about new people and their cultures. [www.ecotourism.org](http://www.ecotourism.org)
100. Offset carbon emissions from travel with Trees for Travel or other similar programs. [www.tressfortravel.com](http://www.tressfortravel.com)
101. Check out the numerous resources on the ASID Sustainable Design Web Site. [www.asid.org/green](http://www.asid.org/green)