

# REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND THE EFFECTS OF GLOBAL WARMING

AN INFORMATIONAL GUIDE



PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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## PURPOSE

The purpose of this information guide is to bring public awareness to the need for every American and every Californian to do their part to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the effects of global warming. Small changes in our daily habits, will help to reduce these effects and save our planet for future generations to enjoy.

The information contained in this guide is from the *Office of California Attorney General, Global Warming Measures, Updated: February 14, 2008*. "Energy Efficiency leads the mitigation list because it promises significant greenhouse gas reductions through measures that are cost-effective for the individual residential and commercial energy consumer."

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- ▶ Design buildings to be energy efficient.
- ▶ Install efficient lighting and lighting control systems. Use daylight as an integral part of lighting systems in buildings.
- ▶ Install light colored "cool" roofs, cool pavements, and strategically placed shade trees.
- ▶ Install energy efficient heating and cooling systems, appliances and equipment, and control systems. **More information on energy efficiency, is available in the City's Energy Tips brochure, available at City Hall, Planning Department or on City's web site at [www.californiacity.com](http://www.californiacity.com)**
- ▶ Learn about energy saving ENERGY STAR heating and cooling systems, appliances and equipment. Take a room-by-room tour of Energy Star at home at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)
- ▶ Visit [www.FlexYourPower.org](http://www.FlexYourPower.org) or call Toll Free at (866) 431-Flex (3539) .
- ▶ Visit [www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/eem/energy-r.cfm](http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/eem/energy-r.cfm) to learn more about Energy Efficient Mortgage Insurance, purchase or refinance a principal residence and incorporate the cost of energy-efficient improvement into the mortgage. National Toll Free (800) 669-9777 (voice) or (800) 927-9275 (TTY)
- ▶ Install light emitting diodes (LEDS) for traffic, street and other outdoor lighting.
- ▶ Limit the hours of operation of outdoor lighting.
- ▶ Use solar heating, automatic covers, and efficient pumps and motors for pools and spas.

## RENEWABLE ENERGY

- ▶ Install solar power systems, solar and tankless hot water heaters, and energy-efficient heating ventilation and air conditioning.
- ▶ Install solar panels or carports and over parking areas.
- ▶ Use combined heat and power in appropriate applications.

## WATER CONSERVATION AND EFFICIENCY

- ▶ Create water-efficient landscapes.
- ▶ Install water-efficient irrigation systems and devices, such as soil moisture-based irrigation controls.
- ▶ Use reclaimed water for landscape irrigation in new developments and on public property. Install the infrastructure to deliver and use reclaimed water.
- ▶ Design buildings to be water-efficient. Install water-efficient fixtures and appliances.
- ▶ Use gray water. (Gray water is untreated household waste water from bath tubs, showers, bathroom wash basins, and water from clothes washing machines.) For example, install dual plumbing in all new development allowing gray water to be used for landscape irrigation.
- ▶ Restrict watering methods (e.g., prohibit systems that apply water to non-vegetated surfaces) and control runoff.
- ▶ Restrict the use of water for cleaning outdoor surfaces and vehicles.
- ▶ Implement low-impact development practices that maintain the existing hydrologic character of the site to manage storm water and protect the environment. (Retaining storm water runoff onsite can drastically reduce the need for energy-intensive imported water at the site.)
- ▶ Devise a comprehensive water conservation strategy appropriate for the project and location. The strategy may include many of the specific items listed above, plus other innovative measures that are appropriate to the specific project.

## SOLID WASTE MEASURES

- ▶ Reuse and recycle construction and demolition waste (including, but not limited to, soil, vegetation, concrete, lumber, metal, and cardboard).
- ▶ Provide interior and exterior storage areas for recyclables and green waste and adequate recycling containers located in public areas.

- ▶ See local phone book for recycling center's location and hours of operation.

## LAND USE MEASURES

- ▶ Include mixed-use, infill, and higher density in development projects to support the reduction of vehicle trips, promote alternatives to individual vehicle travel, and promote efficient delivery of services and goods.
- ▶ Educate the public about the benefits of well-designed, higher density development.
- ▶ Incorporate public transit into project design.
- ▶ Preserve and create open space and parks. Preserve existing trees, and plant replacement trees at a set ratio.
- ▶ Develop "brownfields" and other underused or defunct properties near existing public transportation and jobs.
- ▶ Include pedestrian and bicycle-only streets and plazas within developments. Create travel routes that ensure that destinations may be reduced conveniently by public transportation, bicycling or walking.

## TRANSPORTATION AND MOTOR VEHICLES

- ▶ Limit idling time for commercial vehicles, including delivery and construction vehicles.
- ▶ Limit idling time around schools.
- ▶ Use low or zero-emission vehicles, including construction vehicles.
- ▶ Create car sharing programs e.g., by designating a certain percentage of parking spaces for ride sharing vehicles, and providing a web site or message board for coordinating rides.
- ▶ Create local "light vehicle" networks, such as neighborhood electric vehicle (NEV) systems.
- ▶ Provide the necessary facilities and infrastructure to encourage the use of low or zero-emission vehicles (e.g., electric vehicle charging facilities and conveniently located alternative fueling stations).
- ▶ Build or fund a transportation center where various public transportation modes intersect.
- ▶ Provide shuttle service to public transit.
- ▶ Incorporate bicycle-friendly intersections into street design.
- ▶ For commercial projects, provide adequate bicycle parking near building entrances to promote cyclist safety, security, and convenience. For large employers, provide facilities that encourage bicycle commuting, including, e.g., locked storage or covered or indoor bicycle parking.
- ▶ Create bicycle lanes and walking paths directed to the location of schools, parks and other destination points.

- ▶ Work with the school district to restore or expand school bus services.
- ▶ Brochures on public transportation is available in the lobby at City Hall, 21000 Hacienda Boulevard.

## QUICK TIPS AND SAVE MONEY!


- ▶ Turn off lights, appliances and equipment when not in use.
- ▶ Limit idling time around schools, park and walk.
- ▶ Properly inflate all vehicle tires.
- ▶ Turn down the thermostat when noone is home.
- ▶ Do not run the water while brushing your teeth or shaving.

## LEARN MORE

- ▶ The Heat Island Effect: <http://eetd.lbl.gov/HeatIsland/>
  - ▶ Planting trees helps to fight global warming, visit The Arbor Day Foundation at <http://www.arborday.org> or call them TOLL FREE 1-888-448-7337, there is valuable FREE information and for a small donation you can get 10 FREE trees for your area, give tree gift cards, educational resources, volunteer tree planting events and more!
- ▶ California Energy Commission offers many publications on energy-efficiency, such as, "How to Hire an Energy Services Company" <http://energy.ca.gov/reports/efficiencyhandbooks>
- ▶ Energy Star appliances: <http://www.energystar.gov/>
- ▶ Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) is a system that ranks computer products based on their conformance to a set of environmental criteria, including energy-efficiency. <http://www.epeat.net/>
- ▶ LED lighting is substantially more energy efficient than conventional lighting and can save money. <http://www.energy.ca.gov/efficiency/partnership/case>
- ▶ At the direction of the Governor of the State of California and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) approved the California Solar Initiative on January 12, 2006. The initiative creates a \$3.3 billion, ten-year program to install solar panels on one million roofs in the State. <http://www.acgov.org/gsa>
- ▶ Combined Heat and Power (CHP) by using waste heat recovery technology, CHP systems can reduce emissions of carbon dioxide. <http://www.epa.gov/chp/basic/efficiency.html>
- ▶ The Water Conservation in Landscaping Act of 2006, <http://www.owue.water.ca.gov/landscape/ord/updatedOrd.cfm>

- ▶ Learn about The Graywater Guide, Department of Water Resources, Office of Water Use Efficiency and Transfers [http://www.owue.water.ca.gov/docs/graywater\\_guide\\_book](http://www.owue.water.ca.gov/docs/graywater_guide_book)
- ▶ See U.S. EPA, Our Built and Natural Environment, a technical review. <http://www.epa.gov/dced/pdf/built.pdf>
- ▶ See California Department of housing and Community Development, Myths and Facts About Affordable and High Density Housing <http://www.hcd.ca.gov/hpd/mythsnfacts.pdf>
- ▶ The California Integrated Waste Management Board's web site contains numerous publications on recycling and waste reduction that may be helpful in devising an education project. <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Publications/default.asp?cat=13>
- ▶ There are a number of car sharing programs operating in California:
  - ▶ City CarShare <http://www.citycarshare.org/>
  - ▶ Zip Car <http://www.zipcar.com>
  - ▶ Flexcar <http://flexcar.com>
- ▶ Visit [www.FlexYourPower.org](http://www.FlexYourPower.org) or call Toll Free at (866) 431-Flex (3539) .
- ▶ Southern California Gas Company's Energy Efficiency Program for Commercial/Industrial Large Business Customers <http://www.socalgas.com/business/efficiency/grants/>

Please call the California City Planning Department or telephone (760) 373-7141, if you have any questions or require additional information regarding this brochure.

 **ITS TIME TO LEARN TO SAVE ENERGY AND FIGHT GLOBAL WARMING!!!**