TIPS TO GO GREEN

(Worldwatch Institute)

Save Energy, Save Money
- Set your thermostat a few degrees lower in the winter and a few degrees higher in the summer to save on heating and cooling costs;
- Install compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs);
- Unplug appliances when not in use, or use a smart power strip that senses when appliances are off and cuts "phantom" energy use;
- Wash clothes in cold water...up to 85 percent of energy used to machine-wash clothes goes to hot water;
- Use a drying rack or clothesline to save energy. If you use a dryer, consider adding dryer balls to cut drying time.

Save Water...Save Money
- Shorter showers reduce water use and lower water and heating bills;
- Install low-flow showerheads...they don't cost much and the water and energy savings can quickly pay back the investment;
- Use a faucet aerator on every faucet...aerator's are inexpensive, conserve heat and water, while keeping water pressure high;
- Plant drought-resistant and native plants that require minimal watering.

Less Gas = More Money (and better health)
- Walk or bike when possible...saves on gas while improving cardiovascular health.
- Stop idling your car...only 10 seconds of idling uses more fuel than turning the engine on and off. Vehicles that idle 10 minutes per day waste more than 29 gallons of fuel each year.

Eat Smart
- Buy locally produced foods; including meats, dairy and produce whenever possible...purchasing from local farmers keeps money in the local economy.

Skip the Bottled Water
- Use a water filter to purify tap water instead of buying bottled water. Not only is bottled water expensive, but it generates large amounts of waste;
- Bring a reusable water bottle when traveling or at work

Borrow Instead of Buy
- Use the Library for books and movies...The Library saves money, not to mention the ink and paper that goes into printing new books.

Recycle Electronics
- Keep cell phones, computers, and other electronics as long as possible;
- Donate or recycle electronic items responsibly when the time comes (electronic waste contains mercury and other toxics and is a growing environmental problem).

Make Your Own Cleaning Supplies
- Making your own cleaning products saves money, time, and packaging...not to mention improving indoor air quality.