UW-Marathon County Library Restroom Reader

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Special Earth Day Edition: 6 Ways to Go Green and Save Green

Save energy to save money

- Install compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) when your older incandescent bulbs burn out.
- Unplug appliances when you're not using them.
- Wash clothes in cold water whenever possible.

Save water to save money

- Take shorter showers.
- Install a low-flow showerhead.
- Make sure you have a faucet aerator on each faucet which conserves heat and water, while keeping water pressure high.
- Plant drought-tolerant native plants in your garden which require less watering.

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 container waste.
- Bring a reusable water bottle, preferably aluminum rather than plastic, with you when traveling or at work.

Borrow instead of buying

- Borrow from libraries instead of buying personal books and movies. This saves money, not to mention the ink and paper that goes into printing new books.
- Share power tools and other appliances. This also cuts down on the number of things cluttering your closet or garage.

Think before you buy

- Go online to find new or gently used secondhand products. Consider a service like *craigslist* to track down furniture, appliances, and other items cheaply or for free.
- Check out garage sales, thrift stores, and consignment shops for clothing and other everyday items.

Keep electronics out of the trash

- Keep your cell phones, computers, and other electronics as long as possible.
- Donate or recycle them responsibly when the time comes. E-waste contains mercury and other toxics and is a growing environmental problem.

If you are interested in conducting research on environmental issues, check out the library database Environment Complete. It contains research on topics such as

environmental technology and law, renewable energy sources, natural resources, and pollution & waste management

This information was retrieved from the Worldwatch Institute, a global environmental organization

http://www.worldwatch.org/resources/ go green save green