

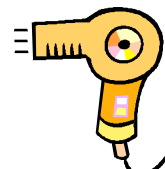


## Ten Ways to Save Money While Saving the Earth

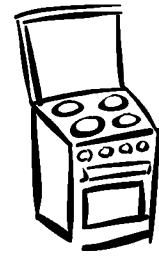
Who says living the green life has to cost a lot of green? There are plenty of ways to protect the planet for free, and even some that save you money.



1. Hit the thrift store for bargains on gently used clothing, furniture, and other household items. They have more than just macramé pot holders and polyester bell bottoms, you know.
2. It costs \$0.05 to use a blow dryer for 15 minutes. Let your hair air dry and save \$18.00 a year. The natural look is in!
3. Wash and rinse your clothes in cold water to save energy and save up to \$0.75 per load. Better yet, save money *and* time spent folding laundry by wearing your blue jeans more than once per wash. Nobody has to know.
4. For less than \$30.00, you can install a faucet water filter and fill up your reusable water bottle whenever you like. Or you can spend \$30.00 every month on bottled water and contribute to the 2.5 million plastic bottles that are thrown away every hour. You can spend your money however you want, but I'm going with option #1.
5. Feed your caffeine addiction for cheap, without wasting a disposable cup, lid, and straw every time. Many convenience stores and restaurants sell reusable mugs and cups that you can bring back for free or discounted coffee and soda refills. Go crazy!
6. If you must drive your car, get better gas mileage while reducing CO<sup>2</sup> emissions by properly inflating your tires, keeping your air filter clean, and filling up your tank when it's cool, early in the morning or late in the evening. (When it's hot, gas expands so you get less per gallon and give off more emissions.)



7. Choose gas appliances over electric to cut down on CO<sup>2</sup> emissions, and save \$0.11 every time you boil pasta, \$0.13 every time you bake a casserole, and \$0.35 every time you dry a load of laundry. Better yet, eat a salad and line-dry your socks for free!



8. Save yourself time and money, about 230 hours and \$40.00 a year, by using the dishwasher, full loads only. The dishwasher uses 5,000 gallons less water per year than hand-washing. Or you could just let the dog lick your plate clean for free.

9. Cameras, toys, flashlights—you're going to need batteries. Instead of single use batteries, get rechargeables. They may cost more up front, and you'll need to buy a charger, but over time you'll buy far fewer batteries. Some can recharge hundreds of times, and when they do die out, they can be recycled.



10. For every \$11.00 you spend at the grocery store, \$1.00 pays for product packaging, which makes up about 1/3 of our trash. Buy in bulk and resist the temptation of single serving packages. Come on, how much harder is it to pour applesauce from a big jar than to peel the lid off of a small plastic cup? Besides, sometimes those darn lids are really hard to get off.

