

PORTLAND CLIMATE ACTION NOW!



City of Portland Bureau of
Planning and Sustainability
Sam Adams, Mayor | Susan Anderson, Director

Taking action on climate change can seem overwhelming. But residents like you are already taking important steps to move us in the right direction.

The choices we make everyday about food, heating and powering our homes, getting around and buying and disposing of stuff make up more than half of all local carbon emissions. We all have an important role to play.

The good news is, making choices that protect the climate makes sense in our everyday lives. These choices help us save money, be healthy, support our local economy and connect with family, friends and community.

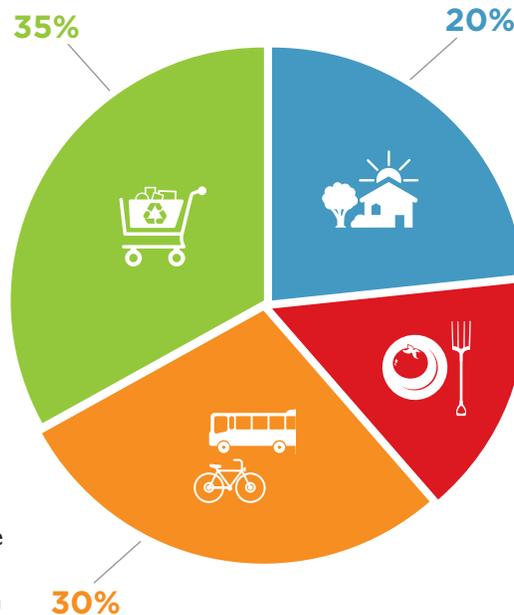
TAKE ACTION TODAY!

CLIMATE AND YOUR STUFF

FACT: About 35 percent of household carbon emissions come from the manufacturing, shipping and packaging of the stuff we buy; food adds another 16 percent.

CLIMATE AND GETTING AROUND

FACT: The transportation of people accounts for almost 30 percent of local carbon emissions in Multnomah County.



CLIMATE AND A HEALTHY HOME

FACT: The heating, cooling and powering of buildings is the single largest contributor to human-caused global warming, accounting for about a third of total carbon emissions. About 20 percent of all emissions come from our homes.

CLIMATE AND FOOD CHOICES

FACT: The global system for producing, distributing and landfilling of food accounts for at least 16 percent of household carbon emissions that cause global warming.

WHAT IS GLOBAL WARMING?

Global warming is happening because we are putting too much carbon into the atmosphere by burning fossil fuels for energy—whether it's to drive our cars, or to power and heat our homes and businesses.

Global warming is driven by the "greenhouse effect," a natural phenomenon essential to life as we know it. Water vapor, carbon dioxide and other gases in the Earth's atmosphere act like a blanket over the Earth, absorbing some of the heat from the sunlight-warmed surface of the

planet instead of allowing it to escape into space. Increasing the amount of these gases, often referred to as "carbon emissions," in the atmosphere essentially makes the blanket thicker—trapping excess heat around the globe.

The impacts are much broader and more complex than a simple increase in temperature, however. Global warming is accompanied by changes in precipitation patterns, increased frequency and intensity of storms, wildfires, droughts, floods and rising sea levels.

TAKE ACTION TODAY! Find out more: www.portlandclimateaction.org

CLIMATE-FRIENDLY ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE AT HOME

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

TAKE ACTION TODAY!

Most of these actions can be done in less than 20 minutes, for less than \$20. Why wait?

Save energy and costs: replace incandescent light bulbs with efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs).
www.18seconds.org

Plug your microwave, stereo, chargers, television and computer equipment into power strips that can be shut off when not in use.

Keep your home cooler in the winter (66°F daytime, 55°F sleeping/away from home), and warmer in the summer (75°F daytime, 78°F sleeping/away from home).

Do simple weatherization by sealing cracks and leaks around walls, trim, outlets, doors and windows.

NEXT STEPS...

With just a little set up time, you can get your household on the right track.

Set up a free home energy review with Energy Trust of Oregon: 866-968-7878
www.energytrust.org

Buy clean energy from your utilities:
PGE: 503-228-6322
www.portlandgeneral.com
Pacific Power: 1-800-869-3717
www.pacificpower.net
NW Natural: 1-800-422-4012
www.nwnatural.com

Track and monitor your home's energy use (water, gas, oil, electricity):
www.sagesteps.com
www.earthaid.net

START PLANNING FOR CHANGE.

Some changes take time and planning. Start thinking about these goals now.

Fully insulate your home and seal ducts.
www.cleanenergyworkshopportland.org

Replace your furnace, water heater and home appliances with ENERGY STAR models that qualify for Oregon tax credits:
www.oregon.gov/ENERGY

When planning a home renovation project, call the Green Building Hotline for free expert advice.
503-823-5431
www.buildgreen411.com

Install solar water heating or a solar electric system on your home: 1-877-546-8769
www.solarnoworegon.org

CLIMATE AND A HEALTHY HOME



CLIMATE AND GETTING AROUND



Maintain your car: properly inflate tires and keep it tuned up for efficient driving.

Combine several errands into one trip by planning ahead, making a list, using closer stores, grouping your appointments and doing one-stop shopping:
www.driveless.savemore.com

40 percent of all Portland trips are under 1.5 miles. Switch at least one of your drive-alone trips to walking, transit, carpooling or biking. Free resources at:
www.GettingAroundPortland.org and
www.trimet.org

Track your monthly driving mileage. Make a goal to reduce your mileage by a specific percentage.



Buy the most fuel-efficient vehicle that meets your needs.

If your household has more than one car, try to eliminate a car and borrow or share a second vehicle when you need one.

Planning to move? Consider neighborhoods with daily services within walking distance:
www.walkscore.com

CLIMATE AND YOUR STUFF



Recycle right: recycle all paper, metal and glass, as well as yogurt tubs and other plastics accepted at curbside: 503-823-7202
www.portlandonline.com/bps/carts

Recycle non-curbside items at a local depot: 503-234-3000
www.oregonmetro.gov/findarecycler

Paper or plastic? No thanks! Take reusable bags with you every time you go shopping.

Compost food scraps in your backyard:
www.oregonmetro.gov

Shop local: visit neighborhood shops and keep your dollars in Portland:
www.portlandisbettertogether.com

Maintain and repair durable items.

Be a smart consumer:

- Make a list.
- Cross off any items that can be rented, purchased used or borrowed instead.
- Buy long-lasting, durable and reusable goods.



CLIMATE AND FOOD CHOICES



Make a shift to eating a diet rich in fruits, vegetables and grains, and become less reliant on meat:
www.meatlessmonday.com

Buy minimally processed and packaged food.

Look for locally-produced and organic foods.

Plant a vegetable garden and fruit and nut bearing trees:
www.portlandonline.com/bps/ugb

Portland Parks and Recreation, Community Gardens: 503-823-1612
www.portlandonline.com/parks