



CONSIDER A HYBRID

Looking to buy a new car? Consider a hybrid, which runs on a combination of a gasoline engine and electric motor. **Hybrids get up to 50 mpg**, compared with 15-25 mpg for a typical vehicles.

Your hybrid car qualifies for Arlington County's **new personal property tax break — \$20,000 of value is exempt** — for clean emission vehicles.

Even better, walk, bike, carpool, or take transit more often. You'll save one pound of CO₂ for every mile you don't drive.

More info: www.arlingtonva.us/climate



CHANGE A LIGHTBULB

Switch from traditional incandescent bulbs to compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFL). A 30-watt CFL produces as much light as an old-fashioned 100-watt bulb and **lasts about 12 times as long**. Each CFL can save you \$40 or more over its lifetime! Dimmable CFLs are now available.

Replacing just one bulb with a CFL will **save 150 pounds of CO₂ every year**. If every Arlington household changed just one bulb, we'd reduce as much CO₂ as removing 1,000 cars from our roads!

More info: www.arlingtonva.us/climate



USE LESS HOT WATER

Save energy by **lowering your water temperature** from 140 degrees to 120 degrees. **Insulate your water heater** with a simple insulating blanket found at any hardware store. And if you are really ambitious, install solar water heating on your roof.

Install a low flow showerhead and wash your clothes in cold water (saves 500 pounds of CO₂/year). Only wash full loads of laundry and full dishwashers.

More info: www.arlingtonva.us/climate



ADJUST YOUR THERMOSTAT

Turn your thermostat down by two degrees in the winter and up two degrees in the summer. This saves nearly 2,000 pounds of CO₂/year and saves you money.

When you leave town on a trip, turn your thermostat down (or up in the summer). Install a **programmable thermostat** (\$100 or less) and program the temperature to automatically adjust to your schedule. You can recover the investment in the first year.

More info: www.arlingtonva.us/climate



KILL THE ENERGY “VAMPIRES”

TVs, video and DVD players, cable boxes, chargers for phones, laptops, cameras, handheld devices, and other **electronic equipment** found in nearly every American home are wasting huge amounts of energy.

When these devices are left plugged in or in standby mode (e.g., computer “sleep” mode), they use about 40 percent of their full running power. To avoid the drain of these energy “vampires,” **plug them into a power strip and turn it off** when they are not in use.

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(ENERGY) AUDIT YOUR HOUSE

The greenhouse gas emissions of your house are equivalent to **two average automobiles**. By making improvements – sometimes as simple as fixing leaks, adding insulation and installing a hot water heater blanket – you can **reduce your energy use by 30 to 40 percent**, and even cut it in half.

Cutting your energy consumption by even 25% is the equivalent of taking a car off the road for 6 months each year, keeping **three to four tons of CO₂** out of the atmosphere.

More info: www.arlingtonva.us/climate



STEP OUT OF YOUR CAR

Take advantage of Arlington's many transit options. Take **Metrorail, Metrobus or Arlington Transit**. www.commuterpage.com

Hop on your bike — go to www.bikearlington.com for a map of Arlington's many bikeways and bike lanes. Walk it ... and get a heart-healthy workout in addition to reducing emissions. See www.walkarlington.com

For every mile you don't drive, you'll save one pound of CO₂.

More info: www.arlingtonva.us/climate



BUY LOCAL

Eat fresh! **Arlington hosts five Farmers' Markets**, making it easy for you to buy produce from local farmers. www.arlingtonfarmersmarket.com

Produce that is grown and sold locally avoids energy used to transport items from great distances. Many local farmers also use organic growing methods.

Another option is **community-supported agriculture (CSA)**, which provides local produce, fresh from the farm. www.dcfood.org

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PUT THE PRESSURE ON

Keep your **tires inflated properly**; under-inflated tires are energy drainers. This simple action can save 400-700 pounds of CO₂ per year!

Changing auto air filters regularly also increases fuel efficiency. **Accelerate slowly** (don't lead-foot it) and drive the speed limit. Better yet, ditch the car and walk, bike, or take transit (see TIP 7).

Every gallon of gasoline that you don't use keeps 20 pounds of CO₂ out of the atmosphere!

More info: www.arlingtonva.us/climate



GET AN ELECTRIC LAWNMOWER

Surrender your gasoline lawnmower, which is **among the dirtiest of modern machines**. Using your gasoline powered mower for one hour emits the same amount of pollution as driving a car 93 miles. Gas mowers emit a disproportionate amount of CO₂ as well as carcinogens such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.

Replace your gasoline lawnmower with an **electric model** or, better yet, a **manual mower**. You'll build your strength and reduce emissions.

More info: www.arlingtonva.us/climate



PLANT A TREE

Here's a fun family project! In the fall, gather acorns, chestnuts, and seeds from maples and other leafy trees and plant them in small pots at home. Keep the saplings for 4-5 years, then plant them in your own garden, offer them to friends as gifts, or return them to nature. Experiment with different types of seeds!

A single tree will absorb one ton of CO₂ over its lifetime. If 10% of Arlington residents planted just one tree, we would soon have an additional 20,280 tons of CO₂ removed from our air every year.

More info: www.arlingtonva.us/climate



REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

The manufacturing process produces an average **4-8 pounds of CO₂ for every pound of manufactured product**. You'll save 2,400 pounds of CO₂ per year by recycling half of your household waste.

Avoid plastic bags; take sturdy tote bags to the grocery store. **Reuse plastic grocery bags** as trash can liners and tote bags. Reuse take-out containers for plant saucers. Take a travel mug to your favorite coffee shop. Re-gift gift wrap or use reusable gift bags. Get creative and channel your inner Martha!

More info: www.arlingtonva.us/climate



HANG IT UP

Clothes dryers are energy gluttons. To reduce energy use, **clean the lint filter** after each load (improves air circulation and speeds drying). Use the cool-down cycle, which uses residual heat to complete the drying process.

Better yet, abandon your dryer (or use it less often) by hanging up your clothes. Apartment and condo dwellers can **buy a drying rack** that fits into the bathtub or folds up into the wall. Reduces CO₂ emissions, and your clothes will last longer!

More info: www.arlingtonva.us/climate



KILL-A-WATT

Just how much electricity are you using?

All Arlington branch libraries now have **Kill-A-Watt electricity usage meters** available for check-out. You can check availability or reserve one through the normal online Library catalog. The meters are listed under “kill-a-watt” and “electricity usage meters.” The devices measure the amount of electricity used by home appliances. You simply plug the meter into the electrical outlet, plug the appliance into the meter, and take a reading after one hour.

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