

to fill a party balloon every 90 minutes. Leaving appliances on standby still uses energy and wastes up to £1 billion of electricity in the UK every year.

- 19 Energy efficient light bulbs are more expensive than standard bulbs, but they last ten times longer and save energy, particularly for lights that are left on for long periods of time. Overall each energy saving bulb saves about £7 a year.
- 20 When replacing appliances buy the most energy efficient products possible. Look out for 'A' rated energy efficiency signs.
- 21 Try to ensure the dishwasher has a full load for each wash. If not, use the economy programme.

Transport

Cars generate a significant environmental impact through the consumption of fossil fuels and by causing harmful emissions.



- 22 Consider walking for short trips. You could save money and improve your fitness at the same time. It's cheaper than the gym! Also consider cycling or using public transport as these are often cheaper than running a car
- 23 Save on rising fuel costs, why not car share?
- 24 Turn off your car engine if you are in a traffic jam for more than two minutes.
- 25 Ensure your tyres are correctly inflated.

For more information contact Environmental Policy on **01803 207751** or email: **sustainability@torbay.gov.uk**

www.torbay.gov.uk/environmentpolicy

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25 simple ways to reduce climate change and save money



25 simple ways to save money and reduce your contribution to climate change

The rate at which the climate is changing is directly attributable to the activities of humans. The burning of fossil fuels for our energy and transport requirements emits potent greenhouse gases, in particular carbon dioxide.

This warms the Earth due to an enhancement of the greenhouse effect, which traps heat from the sun within the atmosphere.



Home and the environment

When power stations burn fossil fuels to generate energy, they create damaging greenhouse gas emissions which are pumped into the atmosphere. In the UK, around 25 per cent of all carbon dioxide emissions released into the atmosphere come from the energy used to run our homes.



Every household in the UK creates around six tonnes of carbon dioxide every year. In fact, the average home is responsible for more harmful carbon dioxide emissions than the average car produces every year.

What can you do?

Heating

- 1 Your hot water thermostat shouldn't need to be set higher than 60°C.
- 2 Turning your central heating thermostat down by 1°C could save 10% off your fuel bills.
- 3 Reducing draughts in your home will also save money on your bill. Heavy curtains will help keep out draughts, especially if they have thick lining and reach the floor or window sill. Remember to draw the curtains at dusk.
- 4 Lagging pipes can save energy and reduce your heating bill by £5 to £10.
- 5 If you have an old thin lagging jacket, fit a new 80mm (3") jacket over it – it'll pay for itself in a matter of months.
- 6 Try not to put obstructions directly in front of radiators as it greatly reduces their efficiency.
- 7 Take a shower instead of a bath – a bath can use up to five times as much hot water as a shower.



Cooking

- 8 Only fill a kettle to boil the amount of water you need.
- 9 Use boiling water immediately rather than leaving it and then re-boiling it.



- 10 Put well fitting lids on pans to heat the contents quicker.

Fridges/freezers

- 11 Keep your fridge temperature at 2°C to 3°C and the freezer at minus 15°C.
- 12 Make sure your fridge/freezer is not near a cooker or other heat sources.
- 13 Defrost your fridge and freezer regularly.
- 14 Make sure the door shuts tightly – if you can't trap a piece of paper in the door, the seal probably needs replacing.



Washing

- 15 Where possible dry clothes naturally, and not on radiators which reduces the room temperature.
- 16 Wash your laundry at 30°C. This will use 40% less energy than a normal temperature wash.
- 17 Try to ensure the washing machine has a full load for each wash rather than using half loads or washing single items.



Appliances

- 18 Switch off televisions, digiboxes, DVD players, computers and other appliances when not in use. A computer monitor emits enough carbon dioxide

