

Monthly Actions

March – December, 2009

Each month, we will offer one main action, with additional actions offered to those who want to do more.



	Green	Greener	Greenest
March	Change a light bulb from incandescent to compact fluorescent	Change three light bulbs	Change all your light bulbs
April	Set your water heater to 120 degrees	Install a programmable thermostat	Get your furnace professionally serviced
May	Check your tire pressure and drive at the speed limit	Don't use your car one day a week - carpool, walk, bike, sign up for rideshare, or take the bus	Make the change permanent – Dump your gas guzzler and buy a yearly bus pass, a hybrid or alternative fuel vehicle, upgrade your bike, or use ZipCar
June	Recycle everything you can	Cancel your junk mail and sign up for paperless e-billing	Join Freecycle or pick a resale shop and start donating things you don't want/need
July	Turn the air conditioner thermostat up 2 degrees	Air dry your clothes whenever possible, instead of using a clothes dryer	Buy green energy and reduce your peak energy use
August	Shop local – especially at our farmer's markets and farm stands	Compost at home	Install a tankless water heater and/or install a rain barrel
September	Go Green back to school with recycled products	Apply ENERGY STAR® computer settings	Buy ENERGY STAR appliances
October	Turn your furnace thermostat down 2 degrees	Get an Energy Audit	Insulate your home
November	Wash your clothes in cold water	Install a low-flow showerhead	Plant one or more drought-resistant native trees
December – Green your celebration	Re-use brown paper or newspaper, or use reusable boxes or bags to wrap presents	Switch your holiday lights to LED	Give a donation to the planet instead of a gift to one person you love – and tell her/him why
Bonus ideas	Bring reusable bags when shopping	Take your car in for scheduled maintenance	Get rid of your gasoline-powered lawn tools

Many of these actions are suggested by the Pittsburgh Climate Action Plan (<http://www.pittsburghclimate.org/documents/PittsburghClimateActionPlan.pdf>)

To report your actions, go to www.theblackandgoldcitygoesgreen.com and join the campaign today!