



Resolve to Save Calendar

Save money, make healthier choices, and reduce your environmental footprint with these small steps to help you reach your goals.

JANUARY

Cut energy costs with cozy tweaks

- **Consider installing a heat pump.** These versatile systems can heat your home in the winter and cool it in the summer while using significantly less energy than conventional HVAC systems.
- **Turn the thermostat back 7-10°F for eight hours** when you're asleep or out of the house. If you do the same in the summer, you can save around 10% per year on your heating and cooling bills.

FEBRUARY

Soak up savings in the kitchen

- **Wash dishes in an ENERGY STAR-qualified dishwasher** instead of by hand to cut utility bills by more than \$100 per year, and to save yourself over 230 hours of personal time annually.
- **Load up your dishwasher!** It will use about the same amount of energy and water per cycle regardless of how much you fill it. Save on costs by running full loads as much as possible.

MARCH

Power down during spring cleaning

- **Using an ENERGY STAR-certified bulb** can save you about \$55 over the course of the product's lifetime.
- **Use warm or cold water to do the laundry** instead of hot. About 90% of the energy it takes to operate a washing machine comes from heating the water. Washing in cold water will generally do a good job of cleaning.

APRIL

Give conservation some roots

- **Make sure your sprinkler system is working correctly.** You could be wasting up to 25,000 gallons of water and \$280 over the course of a six-month irrigation season.
- **Save water by adopting xeriscaping techniques.** Group plants with similar water needs, use mulch to reduce evaporation, and choose irrigation methods that maximize efficiency.

MAY

Waste not, want not

- **Replacing an item at home? Buy used!** Opting to reuse rather than buy new reduces the amount of waste that will need to be sent to landfills.
- **Start upcycling with creative DIY projects** that breathe new life into old items. You can turn an old t-shirt into a reusable bag or use empty plastic jugs to grow small herbs and vegetables.

JUNE

See green at the gas pump

- **Stick to the speed limit.** Gas mileage drops quickly at speeds over 55 miles per hour. While costs vary depending on the vehicle, you can assume that every 5 mph you drive over 50 mph is like paying an additional \$0.27 per gallon of gas.
- **Don't drive aggressively!** On top of being unsafe, speeding and sharp braking waste gas, lowering your car's gas mileage by 15-30% at highway speeds.

JULY

Put your cooling bills on ice

- **Switch your ceiling fans to spin counterclockwise** and you can raise the thermostat setting up to four degrees without sacrificing your comfort. Just make sure to shut it off when you leave the room!
- **Regularly clean and replace your cooling unit's air filter** to lower the unit's energy consumption by 5-15%. This is the quickest way to save energy on home cooling!

AUGUST

Kick fuel savings into high gear

- **Shut off your engine.** If you're idling your car for more than 10 seconds, you're likely using more fuel than you would to turn the engine off and restart it.
- **Check your tires regularly.** You can boost your gas mileage by as much as 3% just by maintaining manufacturer-recommended tire pressure.

SEPTEMBER

Reduce your carbon footprint

- **Choose walking, biking, or using public transportation** when possible. Nearly 60% of US transit buses utilize alternative fuels, offering a greener way to travel.
- **Make a plan to complete all your errands in as few trips as possible.** You can save fuel and money by combining smaller trips into a larger one.

OCTOBER

Cut water usage and drink up the savings

- **Address leaky faucets as soon as possible.** A leaky faucet that drips at a rate of one drop per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year.
- **Embrace shorter showers** to cut down your water and energy use. Even a few minutes can save thousands of gallons of water each year and help you save on your utility bills.

NOVEMBER

Go above and beyond traditional recycling

- **Think beyond just paper and plastic.** If you have old electronics cluttering your home, look for local recycling options. Many electronics stores will accept old electronics and recycle them for free.
- **Recycle non-traditional materials.** Did you know carpets and old furniture can be recycled? Check out earth911.com to find more recycling solutions near you!

DECEMBER

Celebrate conservation

- **Think before you trash those batteries.** Nickel Cadmium, Lithium-ion, Alkaline—the materials batteries contain determines which recycling options you should use.
- **Opt for energy-efficient LED lighting.** These bulbs can consume 90% less energy than their traditional incandescent counterparts, and they last 25 times longer.