

STEP 1:

Waste Reduction



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STEPS FOR HOME:

- Properly recycle items
 - Is the item: Clean? Dry? Broken down (boxes)? Plastic type 1, 2, or 5 (per Chatham rules)? Is the cap removed? Aluminum, or glass?
- Compost food waste
 - Local Service: Java's Compost
 - Residential services and community drop off options
- Shop at sustainable retailers and purchase goods second-hand
- Go to refill shops for home cleaning supplies

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STEPS FOR SCHOOL:

- In the cafeteria:
 - Bring your own container for hot lunch
 - Bring your own beverages in reusable bottles
 - Use a reusable lunch bag
 - Bring bamboo or metal utensils instead of using plastic
- School supplies:
 - Reuse notebooks, pens, etc.
 - Donate binders to local centers

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STEPS FOR COMMUNITIES:

- E- Cycling:
 - Drop off items at the Madison DPW as well
 - The DPW also recycles styrofoam!
- Donate old computers and tablets
- Many Schools can make good use of gently used devices
- Get involved with community projects
- Organize a recycling drive in your neighborhood or at school

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STEP 2:

Energy Reduction



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STEPS FOR HOME:

- Keep interior lights off when not in use
- Set exterior lights on a timer
- Unplug outlets when not in use
 - Prevents the waste of "phantom energy"
- Hang dry clothes instead of using a dryer
- Only use heat/A.C when needed and cover windows to prevent sunlight from warming your home whilst cooling it
 - Don't just leave it running on vacation!
- Use an electric leaf blower or a broom to clean walkways, etc.
- Install solar panels
- Buy an electric vehicle (EV)
- When replacing appliance buy energy efficient replacements (and donate old ones!)

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STEPS FOR SCHOOLS:

- Transportation
- Walk, bike or use a carpool to get to and from school
- Classroom
- Take advantage of natural light when possible
- Turn off and unplug all electronics when not in use
- Use LED light bulbs

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STEPS FOR COMMUNITIES:

- Use LED light bulbs to prevent CO2 emissions and increase energy efficiency
- Utilize green energy when possible
 - ex. Installing solar panels
- Become more conscious about your use of energy
 - ex. choosing to walk somewhere as opposed to driving
- Implement community solar programs

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STEP 3:

Water Usage



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STEPS FOR HOME:

- Restroom:
 - Check for leaks -> sinks, toilets, showers, etc
 - Take shorter showers
 - Turn off appliances when not in use
- Kitchen:
 - Use an automatic dishwasher and washing machines only for full loads
 - Keep a pitcher/bottle of drinking water in the fridge, so you don't have to wait for the tap to cool off
- Outdoor:
 - water your lawn only when necessary
 - plant draught resistant trees and plants

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STEPS FOR SCHOOLS:

- Restrooms:
 - Report and repair all leaky faucets and toilets in a timely manner
 - install automatic shut off faucets
- Maintain outdoor fields with drought resistant grass seeds

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STEPS FOR COMMUNITIES:

- Implement water conservation devices and strategies
- Organize a project to survey water usage within large facilities and homes and help plan how to reduce water usage
- Plant drought-tolerant vegetation
- Install water-efficient plumbing

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STEP 4:

Climate Solutions



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STEPS FOR HOME:

- Switch to solar energy and other renewable forms of energy
- Limit energy consumption
 - See step 2 for more details!
- Adjust to a plant-based diet
- Buy an electric vehicle to reduce carbon emissions
- Become more conscious about the implications of your actions and your carbon footprint

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STEPS FOR SCHOOLS:

- Transportation:
 - Bike, walk, or carpool to school
 - See step 2 for more information!
- Get involved with the Green Team (CHS students) or form your own environmental club
- Calculate your school's carbon footprint and see how you can get involved with lowering it

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STEPS FOR COMMUNITIES:

- Implement community solar programs
 - See step 2 for more!
- Get involved with local environmental organizations
- Utilize public transportation
- Reduce waste production and make sure recycling is completed according to town policies
- Switch to electric vehicles

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