



Oregon
Environmental
Council
It's Your Oregon

10 SUSTAINABILITY STEPS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES



Start with these simple steps to put your small business on the path to sustainability.

① **Save Energy**

Replace your incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs, reducing your electric bill and conserving energy.

② **Purchase Green Energy**

Purchase green power from your utility or an independent provider, increasing demand for clean, renewable energy and reducing demand for electricity from coal-fired and other polluting sources.

③ **Drive Less**

Offer your employees free transit passes and encourage carpooling, telecommuting or other means to reduce car trips to work. This reduces the multiple environmental and community impacts of over-reliance on automobiles.

④ **Purchase Renewable Fuels**

Fill some or all of your company vehicles with a blend of biodiesel or ethanol, reducing demand for foreign oil, fighting global warming and improving air quality.

⑤ **Support Healthy Food & Local Farms**

Choose predominantly local, sustainably produced food.

⑥ **Keep Our Rivers Clean**

Disconnect your downspouts to reduce storm-water runoff.

⑦ **Use Less Water**

Share your water bill with employees and tips on how to reduce water consumption at work.

⑧ **Go with a Healthy Shine**

Have your janitors use only biodegradable, non-toxic, or least-toxic cleaning products.

⑨ **Use Non-Toxic Pest Control**

Use non-toxic or least-toxic techniques both inside and outside your building to prevent pests (weeds and insects).

⑩ **Recycle**

Recycle your paper, glass, plastic, food waste, printer cartridges, fluorescent tubes, and batteries.

EXTRA CREDIT: Continue Your Efforts

Take additional steps over the coming years to reduce your company's environmental footprint and spread the word to your peers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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