

# Go **Green** for a Sustainable Future

## Green Communities

The Environmental Commission in your town works with the municipal government to protect precious resources and create a healthier place for people to live. Here are some things towns can do:

- ◆ Create more walking & biking paths
- ◆ Enact no-idling ordinances
- ◆ Encourage green building materials
- ◆ Establish pesticide-free zones
- ◆ Prevent stormwater from eroding soil and degrading streams
- ◆ Encourage green power
- ◆ Preserve open space
- ◆ Pass ordinances to protect wetlands, steep slopes and other critical areas
- ◆ Advocate to reclaim brownfields
- ◆ Enact ordinances to protect trees
- ◆ Adopt rules to foster clean air and drinking water
- ◆ Control noise & light pollution

## Green homes

Here are some easy things you can do to conserve resources and eliminate toxins in your home:

- ◆ Use energy-efficient light bulbs
- ◆ Clean with biodegradable, non-toxic products
- ◆ Go solar or choose renewable energy sources
- ◆ Pick appliances using less energy & water
- ◆ Insulate and weatherproof
- ◆ Get heating and cooling systems serviced regularly
- ◆ Adjust the thermostat
- ◆ Fix drips and install low-flow showerheads
- ◆ Keep lawns chemical-free
- ◆ Mow it & leave it
- ◆ Test for radon
- ◆ Reduce air pollution from aerosols, building materials, dry cleaning, etc.
- ◆ Be alert for lead paint

## Green living

Personal choices you make each day may seem small, but they can benefit the planet in a big way.

- ◆ Capture & re-use rainwater
- ◆ Recycle
- ◆ Compost table scraps & yard waste
- ◆ Avoid excessive or non-recyclable packaging
- ◆ Choose products that are reusable, durable, made of recycled materials
- ◆ Flush less
- ◆ Buy locally grown foods
- ◆ Pick up after pets
- ◆ Choose fuel-efficient cars & maintain them
- ◆ Drive less



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ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONS

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