



## Start on the Green Neighbor pathway!

The goal of the Green Neighbor initiative is to raise awareness, in households and neighborhoods, of how we use our natural resources. A Green Neighbor is committed to caring about the environment and living locally.

As a Green Neighbor, you will learn how to use energy and water more efficiently and in turn reduce the amount of waste your household creates. Not only will it save you money, but it will also reduce your carbon footprint.

Completing this worksheet lets you take credit for actions already taken, and encourages you to take on new challenges.

**Just take it one step at a time!**

### STEP 1 Complete Core Recommendations

#### Core Recommendations

Complete a minimum of 3 core recommendations.

Check the box for each 'yes' answer and score the points listed for each checked item.

PTS

- 3 Install a low-flow showerhead
- 3 Eat vegetarian one day per week
- 4 Commit to 100% recycling of recyclables
- 4 Join Energy for Tomorrow to purchase renewable energy – contact WE Energies to enroll
- 6 Replace 6 frequently used incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs or LED

\_\_\_\_\_ subtotal your Core Recommendation points

### STEP 2 Select additional actions to improve your performance.

#### Water Conservation & Usage

PTS

- 1 Reduce water use from a standard toilet by displacing water in the tank (eg. with a brick)
- 1 Turn off the water while you brush your teeth
- 2 Wash your car using a bucket instead of a hose
- 2 Use sprinkler on lawn at most 2 times per week
- 2 Avoid washing clothes and dishes during heavy rains
- 3 Find and fix water leaks
- 3 Install a rain barrel and use rainwater for watering plants or washing your car
- 3 Install a water saving toilet
- 5 Use a shower timer to save water, goal- 5 min/shower for each member of the family

\_\_\_\_\_ subtotal your Water Conservation points

#### Energy Efficiency

PTS

- 1 Wash clothes in cold water
- 1 Replace broken or cracked windows
- 1 Use natural lighting whenever possible
- 2 Use window shades during summer months
- 2 Maintain proper level of humidity
- 2 When shopping for new appliances, look for Energy Star label
- 2 Use power saver modes on computers
- 2 Set air conditioning at 78° or higher
- 3 Use fans in place of air-conditioning
- 3 Seal air leaks around windows and doors
- 3 Have a furnace/air conditioner tuned-up
- 3 Set water heater to 120 degrees
- 3 Insulate your hot water pipes
- 3 Use a programmable thermostat
- 3 Clean/replace standard furnace filters monthly
- 4 Set thermostat down 4° (65-68 day, 55-58 night)

\_\_\_\_\_ subtotal your Energy Efficiency points

#### Food & Community

PTS

- 1 Visit a farmer's market at least once/month in season
- 1 Attend a "green" film screening or discussion
- 2 Take a step toward whole, non-processed foods
- 2 Buy at least one local product per grocery trip
- 2 Join your neighborhood association
- 3 Grow one or two veggies at home
- 3 Get in the tap-water drinking habit
- 6 Join a Green Neighbor Team  
green.neighbor@gmail.com for more info.

\_\_\_\_\_ subtotal your Food & Community Points

**Step 2, continued ...**

**Smart Transportation**

PTS

- 2 Change oil regularly
- 2 Equip your bike for cargo
- 2 Take a trip by train
- 3 Recycle used oil. Recycle your motor oil solvents, used anti-freeze and car batteries
- 3 Lay off the car air conditioner
- 3 Maintain vehicle and check tire pressure regularly
- 4 Start driving earth-smart: Go easy on the brakes and avoid hard accelerations; reduce time spent idling; unload unnecessary items in your trunk to reduce weight
- 4 Ride your bike, take the bus, car pool, or walk at least once per week to work or school

\_\_\_\_\_ subtotal your Smart Transportation points

**Waste Reduction**

PTS

- 1 Purchase at least 3 items in bulk
- 1 Donate unwanted items
- 2 Participate in a neighborhood or green space cleanup
- 2 Avoid disposables, like paper napkins
- 2 Remove name from direct marketing lists at [www.dmchoice.org](http://www.dmchoice.org) or contact vendor directly
- 2 Bring re-usable cloth bags to carry purchases
- 2 Buy recycled products
- 3 At least once/ week for 4 weeks, take a bag on your walk and pick up recyclables and/or trash
- 3 Compost vegetable food waste
- 3 Create an art-piece or product using recycled materials

\_\_\_\_\_ subtotal your Waste reduction points

**STEP 3 Complete the Baseline Assessment**

**Baseline Assessment**

See [www.we-energies.com](http://www.we-energies.com) to obtain past annual energy usage.

ENTER YOUR ENERGY USAGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

TYPE	QUANTITY	COST (\$)
Electric	kWh/yr	
Natural Gas	therms	
Fuel Oil	gallons	
Renewable Energy		
Gasoline		

ANNUAL ENERGY COST: \_\_\_\_\_

*How do you compare to the average Wisconsin household?*  
 Average annual home energy bill and usage for Wisconsin:  
 \$3069, 7017 kWh & 1762 therms  
 Potential annual savings for an efficient home:  
 \$1,486, 2735 kWh, 913 therms, 15,647 lbs. of CO<sub>2</sub>  
 (<http://hes.lbl.gov/>)

**+ 6 points for completing the assessment**

**STEP 4 Total your points**

ACTION CATEGORY	MY SUBTOTALS	POSSIBLE
Core Recommendations		20
Energy Efficiency		38
Food & Community		20
Water Conservation		22
Smart Transportation		23
Waste Reduction		21
Baseline Assessment Credit		6
<b>TOTAL POINTS:</b>		<b>150</b>

**How Did I Do?**

**Sustainability Steps**

1-50 = Bronze; 50-100 = Silver; 100-150 points = Gold

**STEP 5 Submit your completed form**

Turn in your completed form at the Wauwatosa Public Library Reference Desk or mail to:



Cornelia Beilke  
 1443 Alice St  
 Milwaukee, WI 53213-2747

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- Send me more information on how to join a Green Neighbor Team.
- I want to volunteer.



The Green Neighbor initiative is a neighborhood based program currently being developed.  
**If you would like to volunteer, please send an e-mail to:**  
[green.neighbor@gmail.com](mailto:green.neighbor@gmail.com).