

SUSTAINABILITY AT HOME

For most of us, choosing to make eco-friendly decisions often begins at home. However, when you're unfamiliar with sustainable activities, finding ways to get involved can be intimidating.

First, start by finding ways you may be practicing sustainability without even knowing it. Do you turn off the water when you're brushing your teeth or turn off the lights when you leave a room? Do you recycle or donate unwanted items, rather than just throwing them in the trash? Once you've identified some of your everyday practices that are sustainable, you'll begin to notice other ways you can build sustainability into your routine. Maybe it's choosing to bike to the store, rather than driving. Or deciding to upgrade to a new energy efficient furnace when it's time to replace your old one. Either way, one sustainable action often leads to another, keeping us on the path to make Cleveland a green city on a blue lake.

Here are more ways you can make a difference at home:



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- Schedule a home energy audit with Cleveland Energy \$aver or Cleveland Housing Network's Home Weatherization Program
- Use a Power Strip and turn off electronics when not in use
- Replace incandescent bulbs with LEDs
- Install a programmable thermostat



CLEAN ENERGY

- Purchase renewable energy through community aggregation if you're an Illuminating Company customer
- Purchase solar for your home by joining Cuyahoga County's Solar Co-op



LOCAL FOOD

- Shop at farmers markets
- Join a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program
- Eat a climate-friendly diet by eating local and consuming a more plant-based diet



ZERO WASTE

- Learn how to recycle properly in your community at www.CuyahogaRecycles.org
- Reduce food and yard waste with backyard composting
- Donate clothes and household items to thrift stores or charity
- Don't litter! Pick up litter in your front yard or on your street



CLEAN WATER

- Install low-flow water fixtures
- Install a rain barrel, rain garden or permeable pavement and save money on your sewer bill
- Drink tap water out of a reusable water bottle rather than bottled water



TRANSPORTATION

- Use sustainable transportation such as public transit, walking, or riding a bicycle
- Have at least one car-free day every week
- Join bike to work day or use bike share (UH Bikes)



VIBRANT GREEN SPACE

- Become a Tree Steward
- Plant a tree in your yard to reduce impervious surfaces on your property and help keep your neighborhood cool during high heat days
- Plant native vegetation, such as milkweed to attract monarch butterflies and other pollinators



VITAL NEIGHBORHOODS & PEOPLE



- Support the Cleveland Climate Action Fund
- Learn how your neighborhood can take action with the Neighborhood Climate Action Toolkit
- Spend time on your porch or stoop and get to know your neighbors
- Participate in the Annual Sustainable Cleveland Summit
- Share Sustainable Cleveland events and actions on social media
- Sign up for the CodeRED Mass Notification System