



## Simple Actions Go a Long Way-----

### Top Ten Tips for Your Congregation and Household *from California Interfaith Power & Light – [interfaithpower.org](http://interfaithpower.org)*

- 1. Reduce, re-use, recycle:** It's not just for cans and bottles anymore – be sure to recycle paper and food scrapings for compost. Re-use items when possible rather than reaching for something new.
- 2. Switch to non-disposable items:** This goes for dishes, cups, cutlery, napkins and other items. If you're having an informal party, invite folks to bring their own mugs. At the very least, stop your use of Styrofoam.
- 3. Use less (hot) water:** 20% of the energy used in California goes just into moving water around, so saving water saves energy. Install a low-flow showerhead, efficient faucet aerators, and waterless urinals or low-flow toilets. It's easy and effective.
- 4. Change Your Bulbs:** Fluorescent and LED lighting are huge energy savers compared to incandescent. Start with replacing at least four bulbs with compact fluorescent. You'll save energy and money, too.
- 5. Unplug electrical devices when not in use:** Your devices are using energy if plugged into the wall even they're not in use. Plug several devices into a power strip and turn it off when you don't need them.
- 6. Get an energy audit:** This will show you where you can save energy and money in terms of lighting, heating and cooling, weather-stripping, etc. Start small and make more energy-efficient changes with the money you save.
- 7. Elect for Green Power from your utility:** Most utilities give you the opportunity to buy renewable energy, such as Marin Clean Energy and LADWP's Green Power.
- 8. Clean with the Earth in mind:** Most cleaning supplies contain poisonous chemicals that travel into our water stream and oceans. Use Earth-friendly cleaning products, such as Seventh Generation. Baking soda, white vinegar and lemon juice are easy and "green" as well.
- 9. Eat local:** As much as possible, buy products from local producers. Produce travels an average of 1,500 miles, with its accompanying carbon emissions, to get to your table. Patronize your local Farmers' Market and/or support a local Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA.)
- 10. Use the Power of Your Vote:** Support legislation that decreases our use of fossil fuels and increases our use of renewable energy. Set your sights on advocating for national and international treaties that reduce harmful carbon emissions, create new jobs and strengthen the economy.