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Going Green at Home

Did you know that a few small changes in your daily routine could make a large impact on the environment? According to the EPA, each person creates approximately 4.9 lbs. of waste each day or about 1,800 lbs. per year! Here are 10 helpful tips to make your home into a "green" one!

1. Plant a garden
Help reduce groundwater contamination with fewer pesticides and re-purpose food leftovers into a nutrient filled compost! Be sure to use proper tools and check that your gloves are in good shape.

2. Switch to LED light bulbs
LED lights can reduce your carbon footprint by over 6 tons in a single year and last 3 times longer than incandescent bulbs! Before switching light bulbs, remember to turn off the power and clean the area.

3. Opt for reusable grocery bags
Approximately 1 billion plastic grocery bags are used every year in America, which leads to 3 billion tons of CO_2 emissions.

4. Wash laundry in cold water
Using cold water can save up to 1,600 lbs. of CO_2 and $250 per year! Remember to always have someone in the household present when running a washer or dryer in case an immediate shutoff is needed.

5. Adjust your thermostat by 3°
Moving the settings up or down by 3 degrees can save around $83 and 1,050 lbs. of CO_2 per year.

6. Switch to reusable cleaning supplies
Using washable cloth towels instead of paper towels can save 55,400 trees per year!

7. Make a compost bin
Compost bins can reduce methane emitted from landfills and be used as a natural fertilizer.

8. Recycle glass jars
Clean old glass jars to reuse for things such as pickling, storing spices, canning food and much more! Be sure to thoroughly clean each jar before each reuse.

9. Switch to electric lawnmowers
Using an electric rather than gas can save up to 89 lbs. of CO_2 and 34 lbs. of other air pollutants. When charging, ensure your outlets are up to the right capacity!

10. Recycle, Recycle, Recycle!
When possible, always remember to recycle! Check with your local sanitation services to know the correct procedures.