

“Laudato Si’” On Care for Our Common Home

An Action Plan for
The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta

In partnership with the University of Georgia



Energy Conservation and Efficiency

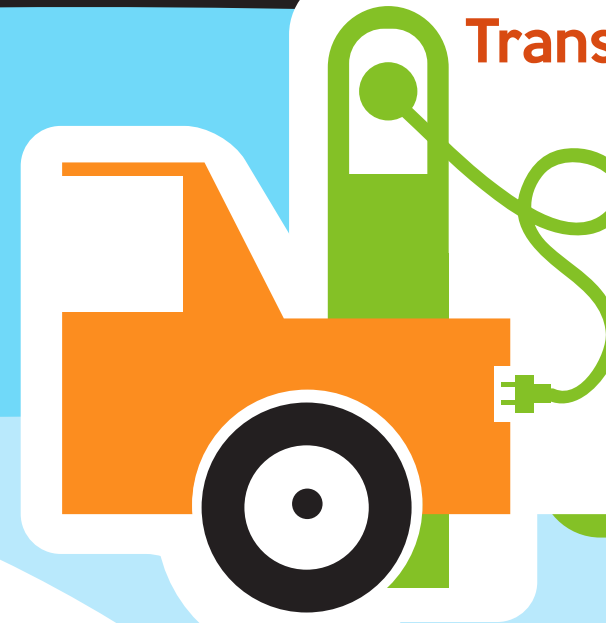
- ✓ Have a home energy audit, calculate your home's carbon footprint.
- ✓ Make home energy efficiency second nature.
- ✓ Consider solar energy systems.
- ✓ Use the outdoors efficiently, especially for cooling the house and drying clothes.

Purchasing and Recycling



- ✓ Reduce, re-use and recycle.
- ✓ Embrace simple living.
- ✓ Use supplies made from natural, recycled or recyclable materials.

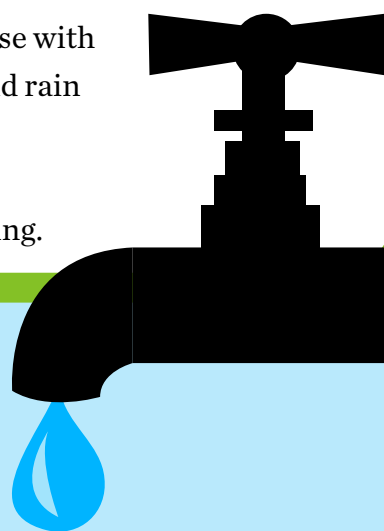
Transportation



- ✓ Carpool whenever possible.
- ✓ Consider driving an alternate-fueled or highly fuel-efficient car.
- ✓ Be mindful of vacation travel and its carbon footprint.
- ✓ Remember the simple things about fuel efficiency.

Water Conservation

- ✓ Minimize indoor water use by not letting water run and taking shorter showers.
- ✓ Minimize outdoor water use with water-wise landscaping and rain barrels.
- ✓ Upgrade your plumbing.
- ✓ Reconsider your landscaping.



Buying and Sharing Food

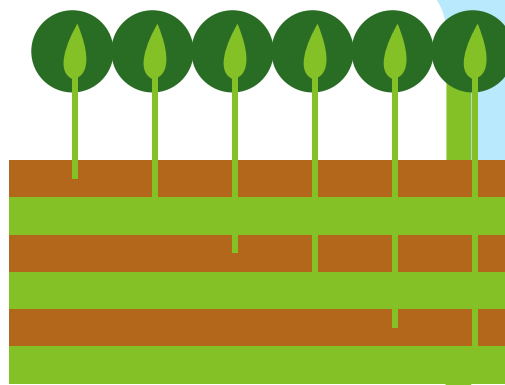


- ✓ Buy locally grown food.
- ✓ Buy organic and naturally grown food.
- ✓ Shop carefully and use cloth shopping bags.
- ✓ Eat lower on the food chain (fruits and vegetables).
- ✓ Don't waste food.
- ✓ Compost food scraps.
- ✓ Avoid drinking bottled water.
- ✓ Support your local food bank or pantry.
- ✓ Grow food in your backyard, school yard, or parish garden.
- ✓ Join the local food movement.

What can you do?

Creating Sustainable Landscapes

- ✓ Connect the landscape with urban forests.
- ✓ Create a water-wise landscape.
- ✓ Plant trees.
- ✓ Reduce lawn size.
- ✓ Prepare the soil well and compost.
- ✓ Plant native plants.
- ✓ Use correct planting procedures.
- ✓ Minimize chemical use.
- ✓ Create a wildlife habitat.
- ✓ Plant for pollinators.
- ✓ Consider a community garden.
- ✓ Become a Georgia Master Gardener.
- ✓ Become a citizen scientist.
- ✓ Create a meditation garden.



Learn more: To learn more about these suggestions, along with many other ideas about taking care of our common home, read the “Laudato Si’ Action Plan,” located online at the Atlanta Archdiocese’s website: www.archatl.com/catholic-life/refreshatl/

To get involved visit www.archatl.com/catholic-life/refreshatl/