

# A beginner's guide to going green

Many Canadians are looking to make their home a more environmentally friendly place, but just don't know where to start. But fear not—going green doesn't have to require drastic measures. Check out these small changes you can make to give your home an eco-makeover.

**Hang-dry your laundry**—hanging your laundry out to dry is a great way to reduce your energy consumption, cut down on your hydro bill and give your clothes a fresh scent. It's also a great way to involve the kids by letting them help hang clothes on the line. In the winter, a drying rack is a great way to bring your clothesline indoors.

**Pull the plug**—turning off appliances you aren't using is a great way to save electricity, but go one step further and unplug what you aren't using to reduce phantom power usage. Using a smart power strip that senses when things are turned off and cuts power loss is also a great way to save time and energy.

**Clean green**—naturally-derived cleaning products like the Clorox Green Works family of products are a great way to reduce harsh chemicals in your home. Made from plant-based, biodegradable cleaning ingredients, Green Works products are at least 95 per cent naturally derived, and provide a gentle, yet effective clean. You can also eliminate paper towel waste by cutting up



old bathroom towels to make reusable cleaning cloths.

**Skip the bottle**—staying hydrated is important, but plastic bottles are piling up in landfills at an alarming rate. Storing a pitcher of water with a built-in filter, like those available from Brita, in your fridge is a great way to get great-tasting water without bottled water waste. You may also want to consider bringing a reusable water bottle to work and on the go. Not only will you save money, you'll have water whenever you need it. Let the kids pick out their own special water bottle for their lunch boxes to make going green fun.

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