

June—Reduce



Reduction of consumption—whether it be energy, water, fuel, products—is a great way to conserve money and resources. Reduce means using fewer resources, this is one of the most effective tools in “greening” our habits. You can start by cutting back from what you consume right now. Think about shopping differently, look for things that will last and are durable, not just the latest fads. Work on maintaining items that you already own so that they stay in good working condition. Use the Shopper or other similar forums for purchasing products that meet your needs.

Translating reduction to work can come in many forms. Maybe you use scrap paper or paper that’s already been printed on to take notes or phone messages.

Do you turn off the lights every time you leave your office? Maybe you walk to the Post office or other County buildings instead of driving. All of these reductions in consumption add up and can save the County money and reduce our environmental impacts.

Ideas for reducing:

- Walk or ride your bike to other County buildings or on work errands
- Use water from the fountain, rather than bottled water.
- Print and copy in double-sided mode to reduce paper consumption
- Enable the "sleep mode" feature on your computer, allowing it to use less power during periods of inactivity. In Windows, the power management settings are found on your control panel.
- Configure your computer to "hibernate" automatically after 30 minutes or so of inactivity. The "hibernate mode" turns the computer off in a way that doesn't require you to reload everything when you switch it back on. Allowing your computer to hibernate saves energy and is more time-efficient than shutting down and restarting your computer from scratch. When you're done for the day, shut down.

In order to become eligible for this month's \$50 drawing, send an email to the Green Team



GTeam@gunnisoncounty.org
by June 30, 2011 stating:

- 1) How you have reduced your consumption—energy, water, products, etc.
- 2) What innovative, new idea do you have for making consumption reduction easier; and
- 3) What could the County do to make it easier to do reduce all different types of consumption while you're at work?



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