

GREEN CHALLENGE

BERNARDSVILLE GREEN TEAM

Name: _____ E-Mail: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Pledge Choices (circle at least 5) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Submit this form at one of our events to obtain your sign or mail to: Robert Baker, 61 Olcott Ave, B'ville

2011 Bernardsville Green Challenge: My household pledges to do at least five (5) of the following:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Get An Audit
Get a home energy audit and develop a plan to do the recommended measures. | Benefit: Most Bernardsville homes can save 20-30% of their energy consumption by sealing leaks, improving insulation, etc. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Control the Temperature
Set your air conditioning at 74° or higher and your heat at 68° or lower. | Benefit: You will save about 10% on your energy bill and avoid over 1,000 lb. of CO ₂ , the equivalent of not burning 40 gals. of gasoline. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Replace Bulbs
Replace five or more incandescent (regular) light bulbs with energy-efficient bulbs (CFLs or LEDs). | Benefit: Reduces your electric bill. 90% of electricity is lost heat in regular bulbs. Energy efficient bulbs produce the same amount of light using 25% or less of the energy and last at least 10 times longer. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Recycle All Plastics
Place ALL plastic containers with the  symbol in the blue barrels for bi-weekly curbside recycling. This is new for 2011. | Benefit: Lowers solid waste volume by 15-25% and may eliminate the need for two weekly pick-ups of garbage. Most contractors will lower the monthly charge if you request only one weekly pick up. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Lose the Plastic Bags
Carry reusable shopping bags every time you shop, ask check-out clerks not to wrap any items in plastic bags and skip the bag for small purchases. | Benefit: Reduces your solid waste volume and prevents these non-biodegradable bags from filling landfills. Also saves the merchants money. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Compost Organic Waste
Start composting all kitchen vegetable waste and yard debris (leaves and grass clippings). | Benefit: Generates wonderful soil for your garden, bushes and yard. Reduces your solid waste volume. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Buy Local or Grow Your Own
Buy at least one locally grown, sustainably produced food item weekly from local stores or our Farmer's Market between May and October or plant a garden. | Benefit: Locally grown food supports local families, builds community, preserves open space, is safer and tastes better. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Do Not Idle Your Car
Do not idle your car while using the drive-up service at your bank or while waiting to pick up your children from school. | Benefit: Saves fuel, besides it's against the law to idle a vehicle more than three minutes. Only 10 seconds of idling uses more fuel than restarting the engine. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Reduce Driving
Drive 20 fewer miles per week. Plan your week to reduce trips, by combining trips, walking, biking, taking the train or carpooling. | Benefit: Saves about \$3 per week or \$160 per year. Walking or biking is great exercise. Carpooling also reduces traffic congestion. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10. Water Less
Water your lawn, garden and bushes only when necessary. Use timers. Water early in the morning. | Benefit: Lowers your water bill. Conserves water supplies during times of drought. About 30% of water consumption is used for lawn care and landscaping. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11. Use Native Plant Species
Plant more native plant species when adding or replacing trees and shrubs around your property. | Benefit: Elimination of invasive species helps restore the natural flora and fauna, improves water quality and regenerates the landscape for wildlife. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12. Protect Your Property Resources
Learn how your property is listed in our Natural Resource Inventory, then protect your resources. The NRI is on file at the Bernardsville Library. | Benefit: Helps stabilize our towns natural resources and prevents further harm to our local environment. |

Credits: Maplewood Green Team, Maplewood, NJ