



SCP family recycling tips/ideas

(from 10/6 Parent Ed talk)

- Print on both sides of paper
- Use old t-shirts instead of paper towels
- Buy items in bulk, reducing waste (and potentially saving money)
- Buy items with less packaging
- Reuse ziplock and plastic shopping bags
- Reuse empty cans, yogurt containers, egg cartons, toilet paper tubes and paper towel tubes for crafts
- Reuse yogurt containers, deli containers for leftovers
- Punch holes in the bottom of yogurt containers as a bath toy
- Use rechargeable batteries (lessening waste)
- Recycle batteries (at your local library)
- Recycle printer toner (at your local office supply store)
- Turn lights off when not in the room
- Use compact florescent light bulbs to save energy
- Install low flow toilets to conserve on water (or if this is not an option, just put an old two liter or smaller bottle of water in your toilet tank and you will use less water with every flush!!)
- Buy recycled paper products (paper towels, toilet paper, printer paper)
- Drive an electric car (go Teacher Patty!!)
- Hang clothes to dry
- Take the bus, carpool or walk, instead of driving
- Use cloth diapers (reducing your waste)
- Buy and donate clothes at consignment stores
- Start a "clothing share" with friends who have kids the same age to recycle clothing
- Pick up trash with your kids at the beach, park or on the street
- Reuse artwork as wrapping paper
- Bring reusable shopping bags to grocery store
- Turn off electronics when not in use (better yet : plug electronics into a power strip and turn it off at night)
- Use a programmable thermostat to turn down the heat when you are not at home or asleep
- Use environmentally safe laundry detergent, fabric softener, dishwashing detergent
- Use baking soda to clean oven and most everything else in the kitchen and bathroom (reducing toxic pollution into water ways)
- Run appliances (dishwasher, laundry, etc.) in the evening when power consumption costs less
- Refill hand soap, instead of buying new hand soap bottle each time

- Reuse empty shoe boxes for organizing books in bookshelf
- Reuse old baby jars for various small items (such as paper clips, tacks, nails, glue, etc.)
- Grow vegetables in your garden or neighborhood pea patch (reducing waste and recycling nutrients into the soil)
- Leave lawn clippings on lawn (recycling nutrients into the soil)
- Compost all food scraps with King County or in your own backyard
- Buy organic food, reducing pesticide usage
- Don't use pesticides in our garden and wash car at carwash instead of on driveway so it doesn't pollute the local waterways
- Setup a rain barrel in your garden to reuse rainwater
- Upgrade appliances that use less energy
- Borrow books, cd's, dvd's and magazines from the library instead of buying new ones (reducing waste)
- Get vegetables from a local community supported agriculture box, instead of buying from a large chain grocery store
- Recycle "e-waste" (TV, cell phones, computers, printers, etc.) instead of dumping them in the trash
- Use a reusable container for water (instead of buying bottled water) and when going to my favorite coffee store
- Recycle compact florescent light bulbs at Home Depot instead of putting our garbage
- Updated furnace and insulated pipes for energy conservation
- Got an energy consultation from Puget Sound Energy to understand how to "weatherize" your home to save energy and money