



GREENING YOUR LSTC APARTMENT

Why This Pamphlet?

Many of us **want** to be environmentally friendly (or as we say around LSTC – **green**) but may not know where to start. This pamphlet is for those who desire to be green and may be living in their own apartment for the first time. The following provides easy and accessible ways to make your apartment and our community places that truly care for creation.

In Your Life

There are many “things” you can do in order to make your life and apartment more “green.” These small changes in our daily routines add up and **do** make a difference. Beyond this it is important for each of us to **reflect** on our lives and find ways that we can be more ecologically aware of the impacts of our daily decisions. It is important that we find ways to incorporate care of creation into our devotional and theological life. Care of creation is more than an issue and a list of things to do, it is a way of life.

*And God saw everything that he had made,
and indeed, it was very good
(Genesis 1:31)*

In the Kitchen

- **Recycle** – aluminum cans, glass jars, glass & plastic bottles, & cardboard boxes (see instructions on your back door)
- **Use** unbleached coffee filters and other paper products
- **Set** your refrigerator between 38° and 42°; **Set** your freezer between 0° and 5°
- **Fill** your sink with water when you wash the dishes instead of letting the water run (saving up to 25 gallons of water each time!)
- **Use** cold or warm water when doing the dishes
- **Buy** reusable canvas bags instead of using plastic bags when grocery shopping
- **Use** cloth napkins and towels
- **Food** – buy fresh, unprocessed foods
- **Eat** less and lower on the food chain (eat less meat and more greens and vegetables)
- **Carry** a coffee mug or other beverage container with you around campus to limit the use of paper cups

In the Rest of the Apartment

- **Recycle** – paper, envelopes, batteries, and printer cartridges
- **Print** on both sides of paper – print single or 1.5 spaced if acceptable by your professor
- **Use** compact fluorescent light bulbs
- **Reuse and donate** furniture instead of buying new items
- **Use** recycled, post-consumer, acid-free note and office paper
- **Turn off** lights, the TV, computer, and other appliances when not in use
- **Grow** house plants in your apartment
- **In the Bathroom**
- **Turn off** the water when brushing your teeth, shaving, or washing your face instead of letting it run (saving up to 9 gallons of water each time you brush, shave, or wash!)
- **Fill out** a work order for maintenance to fix any clogs if (and when) your drains stop up instead of pouring chemicals down them.
- **Use** nontoxic or low toxicity cleaning products

To Where Shall We Go?

Sure it's great to talk about this stuff, but where can I go to get these things?

- Recycling items at LSTC is relatively easy. Each courtyard is equipped with recycle bins next to the dumpster.
- Battery Recycling – bring your batteries to LSTC and place them in the bin near the mail room.
- Printer Cartridge Recycling – Augustana Lutheran Church (across the street from LSTC) recycles **some** printer cartridges as a fund raiser for their campus ministry. Office Max also recycles printer cartridges and gives a \$3 credit towards your next in-store purchase.
- The “Duty Free” shop is located at 5430 S. University St. Items are donated to the Duty Free store and shared with the community at no cost.
- The Hyde Park Produce mart is a good grocery store to get fresh fruits, vegetables, and other items at a reasonable price. (Located at 53rd Street and Kimbark)
- For more information on houseplants, check out this website on houseplants (www.gardenersnet.com/hplants)

*The Earth is the Lord's and all
that is in it, the world and all who
dwell therein. For it is he who
founded it upon the seas and
made it firm upon the rivers of
the deep.*

Psalm 24:1-2

A Deeper Shade of Green

Want to take it a step further? There are several ways here on LSTC's campus that you can continue to learn about being a “green zone” and living in a community that has a true care for creation.

- Use a stewardship devotional from LSTC
- Attend Green Zone meetings
- Go to the Web of Creation website (www.webofcreation.org)
- Attend an event regarding care of creation
- Take eco-justice courses at LSTC and through ACTS
- Add an Environmental Emphasis to your course of study
- Check out the books and websites in the resource list below

Resources Used

- The Earth Works Group, [50 Simple Things You Can Do To Save the Earth](#) (United States: Banta Co, 1989).
- Sara Olson and Brooke Petersen, [Stewardship of Creation: A Thirty Day Discipline](#)
- webofcreation.org/HomeWork/actionplan.htm
- www.gardenersnet.com/hplants

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It's That Easy Being Green



*A Practical Guide to
“Greening”
Your Apartment*