

# HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE IN THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IN MY HOME?

In February 2018, the St. Louis Park City Council adopted a Climate Action Plan, the most ambitious of its kind in Minnesota.



## Energy reduction and sourcing

- Install LED bulbs in your home, garage and exterior to reduce your energy bill (bulbs discounted through Xcel Energy®).
- Schedule a utility bill consultation to learn about your bill and how to reduce energy use (free through Citizen's Utility Board).
- Schedule a Home Energy Squad visit to tune up your house (only \$50 for St. Louis Park residents and includes all materials and labor).
- Sign up for wind power with Windsorce® through Xcel Energy®.
- Source your energy from solar through panels or community gardens (Xcel Energy Solar Rewards®, Solar United Neighbors and more!).



## Appliances

- Install a smart or programmable thermostat (discounts through Xcel Energy® and CenterPoint Energy).
- Need help weatherizing? Apply for the state's low income weatherization assistance.
- Check out the home remodeling assistance programs available through the City of St. Louis Park.
- Appliances need to be replaced? Check out replacement rebates available through Xcel Energy®, CenterPoint Energy and the City of St. Louis Park.



## Transportation

- Choose alternative transportation options: walk, bike, carpool or bus. Try reading or texting – or simply resting – on your bus ride!
  - If you do this regularly, don't forget to sign up for the Metro Transit's guaranteed ride home program in case you need an emergency ride.
- Try RideSharing programs. It will save you money on insurance and parking too!
- Practice eco-friendly driving – slow down a few miles an hour, practice proper acceleration and use cruise control.
- Buying a vehicle? Consider purchasing a hybrid or electric vehicle.

# CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

## More sustainable practices at home!



### Food

- Participate in the city's organics recycling program – options available for single and multifamily homes!
- Don't waste! Eat your leftovers – incorporate them into another meal, freeze or share with a neighbor.
- Start Meatless Mondays – swap for beans or more veggies for a healthy, lower carbon meal!
- Buy locally grown produce at a farmers market or store, or consider joining a local Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) to buy directly from farmers.
- Grow your own food – inside and outside year-round.

To learn more about or get involved with food growing, visit [www.SLPSEEDS.org](http://www.SLPSEEDS.org).



### Yard

- Cut your grass the appropriate height (3 inches) to keep it healthy, easier to care for and better for the soil.
- Practice mulching in your lawns and gardens.
- Salt and sand smartly in the winter to save money and our water sources (use sand, apply salt when temps are higher than 15°, sweep up excess and reuse, etc.).
- Collect rain in rain barrels for watering (watch for discounts in spring through the city and RAM) or add a rain garden.
- Add more trees and bushes to your yard; shop the annual St. Louis Park Tree Sale.
- Consider low-mow grass or turf alternatives (rock gardens, edible gardens, etc.) with new landscaping.
- Consider pervious pavement with exterior renovations.

Check out Metro Blooms for ideas and information on many of these yard options!



### Clothing

- Set out used clothing and home goods for reuse or recycling through St. Louis Park's Simple Recycling program (free curbside pick-up) or donate to Goodwill, Salvation Army, etc.
- Buy gently-used clothing from thrift or consignment shops and/or visit local clothing swaps or swap with friends!
- Wash your clothes in cold water to save money and energy, and hang dry your clothes when possible instead of using the dryer.



### Waste

- Drink from reusable water bottles, coffee mugs, etc.
- Avoid using disposable utensils, plates, cups, etc.
- Learn more from St. Louis Park solid waste staff.