

(313) 341-7661, ext. 204 safety@mcadetroit.org www.mcadetroit.org/safety



Mechanical Contractors Association of Detroit

36200 Schoolcraft Rd. • Livonia, MI 48150

Conservation

Conservation involves protecting natural resources, preserving ecosystems, and ensuring the sustainability of our planet for future generations. Here are practical tips for helping with conservation in your daily life:

1. Conserve Water

- **Fix leaks promptly**: Repair leaky faucets, pipes, and toilets to prevent water waste.
- **Use water-efficient fixtures**: Install low-flow showerheads, faucets, and toilets to reduce water use.
- **Shorten showers:** Aim for shorter showers and turn off the water while brushing your teeth or washing dishes.
- Water plants wisely: Water your garden early in the morning or late in the evening to reduce evaporation and use rainwater if possible.

2. Reduce Energy Use

- Switch to energy-efficient appliances: Look for Energy Star-certified appliances that use less energy.
- Use LED bulbs: Replace traditional light bulbs with energy-efficient LED options.
- **Unplug devices**: Turn off and unplug electronics when not in use to save electricity.
- Optimize heating and cooling: Use a programmable thermostat and insulate your home to reduce energy consumption.

3. Practice Sustainable Transportation

- Walk, bike, or carpool: Reduce your reliance on single-occupancy vehicles to lower greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Use public transportation**: Opt for buses, trains, or subways whenever possible.
- **Drive fuel-efficient vehicles**: Consider hybrid or electric cars to reduce your carbon footprint.

4. Reduce Waste

- Limit single-use plastics: Replace disposable items with reusable alternatives like water bottles, shopping bags, and food containers.
 - Unity through trust, leadership through service, strength through bonds. •

- Compost food scraps: Composting reduces waste sent to landfills and creates nutrient-rich soil.
- Recycle properly: Follow local recycling guidelines to ensure materials are processed correctly.

5. Protect Wildlife

- **Support habitat conservation**: Volunteer for or donate to organizations that protect natural habitats.
- Plant native species: Create a wildlife-friendly garden with plants that support local ecosystems.
- Avoid harmful pesticides: Use organic alternatives to reduce chemical runoff into waterways.
- **Respect wildlife**: Observe animals from a distance and avoid disturbing their habitats.

6. Support Sustainable Practices

- **Buy eco-friendly products**: Choose goods made from sustainable, recycled, or biodegradable materials.
- **Support local and sustainable farmers**: Purchase locally grown, seasonal produce to reduce the environmental impact of transportation.
- Choose responsibly sourced seafood: Look for certifications like the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) label.

7. Reduce Paper Use

- **Go digital**: Opt for electronic billing, online documents, and digital communication to reduce paper consumption.
- Use both sides of paper: Print on both sides or use scrap paper for notes.
- Recycle paper: Ensure used paper products are recycled.

8. Protect Natural Resources

- **Avoid overuse**: Be mindful of resource use, such as electricity, water, and fuel.
- Advocate for conservation: Support policies and initiatives that aim to preserve forests, wetlands, and marine environments.
- Volunteer: Participate in local conservation projects, such as tree planting or beach cleanups.

9. Educate Yourself and Others

- **Learn about conservation**: Stay informed about environmental issues and solutions through books, documentaries, and online resources.
- **Spread awareness**: Share knowledge about conservation practices with friends, family, and your community.

10. Support Conservation Organizations

• Donate to or volunteer with organizations dedicated to preserving natural habitats, protecting endangered species, and combating climate change.

11. Reduce Carbon Footprint

- Eat a plant-based diet: Reduce meat and dairy consumption to lower greenhouse gas emissions.
- Buy local: Support local businesses to reduce transportation-related emissions.
- Offset your carbon footprint: Invest in programs that plant trees or develop renewable energy projects.

12. Advocate for Change

- Participate in local initiatives: Support community efforts to protect green spaces and wildlife.
- **Engage with policymakers**: Encourage leaders to prioritize conservation policies and renewable energy projects.

Benefits of Conservation Efforts

- Environmental Protection: Preserves ecosystems, reduces pollution, and combats climate change.
- **Biodiversity Preservation**: Protects wildlife and ensures the health of natural habitats.
- Future Sustainability: Conserves resources for future generations.