

# Green Living

*A guide on how to start living sustainably at George Mason University*

## The Basics

### Buy Locally

If you need some new items, try to purchase locally. Shipping from far distances increases your carbon footprint, and requires you to use more packaging, which generates more waste in the landfill.

### Buy Used

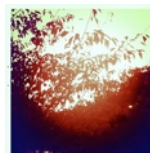
New stuff isn't cheap. Save your wallet and the planet by buying used. Search online for local thrift stores. Craigslist and freecycle are great resources.



### Sign the Mason Climate Pledge

Mason has made a commitment to become climate neutral. You can make that commitment too. Check out <http://green.gmu.edu/climate/climatepledgeform.html> and sign up.

### Turn off and Unplug



Remember to unplug your appliances when they're not in use. It saves energy and money.

### Know your Recycling Rooms

There are many recycling bins throughout the residence halls on campus. If you're having difficulty locating your recycling bins, look in your residence hall's disposal rooms,

### Easy on the Laundry!

Use lower temperature settings. Use warm or cold water for the wash cycle instead of hot (except for greasy stains), and only use cold for rinses.

## Save Your Money and the Environment

You've just arrived at college. Whether it's your first semester at Mason, or your last, it's easy to let the stress of moving in, and adjusting to your surroundings occupy your mind. Needless to say, it is understandable that thinking about your electricity consumption may not be your first priority when you have to haul your furniture to your new space.

However, it is imperative that we as a campus community start adopting practices, technologies, and



**It isn't easy being green, but thankfully, there are many resources available on campus that can help you lessen your environmental impact.**

behaviors that can be sustained for significant periods of time without damaging the environment. By taking the steps outlined in this guide, you will be able to save money, make your appliances last longer, reduce your personal

environmental impact, and practice behavior that has long-term benefits for the planet and your wallet.

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