# **25 STEPS UNDER \$25**

## Lighting

## CO, Reduction

1. Turn off the lights in unused rooms.
2. Buy energy-efficient compact fluorescent bulbs for the lights you
use most. They cost about \$2 per bulb.

- 3. Replace your halogen lamp with a compact fluorescent one.
- 4. Light your holiday decorations with LED lights rather than incandescent bulbs.

#### **Appliances & Gadgets**

- 5. Unplug and recycle old or rarely used refrigerators.
- 6. Allow laundry items to air-dry after washing.

- 7. Cut your phantom electric loads in half by installing surge protectors for computers, copier, fax machine, printer, TV, etc. and turning off your office equipment when you're not using it. Make sure sound systems and projectors are turned off when not in use.
- 8. Run dishwasher only with a full load and use the "energy-saving" setting to dry dishes. Or don't use heat when drying, just open the door to air dry.
- 9. Use a manual push mower. The blades must be sharpened every 2 to 3 years. Using other traditional non-electric tools will also make a contribution to energy savings.

380 pounds a year

180 pounds a year per bulb

475 pounds a year

122 pounds a season

# **CO**<sub>2</sub> Reduction

2,500 pounds a year

200 pounds a year for every dryer load reduced per week; 780 pounds a year for the entire summer; 1,400 pounds a year if yearround

A minimum of 500 pounds a year. (Phantom loads account for 6% of our nation's electrical use.)

200 pounds a year

At least 80 pounds a year

# **COOL CONGREGATIONS**





Heating & Cooling CO <sub>2</sub> Red		
	10. Ask utility for a building energy audit to find out how to improve your building's efficiency. These audits are usually free and make you eligible for rebates on improvements.	Potentially thousands of pounds a year
	11. Don't overheat or overcool rooms. Adjust thermostat lower in winter and higher in summer.	500 pounds a year for each 2 degree adjustment
	12. Clean or replace air filters as recommended. Cleaning a dirty air conditioner filter can save 5% of the energy used.	175 pounds a year
	13. Install programmable thermostats to automatically adjust temperatures.	600 pounds a year
	14. Caulk and weather-strip around doors and windows to plug air leaks.	Up to 1,350 pounds a year
V	Vater	CO <sub>2</sub> Reduction
	15. If your congregation contains showers, install shower timers to encourage each shower user to reduce their shower time by 5 minutes.	250 pounds a year per person
	16. Instead of washing laundry items in hot water, wash them in cold water.	500 pounds a year for each two loads a week reduced
	17. Turn down water heater's thermostat to 120 degrees. Think about installing a programmable thermostat on water heater, if you only need hot water on Sundays.	500 pounds a year for each 10 degree adjustment
	18. Install low-flow showerheads and faucets to use less hot water.	Up to 300 pounds a year
	19. Install faucet aerators.	20 pounds a year per faucet
	20. If water heater is 5 years old, or more, wrap it in an insulating jacket.	Up to 1,000 pounds a year
G	etting Around	CO <sub>2</sub> Reduction
	22. Whenever possible, encourage congregants to walk, bike, carpool, or use mass transit. Develop a carpooling system.	20 pounds for every gallon of gas saved
	23. Check the inflation in congregation vehicle tires before they are used, to increase your fuel efficiency.	250 pounds a year
	24. Change congregation vehicle air filters according to the car manual.	200 pounds a year
R	enewable Energy	CO <sub>2</sub> Reduction
	25. Reduce waste by recycling, buying minimally packaged goods, choosing reusable products (dishes, placemats, etc.), using cloth grocery bags, and buying food in bulk, and composting.	100 pounds a year for every gallon per week reduced

Cool Congregations Challenge is a program of Interfaith Power & Light. More info at CoolCongregations.org