Top 10 Easy Green Steps

Set your thermostat up one degree in the summer and down one degree in the winter from your usual setting
Shut the water off while brushing your teeth
Reduce average driving speed by 5 mph
Use safe, reusable food containers, such as glass
Turn off lights that aren't needed for safety or a task
Carpool as often as possible
Use economy settings on your dishwasher
Lower the water heater thermostat to 120 degrees
Wash clothes on warm and cold instead of hot
Recycle newspapers, cans, glass, yard waste, etc. (if recycling is not provided for your residence, ask your city or county officials to provide it)
For more info on reducing your carbon footprint, visit the Environmental Stewardship page on our church website: http://www.secondpreslr.org (located under Service in the Community).

Top 10 Semi-Easy Green Steps

Clean or replace air filters regularly (check your owner's manual) so your HVAC runs more efficiently
Improvise with what you already have to wrap gifts, other items
Place a plastic milk jug filled with pebbles inside your toilet tank (to limit water use), or adjust the water use mechanism in the toilet tank
Bike and walk whenever you can
Don't idle your car motor when unnecessary
Water and mow your lawn less often
Use a cloth dishrag instead of paper towels
Keep car tires properly inflated
Install low or adjustable flow showerheads
Use reusable "green" bags – enough for your normal grocery shopping trips; put the green bags in the automobile that you use when you shop for groceries (Green Bags available from Second Church Youth)
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Top 10 More Challenging Green Steps

Use organic fertilizers and pesticides for lawns and gardens
Set up online payment for your bills
Ask to be taken off the mailing lists for unwanted catalogs
Eat locally grown food
Replace lighting with energy-saving compact fluorescent bulbs (including outdoor lighting)
Minimize left turns, right turns consume less gasoline
Add insulation to your house (add weather stripping to windows and doors, use drapes or blinds on windows to block hot sun, reinsulate attic)
Plant a tree somewhere every year, or give a gift of a tree to a friend
Install a programmable thermostat; set it depending on when and how the house is occupied.
Plan your errands so you use less gasoline. Save your errands for one day and do them in a circular route.
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