



Simple Ways  
to Build  
Sustainability  
into Your  
Daily Life



IT'S GOOD FOR YOU, YOUR WALLET AND THE COMMUNITY!





LOW-COST  
SOLUTIONS  
TO  
SAVE  
RESOURCES  
AND  
MONEY

When it comes to sustainability, everyone can make a difference. As a resident of the City of Longmont you play an important role in ensuring that Longmont is environmentally healthy, economically prosperous, and socially equitable. The small and large actions you take can have a big impact on your quality of life, your neighbors, and the natural environment we all enjoy.

This guide outlines some of the simple, affordable steps you can take to be sustainable. **Together, we can create an even better Longmont.**





Turn it off. Turn it down. Turn energy savings into dollars in your wallet.



# ENERGY

Conserving energy means you're conserving money for other things, whether that's household repairs or a night out on the town. Try some of these easy ways to save energy throughout your home.

1. Set your thermostat **to 5° F higher in the summer or lower in the winter** when you are **not home or at work**.
2. Turn off and **unplug electronics** or use **Advanced Power Strips**.
3. **Turn off lights** when not in use.
4. **Install LED light bulbs.** (Replacing your five most commonly used bulbs can save up to \$75/year!)
5. Recycle that **old, power-sucking fridge or freezer.** (Visit [efficiencyworks.org](http://efficiencyworks.org) to receive a free pick-up and get a \$35 rebate.)
6. Wash clothes in **cold water and air dry.**
7. Take **shorter and/or cooler showers.**
8. **Reduce hot water by installing high-efficiency shower heads and kitchen and bathroom aerators.**

## REBATES & RESOURCES

Take your energy savings to the next level with the help of these programs and resources.

- [Electric vehicle charging stations](#)
- [Efficiency Works Homes Efficiency Assessment and Rebates](#)
- City of Longmont home energy bill assistance:
  - o [Longmont CAREs](#)
  - o [COPE](#)
- Other home energy bill assistance: [Boulder County LEAP](#)
- Income-qualified home energy upgrade: [CARE](#)
- [City of Longmont housing rehabilitation programs](#)
- Boulder County [EnergySmart for homes](#)





## Don't wash money down the drain!



# WATER

Water is an especially precious resource here in the West. When it comes to conserving water, small adjustments can save gallons, and dollars! Put some of these practices into play in your daily life to reduce your water use.

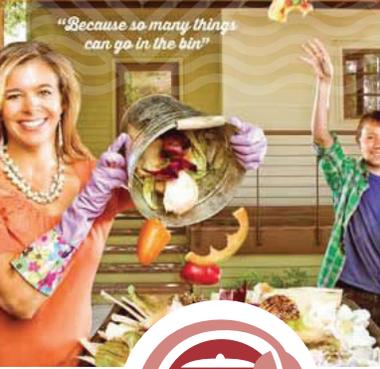
1. Install **high-efficiency shower heads and sink aerators**.
2. **Fix leaky faucets and toilets**.
3. Sign up for a **free sprinkler inspection** with Resource Central. Call 303-999-3824 or visit <https://resourcecentral.org/slow-the-flow-2/>.
4. Water your lawn using two shorter cycles **between 6 pm and 10 am**.
5. Run **full loads in the dishwasher and air dry instead of washing dishes by hand**. No dishwasher? Use tubs or fill the sink for hand washing.
6. **Cut your grass longer** in the summer at **3" or 3.5"**.
7. **Plant low-water use plants** with Garden In A Box. Visit <https://resourcecentral.org/gardens> for more information.
8. **Sweep your driveways and sidewalks** rather than hosing them off (but NOT down the storm drain!).

### REBATES & RESOURCES

There are many programs that provide incentives for reducing water use and many others that provide guidance on how to be more water wise.

- [Indoor water rebates and assistance](#)
  - [High efficiency toilet rebates](#)
- [Outdoor water rebates and assistance](#)
  - [Home sprinkler inspections](#)
  - [Outdoor sprinkler system rebates](#)
  - [Garden In A Box](#)
  - [Water-Wise Landscape seminars](#)
- [Longmont City Assistance and Rebate System \(CAReS\)](#)
- [Rx Take Back event](#)





## Less waste, more savings



# WASTE

Reducing waste not only reduces your impact on the environment, but it can also save you money. Using reusable or second-hand items, buying in bulk and composting keeps dollars in your wallet while also lessening what gets tossed out.

1. Recycle-It-Right with the Waste Wizard online tool and Longmont Waste Services app.

[Use the Waste Wizard to learn if something is recyclable, compostable or destined for the trash. Just type in the item name and get an answer!](#)

The Longmont Waste Services app will keep you informed about trash pickup day, special collection services and events. It also includes the Waste Wizard look-up tool. Available in both English and Spanish.



2. Call Waste Services, 303-651-8416, to **bundle trash, recycling and compost services** to reduce your monthly trash bill and right size your bin! Or [do it yourself online by making a ServiceWorks request!](#)
3. **Compost your food scraps and yard waste** in your curbside bin or backyard composter.
4. Host a **clothing swap, garage sale** and/or shop second hand
5. Wherever you go, take a **reusable cup or bottle**.
6. Use a **scarf or fun fabric to wrap gifts** – the wrapping becomes its own gift!
7. **Buy in bulk** with reusable containers.
8. Use **rags, towels and fabric napkins** instead of paper.

## REBATES & RESOURCES

Here are a few programs and resources to help you minimize what you throw away.

- City of Longmont:
  - o [Fat Trappers and Replacement Bags](#) – or save money and compost it!
  - o [Rates, Rules & Regulations – Trash, Composting & Recycling](#)
  - o [Trash and Recycling Special Services and Events](#)
  - o [Waste Wizard](#)
- Ecocycle's [Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials](#) (ChARM)
- Boulder County [Hazardous Materials Management Facility](#)





## Curb the car



# TRANSPORTATION

There are lots of ways to get around Longmont. When you choose to walk, ride a bike or share a ride, you get a different view of your surroundings and connect with the community, all while reducing carbon emissions. Check out these ways you can change your travel habits.

1. For shorter trips, **try walking or riding a bike.**
2. **Try telecommuting**, if you can work from home.
3. Don't ride alone! Find **car pools, van pools and school-pools** with [waytogo.org](http://waytogo.org).
4. Organize a **walking school bus** with your neighbors.
5. Try out a **car share program** and see if you could go without owning a car!
6. Take the **RTD or FLEX bus, rail, Access-A-Ride, FlexRide, or Via.**
7. **Use a bikeshare** to get around Longmont.
8. Consolidate all of **your errands into one trip.**

### REBATES & RESOURCES

- [Green Driver State Incentives in Colorado](#)
- City of Longmont:
  - o [Bicycle Map](#)
  - o [Pace Bike-share](#)
  - o [Longmont Ride Free Fare Program](#)
- DRCOG smart transportation app [Way to Go](#)





## Other resources & rebates to support your sustainability efforts

Sustainability touches every aspect of our daily lives. Here are a few more resources that may be helpful as you take simple steps to be sustainable.



### Food System

- City of Longmont:
  - [Community gardens](#)
  - [Apply for a permit for backyard chickens](#)
- [Double Up Food Bucks](#) for SNAP recipients at the Boulder County Farmers Market



### Natural Resources

- City of Longmont [Public Lands Map](#)
- [Volunteer](#) with Longmont Parks, Open Space & Trails
- [Donate a Tree](#)
- [Yearly Arbor Day tree sale](#)



### Air Quality

- [Monitor Air Quality](#): Air Quality Forecast & Colorado Smoke Outlook
- Radon Mitigation Assistance:
  - [Radon Monitors](#)
  - [Financial Assistance](#)
- [Regional Air Quality Council programs](#)

DO YOU HAVE  
A BUSINESS  
IN LONGMONT?  
You can take  
sustainable  
steps, too!

Visit the [Sustainable Business Resource web page](#) for resources and information specifically for businesses