



Connecticut Climate Change

www.ctclimatechange.com

What Is Your **onething**™ To Address Climate Change?

There are lots of OneThing solutions to climate change. Try some that are listed below. For more info on CT's climate change initiative and to view this page with live links, go to: www.ctclimatechange.com. Find out more about Governor Rells' OneThing campaign at www.onethingct.com.

- **CUT ENERGY USE AND COSTS AT HOME**

CT offers many incentives for reducing energy use at home through the CT Energy Efficiency Fund, www.ctsavesenergy.org. The following energy efficient products are permanently sales tax exempt in Connecticut:

Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs	Programmable Thermostats
Energy Star Natural Gas Furnaces	Energy Star Propane Furnaces
Boilers that are > 84% efficient	Energy Star Windows and Doors
Oil Furnaces that are > 84% efficient	Water Heaters
Efficient Ground Source Heat Pumps	
Caulking, Insulation, Window Film, Weather Strips, etc.	

For a complete list, see <http://www.ct.gov/drs/cwp/view.asp?a=1514&q=384952>

Compact fluorescent bulbs use about 75% LESS energy than conventional bulbs and last up to 10 times as long. However, these bulbs contain mercury and must be handled and recycled appropriately. For info on proper handling/recycling see www.ct.gov/dep/cfl or drop used bulbs off at any Home Depot for recycling.

CL&P and UI customers are eligible for a **free home energy audit and weather sealing** if you heat your home with electricity or natural gas. Energy audits are also available for a fee to homes that heat with other fuels. CL&P customers: go to www.cl-p.com, click on "Energy Efficiency at Home," then "Home Energy Solutions." UI customers: go to www.uinet.com, click on "Your Home," then "UI Products & Services," then "Home Energy Solutions."

www.ctsavesenergy.org and 877-WISE-USE provide additional information on energy efficiency incentives, including federal tax credits for energy efficient home improvements and incentives for efficient new home construction. Additional info can be found at http://www.ase.org/section/_audience/consumers/taxcredits

- **SUPPORT CLEAN ENERGY**

Customers of CT Light & Power and United Illuminating can choose to support clean energy from wind power, small-scale hydroelectric power, and landfill gas. Choose clean energy and you'll be taking a big step towards cleaner air and healthier communities. <http://www.ctcleanenergyoptions.com/>

You can also encourage your town, business, faith community, and others to support 20% clean energy by 2010. Participating towns are eligible to earn free solar panels. <http://www.ctcleanenergy.com/communities/>

- **RECYCLE**

Recycling reuses resources, saves energy, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Contact your town public works department to find out how you can recycle more, compost and prevent waste. For more info on recycling see www.ct.gov/dep/recycle

- **BUY LOCALLY GROWN FOOD**

Buy food that is grown locally to support Connecticut's farmers and reduce food packaging and transportation emissions. You can buy locally grown food at many CT farms and farmers' markets. Find out what's in season and where to buy it and lots more about buying local foods at www.BuyCTGrown.com.

Schools can also buy local produce directly from farmers through the Farm-to- School program www.ct.gov/doag - search "Farms to Schools"

- **CLEAN UP YOUR COMMUTE**

About 40% of Connecticut's greenhouse gas emissions come from transportation. Try some cleaner options:

Bike to work - <http://www.wecyclect.org/btw.htm>

Take the bus, train, or join a vanpool - <http://www.ctrides.com/>

Find commuting partners and enjoy commuting incentives through NuRide <http://www.nuride.com>

Avoid unnecessary engine idling - If you're stopped for more than 10 seconds, turn off your engine to save money and energy and leave the air cleaner.

<http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca/transportation/idling/material/>

www.ct.gov/dep/dieselreduction

- **REDUCE SYNTHETIC FERTILIZER USE**

A portion of nitrogen applied to soils is released as a greenhouse gas. Reducing the use of synthetic fertilizers also improves water quality and soil health. Adopt some tips from organic land care guidelines or use a certified organic landcare professional -

<http://www.ctnofa.org/programs/landcare.php>

- **BUY AN ENERGY EFFICIENT VEHICLE**

From January 1, 2008 – July 1, 2010, any passenger car with an EPA rating of at least 40 mpg will be sales tax exempt in CT.

There are also federal income tax credits of up to \$3,400 for hybrid vehicles.

http://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/tax_hybrid_new.shtml

Before you buy your next car, do some research on "greener" cars. You'll save money on gas and contribute to cleaner air. <http://greencarclub.org/>

- **INSTALL CLEAN ENERGY AT YOUR HOME**

The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund provides incentives for the installation of solar and other clean energy sources on residences. In addition solar thermal (including passive solar) and hot water systems, and geothermal systems are sales and property tax exempt in CT.

http://www.ctinnovations.com/funding/ccef/solar_rebates.php