

# LIVE GREEN, GIVE GREEN



Making a pledge to *Live Green* is simple  
(\*When you know where to start...)

Take stock of your environmental habits and you'll begin to notice where you might make small shifts. Once you've identified an area to focus on, make your pledge, starting with small steps. One action at a time can add up to big changes!



To help you on your sustainability journey, consider these tips to *Live Green*, or use them to inspire a list of your own. You can start with one idea, combine some, or take on the whole list!

## DITCH SINGLE-USE



Disposable plastics and single-use packaging bombard our lives, from water bottles to plastic bags and takeout containers. Reduce waste by focusing on one single-use item at a time and replacing it with something reusable. For example: bring a reusable coffee cup or water bottle, or use cloth shopping bags. Repeat until your reuse becomes habit. Items you already have on hand will work great, for example: empty jars can be repurposed for food storage.

- » [More Ideas at Plastic Free July](#)
- » [Browse Products at Exist Green](#)

## EAT MORE PLANTS

It's no secret that the commercial meat and dairy industry uses up a large share of resources and contributes to environmental pollution. Cutting back on your consumption of animal products automatically helps the environment. You don't have to go fully vegan or vegetarian; simply reducing the amount of dairy and meat in your diet can lower your carbon footprint. So too can eating locally grown food because of the reduced need for transport.



- » [Try "Meatless Mondays"](#)
- » [Community Gardens Near You](#)

## LEARN & GROW



Education is the key to changing environmental behaviors. Keep Omaha Beautiful offers free and engaging educational content and activities to help our community learn how to lead a more environmentally sustainable lifestyle.

- » [How to Prevent Water Pollution](#)
- » [Sustainable Lawn Care Tips](#)

## BUY SUSTAINABLE



Use your purchase power to support sustainably made products and eco-friendly practices. Shop locally, buy products made with recycled packaging, and buy second hand when possible. This helps reduce pollution caused by mass production and distribution, and increases demand for the perfectly reusable goods and resources already in the market. Support businesses with environmental practices that align with your values.

- » [Considerate Consumer Gift Guide](#)
- » [Local Eco-Friendly Restaurants](#)

## TRY COMPOSTING

Did you know? As organic materials like food scraps and yardwaste break down in a landfill, the anaerobic process causes the release of methane (a greenhouse gas) and can add to a toxic sludge called leachate. Yuck! Composting is a way to manage organic waste more sustainably. At home, try composting just yardwaste to start, or sign up to use a commercial composting service like Hillside Solutions to compost.

- » [Learn to Compost at Home](#)
- » [Hillside Solutions Compost Club](#)

## RECYCLE RIGHT

Whether you're new to it or an expert home recycler, learning about what's accepted in our community is a responsible way to manage and reduce your waste. Choose to do more by looking up answers to your recycling questions. Think about an item and search the Omaha Recycling Guide to find out where it can go.



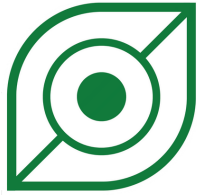
- » [KOB's Recycle & Reuse Guide](#)
- » [OmahaRecyclingGuide.org](#)

## Create Your Own Pledge!



See the next page for tips on writing your *Live Green* Pledge.





# LIVE GREEN, GIVE GREEN



## My Personal Pledge



**TIP: When writing your Live Green pledge, use the "SMART goal" format:**

**Specific** (it includes clear details), **Measurable** (you can quantify your progress),  
**Achievable** (it's realistic for you), **Relevant** (to YOU), and **Time-Bound** (has a start/stop date)

### WHAT SUSTAINABLE PLEDGE WILL YOU MAKE TO LIVE GREEN?

(Examples: "I will keep 4 reusable grocery bags in my trunk to use on my next shopping trip. I will set up a backyard compost pile to compost grass clippings & leaves this summer. I will take my old batteries to the battery store for recycling before school starts again.")

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### WHAT RESOURCES WILL YOU NEED TO STICK TO IT?

(Brainstorm what you need to achieve your pledge, and who can help support you! Examples: "I will look up locations that recycle batteries in town. I will find instructions & get materials for building a home composter. I will need my family's help reminding me to bring our own bags.")

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**I PLEDGE TO LIVE A MORE SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE. I WILL CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF MY DAILY DECISIONS AND MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE RESPONSIBLE IN THESE AREAS.**

SIGNED:

DATE:

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