Outcomes First Group.

100 TIPS TO LEAD A SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE

Sustainable Kitchen

- 1. Purchase items with reduced or no packaging.
- 2. If possible, grow your own vegetables, fruits, and herbs (most supermarkets now have many options to get you started).
- 3. Use glass jars (save the ones from shopping) to store fresh vegetables in the fridge.
- 4. Adopt a sustainable diet (e.g., opt for organic, reduce the consumption of meat, particularly red meat, and dairy).
- 5. Use Tupperware to save your food instead of cling film/foil.
- 6. Use a washable cloth instead of paper towels.
- 7. Use reusable objects (e.g., water bottles).
- 8. Use reusable cups for your coffee on your morning commute/reuse them throughout the day (coffee shops usually give you discounts as well so you will also save money!).
- 9. Make a list before going to the supermarket.
- 10. Limit food waste by only buying what you need.
- 11. Opt for a paper bag instead of plastic-wrapped products.
- 12. Reuse bags for groceries shopping.
- 13. Turn used teabags into firelighters.
- 14. Buy local and in season (it can help to reduce your carbon footprint by 10%).
- 15. Minimize food waste by using a composter.
- 16. Put a lid on a saucepan to make it boil faster (it saves energy so you will also save money!).
- 17. Buy in bulk, it streamlines the transportation needed to deliver goods to market, helping to reduce CO2 emissions.
- 18. Avoid throwing away the peel of citrus fruits and reuse them in cooking (it adds great taste to any dip!) or as compost.
- 19. Make your own vegetable stock, freeze (use ice cube trays) water used to boil vegetables.
- 20. Limit the use of products with palm oil as much as possible.
- 21. Freeze foods that can be reused.
- 22. Use reusable food wrapping rather than cling film (e.g., from the Beeswax Wrap Co).

Sustainable Fashion

- 23. Learn how to repair your clothes (YouTube has a lot of tutorials).
- 24. Repair your clothes using a local tailor (usually within a launderette).
- 25. Wash your clothes at 30°C.

- 26. Shop second hand! (Examples: Asos Marketplace, Depop, Vestiaire Collective, Vinted).
- 27. Donate old clothes to charity, sell them online or take them back in-store (Example: H&M has a recycling scheme).
- 28. Avoid fast fashion (the cheaper price may be enticing but the clothes generally don't last long, and you will have to replace!).
- 29. Airdry and don't tumble dry clothes.

Sustainable bathroom/beauty

- 30. Be more natural (limit practices like dying hair, using nail polish, hair products etc.).
- 31. Use reusable cotton pads for removing make-up (no make-up wipes, plastic cotton buds).
- 32. Turn off the water in between shower 'cycles' e.g., while washing hair.
- 33. Get a water-saving showerhead.
- 34. Use bars of shampoo and soap rather than plastic bottles.
- 35. Limit the amount of water you use to brush your teeth.
- 36. Use recycled toilet paper.
- 37. Consider the cleaning products you are using (alternative, organic, natural options can include white vinegar, baking soda, borax, citrus fruit and use empty spray bottles).

Sustainable entertainment

- 38. Borrow books from the library or friends/family instead of purchasing new ones or start a book club with friends.
- 39. Read the newspaper online.
- 40. Buy movies and music online.
- 41. Increase your knowledge of environmental and social impact via documentaries and films.

Sustainable gifting

- 42. Save gift bags and boxes for future use.
- 43. Buy from local suppliers and SMEs.
- 44. Search charity shops for home items (these can sometimes be higher quality and half the price of new items).
- 45. Consider gifts to inspire friends/family on more sustainable lifestyles and general knowledge on global challenges.
- 46. Donate to food banks when doing your weekly shop (this supports local communities to cook meals sustainably for many people in need).
- 47. Gift experiences (e.g., a nice meal out or a day trip rather than material things).

Sustainable technology

48. Plug monitors can show the real-time power use of devices around the home.

- 49. Use apps to understand your carbon footprint on spending (Bearth, NatWest).
- 50. Switch to LED bulbs (they could save around 90% of electricity).
- 51. Switch wall plugs to off when you travel to prevent idle electricity use of devices (like speakers, TVs, etc).
- 52. Use low light modes on monitors, particularly later in the day.
- 53. Purchase electronics with high energy ratings (i.e. A++ or above).
- 54. Switch off computer monitors when not in use, rather than leave on idle.
- 55. Consider shifting to more ethical and modular technology brands.
- 56. Consider using alternative search engines (Ecosia is a great example, they are committed to planting 1 tree per search!).

Sustainable garden/balcony

- 57. If you have a garden or balcony, grow some flowers, vegetables, or herbs.
- 58. Use a rainwater collection system (under your gutters or a bucket outside).
- 59. Build a bug hotel with what you have.
- 60. Use wool or jute twine ties not plastic.
- 61. Compost your food and garden waste then reuse it.
- 62. Mulch your garden to save water and increase soil fertility and diversity.
- 63. Become a chemical-free garden, no more poisons.
- 64. Use nature's own rhythm to garden.
- 65. Water the garden early in the morning or late in the evening (you'll give more water to your plants and lose less water to the air).
- 66. Plant pollinator gardens.
- 67. Coffee grounds keep slugs and snails away from your garden. Simply mix equal parts of sand and ash and sprinkle around the border of your garden.
- 68. Use your coffee grounds as fertilizer, they are great.
- 69. Add your coffee grounds to your compost.

Sustainable commuting

- 70. Offset your emissions directly with airlines/train operators or consumer apps.
- 71. Share rides with friends and family where possible.
- 72. Use public transport instead of the car.
- 73. Walk or cycle instead of taking the car for short distances.
- 74. If possible, buy electric vehicles instead of combustion engines.
- 75. Avoid buying paper tickets, opt for contactless payments.
- 76. Reconsider flying domestic and short-haul, and instead use public transport.

Sustainable lifestyle

- 77. Take time to be in nature, local commons, woodlands, seaside, and heritage sites.
- 78. Generally, buy fewer things and think about the long-term value (i.e., if I spend a little bit more for a better-quality product that is going to last a lot longer is this more sustainable and economical?)
- 79. Think repair, not replace (it's a law for manufacturers to stock spare parts for household goods, if an electrical appliance breaks, call up the manufacturer and ask for advice on how to repair it).
- 80. Unplug your electronics when you are not using them.
- 81. Keep your heating/AC off for as long as possible, if you feel chilly, put a jumper on! If hot, adjust your clothing and drink lots of fluids.
- 82. Don't use chemical cleaning products, use natural ones (ideally that you make yourself).
- 83. Dust! Dusting your radiators improves the effectiveness of circulating heat, similarly, dusting behind your fridge could also reduce the energy needed to keep it cool.
- 84. Use second-hand platforms like Back Market, Facebook marketplace, eBay to buy goods.
- 85. Spend less time using digital devices/screens.
- 86. Share items with friends and family (e.g., clothing, electronics, etc).
- 87. Check out the Superhomes website for retrofit ideas that others have implemented in their homes across the UK.
- 88. "Anything but plastic" is a good site to search for alternatives.
- 89. Switch your products (soap, shampoo etc) so that you can refill dispensers.
- 90. Use bio friendly laundry detergents.
- 91. Repair leaks (small leaks are often overlooked and can lead to massive amounts of wasted water, a higher water bill, and potential property damage).
- 92. Get your bills delivered via email by going online and requesting the paperless option.
- 93. Don't set your air conditioning to less than 20 degrees.
- 94. Print only when you really need to.
- 95. Stop junk mail to your home.
- 96. Get some indoor plants (house plants improve your indoor air quality).
- 97. Avoid using aerosols and CFC-based air fresheners, opt-in for organic alternatives and products without the ozone-damaging chemicals.
- 98. Work from home where possible to reduce emissions from commuting.
- 99. Practice "Plogging" a combination of jogging and plocka upp (Swedish for "to pick up") plogging entails jogging and quickly stopping to pick up trash while you go walking.
- 100. If possible, limit the use of an AC/Fan during high temperatures, closing your blinds/curtains and switching your lights off is a great way to keep low temperatures inside your home, failing that a bucket of water and ice is a great way to circulate cooler air in a room.

Document Name: 100 Tips to Lead a Sustainable Lifestyle

Document Type: Guide

Policy Owner: Head of Sustainability Date First Issued: May 2024