



Kicking the Carbon Habit: Useful Links

This page contains links to websites from governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, businesses, media, and other groups from around the world to help you research issues related to kicking the carbon habit. We have compiled these links from our own review of the vast amount of information available on the Internet to help you to find the most relevant sources for your research. Our Planet magazine does not, however, endorse the viewpoints of any of the groups to which we link, and we cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information posted on these sites. Rather, we hope to provide you with a broad range of opinions and perspectives.

Calculate your footprint

www.carbonfootprint.com

This website allows you to work out the emissions from your house, flights, car, motorbike, bus and rail travel. The 'secondary' category lists other possible sources of emissions, including food preferences (vegetarian, organic and so on), fashion, packaging, furniture and electrical appliances, recycling, recreation and use of financial services.

www.carbonneutral.com

This website by the Carbon Neutral company provides a calculator designed for use by business, and bespoke calculators designed for individual companies who think they need more sophisticated help.

www.bp.com/home.do?categoryId=1

BP's Carbon Footprint Calculator is divided into three main areas: At Home, In the Store, and On the Road, with a range of information about ways to reduce your carbon emissions.

www.earthcharter.org

The Earth Charter Initiative provides a guide to carbon calculators, a list of countries where they are based, and sites where you may find the right one for your purposes.

www.mycarbonfootprint.eu

This European Commission website enables you to find out how much CO₂ you can save every year by choosing from a series of possible lifestyle changes. You can also make a public pledge to reduce your personal carbon footprint. The site provides links to national carbon calculators in a range of European countries.



drive time

The transport sector is responsible for 25 per cent of the world's total energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. One path towards more sustainable transport is the car-sharing websites that are sprouting up in Europe, Australia and the United States: people announce where they are going and when, offering a lift to those with the same destination. Here are a few popular sites:

www.mitfahrgelegenheit.de (Germany, Austria, Switzerland)

www.easycovoiturage.com (France)

www.rideshare-directory.com (United States)

www.catchalift.com (Australia)

Meanwhile the following websites provide a wealth of advice on how to drive greener, from simple tips such as shifting to higher gears to steps like buying a fuel efficient car:

www.ecodrive.org/

www.direct.gov.uk/en/Environmentandgreenerliving/Greenertravel/DG_064428

www.eco-drive.ch/go.cfm?was_ist_eco_drive

<http://raga.ouvaton.org/pratique/Dossiers/Eco%20conduite/brochure%20ecodrive.pdf>

www.bedoce.com/2007/08/21/conduccion-ecologica-2-como-ser-un-conductor-eco-eficiente/

www.unep.org

www.unep.org/climateneutral – February 2008 saw the launch of the UNEP Climate Neutral Network known as CN Net. Around the world, a growing group of countries, companies, cities, NGOs and also many individuals are laying out strategies and plans to lower their emissions and become climate neutral over the coming months, years and decades. CN Net is a web-based network that aims to catalyze action and energize this movement. Inaugural participants include Costa Rica, Iceland, New Zealand and Norway, as well as several cities and a number of multinational companies.

The key objective is to facilitate information exchange and networking on achieving a transition to a low carbon society. The network is inclusive and welcomes pledges from interested participants that make a clear and explicit commitment to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

www.climatecare.org/calculators/flight

Climate Care's calculator enables you to find out what the emissions from a specific flight will be – and what the offset cost is.

www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/public.htm

This page by the International Panel on Climate Change contains a series of guidelines to help countries with the production of their GHG inventories. This includes information on how to assess land-use change – one of the big contributing factors to carbon emissions, but one which is difficult to measure.

Be part of the solution

www.unep.org/wed/2008/english

UNEP's World Environment Day website is packed with information on the event on 5 June, including details of the hundreds of events that will take place worldwide to mark World Environment Day, from Nigeria to Australia.

www.unep.fr/greenpassport

The aim of UNEP's Green Passport site is to introduce travelers to some of the things they can do to make tourism a sustainable activity, with sections on 'Planning my trip', 'Getting there', 'Getting around', 'Before going back', and 'After my trip'.

www.passiv.de

A Passive House relies on its own intrinsic design as far as possible to meet its energy requirements – with things like good insulation, very good glazing and a ground heat-exchanger. This website explains the concept and shows how you, too, can build a passive house.

www.cdmrulebook.org

This website is the first comprehensive online legal database of all the rules, practices and procedures of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) carbon trading scheme. It contains information on the CDM cycle for all types of projects – large-scale, small-scale, forestry, small-scale forestry and programmatic CDM activities.

www.energyefficiencyasia.org/

This is a guide for companies in Asia wanting to improve energy efficiency through cleaner production, with versions in Tamil, Mongolian and Bahasa Indonesia among others.

www.iclei.org/

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability – has developed a Cities for Climate Protection Campaign to help cities adopt policies and implement quantifiable measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The organization's draft International Local Government Greenhouse Gas Protocol provides guidance on carbon inventories and mitigation.

www.klimabuendnis.org/start.htm

The Climate Alliance is an association of European cities and municipalities that have entered into a partnership with indigenous rainforest peoples to reduce their GHG emissions. Its aim is to preserve the global climate by reducing GHG emissions to a sustainable level in the industrialized countries of the north, and conserving the rainforests in the south of the planet.

www.ourcarbonnation.com/uploads/File/ConsumersGuidetoCarbonOffsets.pdf

This *Consumer's Guide to Retail Carbon Offset Providers* helps provide guidance to those considering purchasing offsets to help reduce their 'carbon footprint'.

www.carbontradewatch.org

Carbon Trade Watch is one of the determined opponents to carbon offsetting. The NGO argues that if people can simply pay a little for the promise of future climate innocence, it will do nothing to persuade them to cut their emissions radically here and now.