

# The BAREFOOT Realtor

## 20 Things You Can Do To Stay Eco-Friendly



1. Recycle & buy minimally packaged goods .
2. Wash clothes in cold water, not hot.
3. Install low flow shower heads & toilets, to use less water.
4. Run the dishwasher when full, & don't use heat to dry.
5. Replace standard light bulbs with compact fluorescents.
6. Plug air leaks in windows & doors to increase energy efficiency.
7. Replace old appliances with energy efficient models.
8. Walk, bike, carpool, or use public transportation.
9. Adjust your thermostat lower in winter & higher in summer.
10. Use window tint film on windows & doors to reduce A/C drain. Plant trees or bushes around the house.
11. Install native landscaping & drought tolerant plants suitable to the rainfall in the area, then mulch.
12. Use water pervious material, such as crushed granite or open paving blocks that allow water to percolate into the ground.
13. Use rain barrels & gutters to catch & store water that falls on roofs for watering your plants & lawn.
14. Reduce water & fertilizer needs by recycling yard waste & leaves for use as mulch.
15. Use renewable or recycled materials like recycled wood, bamboo floors, & cellulose insulation & Thermo-ply.
16. Use construction products that are biodegradable, nontoxic, water-based, & cold water compatible.
17. Avoid products that contain dyes, heavy metals, ozone depleting chemicals, formaldehyde or known carcinogens.
18. Avoid solvent based finishes, particleboard, adhesives, some carpets, & other products that release volatile chemicals into the air.
19. Look for green & Energy Star labels already tested.
20. Employ passive solar design in open floor plans, double glass pane windows, cross ventilation windows & solar heated pools

Share these simple steps with friends & family to increase awareness of Green Design. As more of the public demands more green design of builders, the more value may become attached to the home. Eventually, we'll start to see a dollar value used to set a value to green features by appraisers.

Call **NICKE BAREFOOT**, 

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