

Green in Deakin

Tips and Facts

FACT:

Carbon dioxide is the main greenhouse gas that contributes to global climate change. For every litre of petrol used 2.3kg of carbon dioxide is released from the exhaust.

TIP:

Plan your trips with colleagues so you all travel in one car.

FACT:

Did you know that every year around 3.5 million tonnes of paper and cardboard is used in Australia, enough to fill 160,000 large semi trailers. Visy Recycling collects and processes 750,000 tonnes of this each year, the equivalent to saving close to 15 million trees.

TIP:

Each Australian office worker in Australia uses around 10,000 sheets of A4 paper per year. When printing - print two to a page and halve your use of paper.

FACT:

On average each office worker in Australia throws away 41 glass containers and 76 aluminum cans every year. This adds up to a lot of waste to landfill.

TIP:

Utilize recycle bins. By using this facility you will be doing your bit to reduce the amount of waste to landfill.

FACT:

To produce 86 reams of Reflex paper, 14 trees from Tasmania's native forests have to be destroyed. Over a one year period this adds up to 168 trees or ¼ acre of Tasmania's forests.

TIP:

Look out for paper manufactured from Cane by-products, this is being introduced across the 3 campuses for use in out printers and photocopiers.

FACT:

Each kilogram of organic waste disposed of to landfill, releases greenhouse gases equivalent to more than 3 kilograms of Co2 as it decays.

TIP:

Mulch up green waste where possible. It not only reduces landfill and Co2, it reduces the watering quantity needed on garden beds. Compost organic matter is great for garden beds.

FACT:

Traveling in peak hour traffic can increase fuel consumption by up to 15% due to longer idling time and increased start/stop travel.

TIP:

Plan your travel time and route to reduce fuel consumption.

FACT:

An average photocopier uses \$1,500 worth of electricity, \$24,000 worth of paper, and, \$15,000 worth of toner over 7 years.

TIP:

Purchasing equipment with energy saving features, turning off copiers overnight, using double sided copying whenever practical and recycling toner cartridges will all help to reduce the running costs and resources used by photocopiers.

FACT:

A desktop computer, used eight hours a day, generates over 600 kgs of harmful greenhouse gases each year! Your monitor consumes between 50-80% of the energy your monitor and computer unit use!

TIP:

Save 66% more energy by switching off your screen when it is not in use and at the end of the day.

FACT:

In 1999, Australia ranked second, behind the USA, in terms of domestic waste generation. (Examples: Waste from Melbourne's Metropolitan area would completely fill the equivalent of the MCG every 9 weeks. The Barwon region would fill the equivalent of the area of Skilled Stadium to a height of 20 meters per annum).

TIP:

Help reduce these quantities. When ordering your business lunches or morning teas request returnable trays and refuse disposable items.

FACT:

Producing and transporting a sheet of paper to your office usually takes more energy than the fax, copier or printer takes to place images on it.

TIP:

Before you print think about if you really need a hard copy as well as an electronic copy.

FACT:

The cost to dispose of Victoria's rubbish is about \$300 million a year. Paper plays a large part in this.

TIP:

Reduce the use of paper by proof reading your work from the screen before printing a hard copy, print on both sides or reuse paper that has been used on one side for pads, lists, telephone messages, etc.

FACT:

At 110km/h your vehicle uses up to 25 per cent more fuel than it would cruising at 90km/h.

TIP:

Plan your trips so you don't have to speed to get to a meeting on time.

FACT:

Many people believe leaving lights on uses less energy than switching it on and off. Although there is a surge of electricity used for the ignition of the light, this only lasts 0.0003 seconds. In fact, if you leave the room for more than 0.9 seconds and turn the lights OFF, you are actually saving energy.

Turning the light off also extends the life of the fluorescent tube, this means replacing the tubes less often.

TIP:

If you leave your office for more than 45 minutes, turn off your lights. If it is comfortable for you, you may not need your office lights on at all in well natural lit areas or on bright days.

FACT:

Every 100 reams of recycled office paper that is printed double sided will save more than 1tonne of greenhouse gas being released into the atmosphere.

TIP:

Don't assume that printing on cane paper automatically means printing is environmentally friendly. Still consider the need for a hard copy of your document.

FACT:

Motor vehicles produce more than 60% of Melbourne's air pollution so driving to a meeting away from your home campus will always use more energy than using a phone line, not to mention the unproductive travel time.

TIP:

Consider running meetings via voice-point or video-conferencing when appropriate.

FACT:

Office equipment that is used only intermittently is often left on when not in use, using power.

TIP:

When you are finished using office equipment, don't forget to turn it off after use.

FACT:

In an average year a car emits approximately 4140kg of Co².

TIP:

By changing up through the gears and into top gear as soon as possible, without accelerating harder than necessary, fuel is used more efficiently.

FACT:

Australia uses 210 million tones of paper per year which is 85 million trees per year. This works out to be approximately 457,000 acres that is being destroyed each year.

TIP:

Think before you print!

FACT:

Producing 1tonne of aluminum from virgin raw materials emits 20tonnes of greenhouse gas, whereas producing 1tonne of aluminum from recycled materials emits 3tonnes of greenhouse gas.

TIP:

Ensure all recyclable materials go in the co-mingle bins.

FACT:

When a PC (& monitor) is left on continuously it will emit 300kg of greenhouse gas annually. If turned off after hours or when not in use this can be reduced to 70kg annual emission.

TIP:

Turn off your computer & monitor at the end of the day or when not in use for 1 hour or more.

FACT:

Walking is good exercise and saves over a quarter of a kilogram of greenhouse gas emissions per kilometer of vehicle driving it replaces.

TIP:

Why not walk around your campus rather than drive.

INTERESTING FACT:

Over a photocopier's 7year life, greenhouse gas emissions from electricity, paper and toner can be reduced by 75% by using the powersave option, using recycled paper and refilled toner cartridges, recycling any waste paper and copying double sided whenever possible.

INTERESTING FACT:

The eco-footprint is a tool used to communicate the amount of land needed per capita based on national resource consumption, depletion & regeneration. If everyone in the world had the same eco-footprint as we do in Australia, we would require 3 earths to live upon.