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With the economic crisis and trying to preserve the environment going green has never been smarter. How exactly do we go green in Stansbury? By making a few simple changes in our life we can go green. For example changing the temperature in your home by a few degrees, or instead of using a desktop computer you can use a laptop. Other ways you can go green is to wash your clothes in cold water and instead of driving to work or school everyday carpool or take the bus.

Living in the extreme weather in Utah takes its toll on everyone that lives here. However it also takes its toll on the environment. During the scorching summers everyone turns their air conditioners on full blast. Then when the temperatures drop below freezing the heaters get turned up high to combat the arctic temperatures. What is the solution to this? Turn down your heat in the winter just a few degrees and in the summer raise the temperature of your air conditioner.

Every degree you turn down the heat saves you about 3 percent of your heating cost. Every degree you raise the temperature of your air conditioner saves you about 4 percent of your cooling costs. Saving 3 or 4 percent of your heating and cooling cost not only helps you save money but it also saves the environment. If you change the temperature by 2 degrees all year, you can save about 2,000 pounds of CO₂ a year. In addition to turning down the heat, another minor change that you can make is during the winter open the curtains to the windows that face the south. Doing this will warm your house without using much energy. This will also help you save on your heating costs.

Another way you can go green and save money is switch to a laptop. Using a desktop computer uses three-quarters of your electrical use. If you switch to a laptop you can cut that

three-quarter of your electrical use. However you should turn off your laptop at the end of the day. There is even bonus to doing this. A laptop is portable and takes up less space in your home.

Laundry is a part of our everyday life. However you can make some changes with your laundry that can help save you money and help protect the environment. If you switch to cold water while washing your clothes you could save \$60 a year and 80 percent of the energy you uses for laundry. It is as easy as just turning a switch on your washer. Another change you could make is hang dry some of your clothes. It would save 700 pounds of CO2 a year.

Most people living in Stansbury do not work here and until the new high school opens most high school and Jr. High school students have to go somewhere else for school. That means that a majority of people must drive to get to work or school. Taking public transportation when possible or even carpooling is a great way to save and go green. If you do have to drive yourself to work or school, make sure you tires are fully inflated. By doing this you can save gas mileage by 3 percent. On top of that, every gallon that you save saves 20 pounds of CO2 emissions.

Now is the best time to go green. Start today just by making a few small changes like adjusting your home's temperature or using a laptop instead of a desktop. These little adjustments to your daily routine can save you money and the environment. If you do every one of these things for a year, you can save 2720 pounds of CO2 as well as over \$150 a year. That is a lot when you add it all up! You really can make a difference in Stansbury Park just by making a few small changes in your life. Our neighborhood is worth it.

Resources

<http://www.care2.com/greenliving/10-simple-and-cheap-green-ideas.html>