

GreenROUTES SHORTCUTS

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, “Life is a journey, not a destination.” These days we could just as easily say the same thing about “sustainability.” Setting our sites on personal wellbeing, social justice, economic security and environmental stability means discovering a “lifestyle” that allows us to be authentically happy while we take responsibility for the influence our actions have on others’ lives as well.

Here are some shortcuts for your GreenROUTES journey...

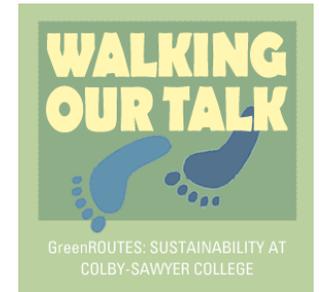


Waste & Consumption

1. **CONSERVE ENERGY** wherever possible...turn the thermostat down and the lights off, use power strips to avoid “phantom loads” from appliances that are off but still drawing power, hang insulated blinds to keep heat in or out...
2. **BE MORE EFFICIENT**, with everything...water, electricity, etc...install CFLs or LEDs in all of your light fixtures, use aerators for faucets, buy ENERGY STAR appliances ...
3. **RECYCLE AND COMPOST**, everything...there’s no waste in nature, so shoot for a “zero waste” home and office too...
4. **USE LESS**, of everything...buy less stuff, bring home fewer plastic bags, have only what you need...
5. **EAT LOCAL, ORGANIC, PLANT-BASED MEALS** for your health, the wellbeing of farmers/ workers, and the environment...
6. **VOTE WITH YOUR DOLLARS**...shop local and support businesses with strong human rights and environmental records...invest your money in “green” and/or socially responsible IRAs...
7. **DIVORCE YOUR CAR**, or at least reduce your dependence on it, try walking or biking, carpooling, telecommuting, or using video conference tools...
8. **AND FINALLY, FOLLOW YOUR MOTHER’S ADVICE**...get lots of rest, drink plenty of water, exercise regularly, eat nutritious food (but eat dessert first), save time to play (and play nice), remember your please and thank yous, spend time with family and friends, love your work, be present, find meaning in your life, and have reasons to laugh, often...



Water & Biodiversity



Energy

And, over the long haul...

⚡ **INSTALL RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS**

🏠 **DOWNSIZE...LIVE IN A SMALLER SPACE, NEEDING LESS ELECTRICITY, HEAT, AND STUFF**



CONSIDER BECOMING A VEGETARIAN AND/OR A LOCALVORE AND REPLACE YOUR LAWN WITH A GARDEN



LIVE CLOSER TO WORK



Food



CAPTURE WATER FROM YOUR ROOF



SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND ADVOCATE FOR THOSE WHO DON'T HAVE THE FREEDOM OR RESOURCES TO ADVOCATE FOR THEMSELVES



Culture, Curriculum & Investment

**green
ROUTES**

The Pathway to Carbon Neutrality
& Whole Systems Sustainability



Transportation