

...one tip at a time!

We care about the environment and we know you do too. Your office is a great place to make little changes that make a big difference. Here are some ideas to help you do just that. Provided monthly by R.E.A.P.S., we hope they inspire you to create change!

GREEN TIP #157

May 2023

Transport / travel

Sustainable transport is not just about not going anywhere, but is about choosing the best options available to reduce your carbon footprint impact each time you need to travel. Your travel footprint is the combination of all of the factors, big and small, that add up: it can also include thinking about your style of accommodation, eating habits on the road and even the contents in your travel bags.

For reducing your carbon footprint through personal travel here are some tips:

Transport:

Flying: One of the most effective things that we can all do to reduce our carbon footprint is to take fewer plane journeys! When you can avoid travel by plane it is especially beneficial to try to not take short haul flights. Short haul flights can add up and there are many other methods of transport like driving and public transport that are much more carbon efficient! If you have to fly, then choosing a [greener airline](#) or fly economy, fly direct if possible, and purchase carbon offsets.

Carpooling or Rideshare: When you are traveling far for work or fun or even taking short trips to work or the store, if you can carpool with others this can add up fast! Also, if you live in a city or community that has carpooling lanes, this may get you to your destination much faster. As an employee, encouraging carpooling and allowing employees to advertise their willingness to carpool helps.

Public Transport: Taking public transport when you can contributes to reducing your carbon footprint significantly. Not only are you avoiding using a single vehicle to get you around, but you are taking advantage of a vehicle that is already on the road. You may need to be a bit more flexible with your timeline to adjust to some public transit, but this is an investment to the health of the planet and others.

Alternative Transport: Walking, biking, skateboarding, rollerblading, you name it. Anything that gets you from one place to another that keeps you from using your vehicle will every time reduce the output of emissions and reduce your carbon footprint!

As an Employer:

If you have a storefront or are running programs, workshops or conferences choosing your location to be the most accessible for customers to access by public transit, or by walking or biking can help!

When possible consider allowing employees to work from home, cutting down on the need to drive in to work for every day of work. If that is not possible try scheduling as many meetings as you can remotely.

While Travelling:

Stay in environmentally friendly hotels: for an article on some options or to learn more about what this can mean [follow this link](#). Pack your own reusables. Bring dishware, reusable water bottle, reusable coffee mugs, reusable straws and shopping bags. It all adds up if you are eating on the go while you travel

Do you have any questions or suggestions? Call or email us at green_solutions@reaps.org!