

GREEN TOURISM TIPS FOR THE SAN JUANS

Whether it's saving energy, water, or reducing plastics, there are lots of steps we can take to lighten our footprint in the Islands.

WATER

Get a facility audit to quantify water use and identify savings opportunities.

FLUSH

Replace pre-1994 toilets, which use 3.5 to 7 gallons of water with every flush, with newer 1.6 gallon flush models and help conserve up to 800 billion gallons per year.



FLOW

Replace faucets and showerheads with low-flow options (reduces flow up to 25% per use).



RAIN GARDEN

Create a rain garden to reduce stormwater pollution and prevent flooding. Find out more: www.12000raingardens.org.



LANDSCAPE

Water landscapes in the morning or evening to prevent water loss due to evaporation. Avoid watering when it is windy.



ENERGY

Get an energy audit for your building(s) from Sustainable Connections (in Bellingham) to identify potential leakages and savings solutions

LIGHT

Replace incandescent lightbulbs with compact fluorescent (CFLs) or LED bulbs. These bulbs use up to 75% less energy than standard light fixtures and last up to 10 to 50 times longer.



SOLAR

Invest in our own power – join Community Solar from OPALCO and switch a portion of your electricity usage to clean, local, solar power.



TIRES

Check service vehicle tires. Studies estimate that 50 to 80% of tires on U.S. roads are under-inflated. If every motorist kept their tires properly inflated, we could save up to 2 billion gallons of gas per year.



OFFICE

Ensure office equipment is Energy Star rated. More information on Energy Star: www.energystar.gov.



CONSUMPTION

Use recyclable materials when packing merchandise for shipping instead of Styrofoam or other non-biodegradable products.

PLASTIC BAGS

Utilize recyclable or reusable bags for customer purchases. San Juan County & Washington State have now banned single-use plastic bags at retail establishments.



AMENITIES

Send used soaps, shampoos, and conditioners to Clean the World Foundation (www.cleantheworld.org) for recycling.



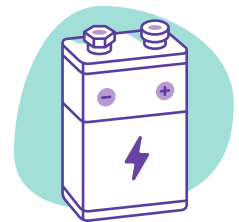
PAPER

Switch to paperless billing and sign bills electronically where feasible.



BATTERIES

Switch single-use batteries for small electronics to rechargeable and recycle when needed www.call2recycle.org.



COMMUNITY

Get involved in grassroots efforts to create change

EVENTS

Encourage/incentivize staff to get involved in events like the Great Islands Cleanup, or adopt a beach with Plastic Free Salish Sea.



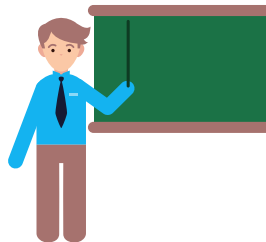
REGULATIONS

Show support for initiatives to reduce waste or carbon emissions.



EDUCATION

Encourage/incentivize staff to attend webinars, classes, and community meetings focused on green solutions.



YOUTH

Support efforts from local youth that address community issues (i.e. food insecurity).

