

The Treasuring Home Pledge from Audubon International

*Protect the special places where you live by pledging to take action right at home. Audubon International's **Treasuring Home Initiative** engages homeowners, neighborhoods, and communities in taking action to protect and improve the land, water, wildlife, and natural resources around them.*

Indoors

- Practice good habits. Get family members into the habit of conserving water and energy.
- Save water by shutting it off during teeth brushing and shaving, taking shorter showers, and running appliances on full loads.
- Make inexpensive upgrades, such as installing low-flow aerators.
- Replace older, large tank toilets with low-flush models.
- Conduct a home energy audit and keep your furnace tuned up.
- Switch to compact fluorescent light bulbs.
- Improve insulation and purchase energy efficient appliances.
- Reduce waste.
- Choose reusable products.
- Recycle paper, glass, plastic, and metal, and purchase products with recycled content.

Outdoors

- Landscape primarily with native species of trees, shrubs, and flowers. They'll grow better with minimal inputs and help preserve part of your region's natural heritage.
- Leave some natural areas for wildlife in your yard.
- Maintain water for wildlife.
- Get to know your region. Discover what makes the place you live unique by becoming more familiar with local plants, wildlife, and natural areas.
- Add variety. Plant various heights and types of plants, from ground cover to shrubs and trees. A diversity of plants attracts a diversity of wildlife.
- Use water wisely outdoors to maximize efficiency and minimize waste.
- Protect water quality.
- Maintain healthy soil for a healthy lawn.
- Mow your lawn high, often, and with sharp blades to keep it healthy and looking good.
- Reduce or eliminate the use of harmful chemicals.

Beyond Your Backyard

- Share your success. Encourage family and friends to participate in environmental stewardship activities and take the Treasuring Home Pledge.
- Take it to work. Businesses can save resources and money by becoming more eco-efficient. Even simple actions like paper recycling and lighting upgrades can improve environmental performance.
- Get involved with your homeowners or neighborhood association to implement neighborhood environmental stewardship projects.
- Purchase locally-grown and produced products and recycled goods.
- Offer to help a local school get involved in environmental education and stewardship.
- Organize or participate in community-wide environmental improvement projects.
- Support the protection of local natural assets, such as wetlands, agricultural lands, or wildlife habitats.
- Participate in local planning efforts in support of local conservation and smart growth.
- Join a program. Audubon International offers environmental education and certification programs for businesses, schools, golf courses, neighborhoods, and communities.
- Support Audubon International! Your tax-deductible contribution will help us continue improving the quality of the environment in communities across North America and around the world.

Learn more at <http://www.auduboninternational.org>.

