

Do Your Share to Stop Global Warming

CLIMATE DISRUPTION IS AN URGENT THREAT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC HEALTH OF OUR COMMUNITIES. IN 2005, THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA ACKNOWLEDGED THIS THREAT BY SIGNING ONTO THE US CONFERENCE OF MAYOR'S CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT. THIS AGREEMENT ESTABLISHES A FRAMEWORK FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO BECOME *ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS* IN THE FIGHT AGAINST GLOBAL WARMING BY IMPLEMENTING POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TO CURB THE RELEASE OF CARBON DIOXIDE AND OTHER GREENHOUSE GASES. BUT THE CITY STAFF CANNOT DO IT ALONE: WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE ALEXANDRIA THE VANGUARD IN CLIMATE PROTECTION.

Here are a few things you can do:

AS A LIFE-LONG RESIDENT AND MAYOR OF ALEXANDRIA, I AM VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS CLIMATE CHANGE WILL HAVE ON A COASTAL CITY SUCH AS ALEXANDRIA AND ITS RESIDENTS. WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR INCREASED TEMPERATURES AND A RISING SEA LEVEL AS A RESULT OF GLOBAL WARMING, THE FREQUENCY AND SEVERITY OF DAMAGE FROM HURRICANES AND FLOODING WILL INCREASE. CURRENTLY SMALL LOCALIZED FLOODING OF THE POTOMAC RIVER IN OLD TOWN IS A REGULAR OCCURANCE AND IS A MANAGEABLE PROBLEM. HOWEVER, WITH THE IMPACT OF GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE, FLOODING WILL BECOME A SIGNIFICANT ISSUE IMPACTING PUBLIC SAFETY, PROPERTY DAMAGE AND THE CITY'S ECONOMY."

-- QUOTE FROM MAYOR WILLIAM D. EUILLE

CALCULATE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT!

THE AVERAGE AMERICAN PRODUCES 18.5 TONS OF CO₂ PER YEAR. VISIT CARBONNEUTRAL.COM TO FIND OUT HOW LARGE YOUR FOOTPRINT IS.

PLANT A TREE

A SINGLE TREE WILL ABSORB ONE TON OF CARBON DIOXIDE OVER ITS LIFETIME.

REPLACE ORDINARY BULBS WITH COMPACT FLUORESCENT BULBS

ONE CFL PREVENTS THE RELEASE OF A HALF-TON OF CO₂ OVER THE LIFE OF THE BULB.

TURN OFF UNUSED APPLIANCES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

IN AN AVERAGE HOME, APPLIANCES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE LEFT ON WHEN NOT IN USE. SIMPLY TURNING THESE DEVICES OFF CAN PREVENT THE RELEASE OF THOUSANDS OF POUNDS OF CO₂.

REFUSE, REDUCE, RE-USE, RECYCLE

REFUSE - PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS AND EXCESS PACKAGING MATERIAL

REDUCE - THE WASTE YOU PRODUCE.

REUSE - REUSE PACKAGING, BAGS AND CONTAINERS.

BUY PRODUCTS WITH THE "ENERGY STAR" LABEL

CHOOSING ENERGY STAR PRODUCTS CAN SAVE YOU UP TO 30 PERCENT ON YOUR ENERGY BILL, WITHOUT SACRIFICING FEATURES, STYLE, OR COMFORT.

DRIVE LESS

YOU CAN SAVE ONE POUND OF CO₂ FOR EVERY MILE YOU DON'T DRIVE!

HEAT AND COOL SMARTLY

INSTALLING A PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT CAN SAVE ABOUT 1,800 POUNDS OF CO₂ A YEAR AND ABOUT \$100 A YEAR IN ENERGY COSTS.

USE WATER WISELY

MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEMS REQUIRE A LOT OF ENERGY TO PURIFY AND DISTRIBUTE WATER TO HOUSEHOLDS, AND SAVING WATER, ESPECIALLY HOT WATER, CAN LOWER GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.