



A town-wide response to global warming

Dear Glen Rock Resident,

Climate change and the resulting global warming are having negative impacts on our health, safety and environment that can't be ignored. Fortunately, there are meaningful steps each of us can take to address this problem. Climate change is a big problem, but when we each make small changes, the total impact can make a very real difference.

The state of New Jersey has set ambitious goals that will help improve our quality of life and preserve our environment for future generations. These goals include:

- Reducing energy use by 20% by 2020,
- Obtaining 20% of energy from renewable sources by 2020, and
- Reducing greenhouse gases by 20% by 2020.

Together, we can reach these goals.

A group of Glen Rock organizations have joined together to launch **Green Up Glen Rock**, a *town-wide response to global warming*. Our goal is to reduce Glen Rock's carbon footprint. We can reduce the greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change and make Glen Rock a cleaner, greener, healthier place to live. (And, you'll probably end up saving money, too!)

To reach this goal, we are working with schools, businesses, religious groups and other organizations to encourage residents to **take a four-point pledge to reduce their carbon footprint**. A copy of this pledge is on the reverse of this sheet. **Our goal is for four hundred families to make this pledge** and collectively **change 2,008 light bulbs**, in addition to taking other energy-saving steps.

Please read this pledge, discuss it with your family and friends, and decide on which actions you can take today, tomorrow and in the future. Then, let us know about your decision by completing the bottom of the form and returning it to us. You can place it in one of the **Green Up Glen Rock** boxes at the Borough Hall and Glen Rock Public Library or drop it in the mail to the Glen Rock Environmental Commission, Borough Hall, Glen Rock, NJ 07452.

To encourage participation in Green Up Glen Rock, all Glen Rock residents who sign and return a pledge between now the Fun Fair in June will be entered in a drawing and eligible to win one of eight eco-friendly mulching lawn mowers donated by the Borough of Glen Rock. Two lawn mowers will be raffled off each night of the Fun Fair.

Working together, we can keep Glen Rock a good place to come home to for future generations.

Mayor John van Keuren, the Borough Council and the Green Up Glen Rock Task Force

Glen Rock Environmental Commission
St. Catharine's Parish
GREEN

Glen Rock League of Women Voters
The Green Team (Glen Rock HSA members)
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

* For more information, go to <http://www.glenrocknj.net/environment> or contact the Glen Rock Environmental Commission at GREC@glenrocknj.net.



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I, _____, recognize that global warming is a real and serious problem, and therefore I am joining in the community-wide initiative known as GREEN UP GLEN ROCK. I pledge to begin making changes in my habits and choices to help protect our environment and to create a healthier future — for our children and for generations to come. I recognize that small changes can be the beginning of something big. Each month I pledge to increase my efforts to continue reducing my carbon footprint.

To reduce my use of **Electricity**, I pledge to:

- Replace 5 incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.
- Turn off lights, TV, radio or computers when not in use.
- Unplug appliances that draw energy even when not in use (e.g. cell phone chargers, audio & video systems, coffee makers with timers or clocks). *Plugging these appliances into a power strip (surge protector) makes turning them off easier.*
- Power down computers when not in use — *even stand-by mode uses energy.*
- Lower the thermostat in winter, raise it in summer.

To reduce **Waste** going into our landfills, I pledge to:

- Become familiar with Glen Rock's recycling policies and recycle as much household waste as possible.
- Avoid purchasing plastic water bottles. *Bring a refillable water bottle from home.*
- Bring my own reusable bags to the grocery store, the mall or when running other errands. *Keep several in the car so they are always handy.*
- Try to use as few disposable products as possible (e.g. rags instead of paper towels, fewer paper cups and plates, reusable storage containers instead of plastic bags or wrap).

To use **Less Gasoline**, I pledge to:

- Avoid idling. *Turn off the engine while waiting for someone. Walk into the bank or restaurant instead of using a drive-through window. An idling engine releases twice as many exhaust fumes as a vehicle in motion, and 30 seconds of idling uses more fuel than restarting the engine.*
- Walk, ride my bike, use public transportation or carpool to work, school or errands as much as possible.
- Keep the car tuned up and tires properly inflated to maximize mileage.
- Plan ahead, consolidating errands to drive less.

To **Green Up** my property inside and out, I pledge to:

- Devote more property to beds and ground cover and less to lawn.
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn to serve as natural nutrients.
- Minimize the use of non-organic fertilizers and pesticides on lawns and gardens.
- Minimize the use of toxic household products.
- Compost fruit and vegetable scraps from the kitchen to create nutrients for the garden.
- Use water wisely.

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: Glen Rock Environmental Commission, Glen Rock League of Women Voters, St. Catharine Parish, GREEN, The Green Team, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Return coupon to drop boxes at the Municipal Offices or Glen Rock Public Library, or mail to GREC, Glen Rock Borough Hall, Glen Rock, NJ 07452.

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For more information about Green Up Glen Rock, go to www.glenrocknj.net/environment.

I plan to change _____ light bulbs.

Signed _____ Date _____

Address _____

Email _____