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global WARMING

what you can do to combat climate change

10 things you can do to reduce carbon dioxide emissions (the major gas contributing to climate change) from going into the atmosphere

- 1 drive green – check your tire pressure; keep your car tuned up; purchase a fuel-efficient car.
- 2 drive less – walk, bicycle or use public transportation.
- 3 turn your thermostat down – for every two degrees, you save at least 100 pounds of carbon dioxide from going into the atmosphere in a year.
- 4 reduce energy use at home – buy energy-efficient light bulbs and appliances; add extra insulation in your home; get a free energy audit from your utility company.
- 5 protect parks and green spaces
natural areas help absorb the emissions that create global warming.
- 6 plant native trees
on your own property and in your community.
- 7 learn about green power
purchase and use renewable energy sources like fuel cells, solar power and wind power.
- 8 support green businesses
and use products that save energy and reduce fossil fuel use.
- 9 encourage local officials to get involved
in programs like the Cities for Climate Protection Program which have set goals to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 2010.
- 10 learn more about it
get the facts and get involved.

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global WARMING

*learn how it affects
our land and water resources*

Scientists predict that an increase in greenhouse gases may be causing the Earth's climate to become more variable and much warmer than it is today. Climate change is a global problem with local impacts. Become involved — you can make a difference.

Warning signs of global change

In Glacier National Park, less than 1/3 of the glaciers present in 1850 exist today. Scientists predict that the temperature is likely to increase 1.8–6.3 degrees F by 2100, causing widespread melting.

The sea level is estimated to rise six inches to three feet in this century, potentially causing flooding of marshes, wetlands and beaches along our coasts.

Increased extreme weather events are expected, with heavy rains falling in the Southwest, drought in the Southeast and heat waves in the Midwest.

Dry conditions in parts of the United States are projected to increase catastrophic fires, particularly in Western states and the Southeast.

Warmer oceans may cause coral reefs and sea life to decline off the Florida coasts and around the world.

Shifts in plant and animal habitat will likely cause plant and animal populations to decline. For example, significant losses of bird populations along the West coast are predicted.

Shifts in the competitive balance among species are projected, potentially causing exotic species to outcompete, and displace, native species and ecosystems.

Increased precipitation in the form of rain (as opposed to snow) in some regions will alter the timing and volume of runoff due to decreased snow pack. This could increase already tight competition in regions where fresh water availability is low, such as in the West.

