

Suggestions for Honoring God's Creation

VACATIONS



Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

PHILIPPIANS 2:4

- Use and refill a nonplastic water bottle, canteen, or thermos during your trip.
- To get to their vacation destinations, 82% of Americans drive, 15% fly, and only 3% take a bus, train, or boat.
- Bring your own luggage tag when flying. Using a permanent tag saves time at the ticket counter and eliminates waste from flimsy paper tags.
- Save money by flying with just a carry-on. The electric motors that operate carousels are energy hogs. If you must check a bag, keep it as light as possible. The more weight on the plane, the more energy it uses.
- More and more hotels are becoming eco-friendly because it saves them money. Use the same linens and towels during your visit. Washing fewer sheets and towels can save up to 40% of a hotel's water use.
- Use mapquest or google maps for directions, print on the blank side of used paper, and then recycle after you're finished. Better yet, use a GPS navigation system and eliminate paper waste altogether.
- Take public transportation once you reach your destination. Try www.hopstop.com to plan your bus and subway routes. Stay close to the attractions you want to see to cut down on travel costs.
- Skip the souvenirs. Most trinkets end up on a closet shelf—or in the trash. Use a travel journal and digital photographs to capture memories, then only print the photos you like. If you must buy souvenirs, purchase from local manufacturers to help support the local economy.
- Before you leave for vacation:
 - Unplug everything except refrigerator to avoid using standby energy.
 - Turn off the lights. Use timers on outside lights instead of letting the porch light burn constantly.
 - Stop the newspaper to avoid waste and save money.
 - Close the shades. Depending on the season, drawn shades will help heat or cool your home while you're on vacation.
 - Set your thermostat to fifty degrees during cold months and eighty-five degrees in the summer. You could save as much as \$100 in heating- and cooling-related energy costs while on vacation.



Blessed Earth is an educational nonprofit that inspires and equips Christians to become better stewards of the earth. Through church, campus, and media outreach, we build bridges that promote measurable environmental change and meaningful spiritual growth.



*www.***BLESSEDEARTH***.org*