

## **Going Green In Londonderry**

### **Do Something Green!**

I was talking to a child who was excited that she could help save the environment by recycling in her classroom. I was touched by her enthusiasm, and asked if she recycled at home. The child immediately became downcast and said that her family doesn't recycle at home.

Ever the optimist, I'm hoping that this will be the year we all make a resolution to make just one change to help the environment. It doesn't take a lot of effort, and you can start with small steps. Definitely get the kids involved to help you! Pick any one from the list below:

- **If you don't recycle yet**, just try recycling one or two items – maybe newspapers or soda cans or bottles.
- **If you already recycle**, try to recycle some items you usually throw away such as paper towel and toilet paper rolls, juice cartons, gray cardboard boxes like cereal or tissue boxes, junk mail, or magazines. Throw them all in a paper bag and leave it at the curb on trash days.
- **Use reusable bags** at the grocery and other stores. The hardest part is remembering to bring them in with you, so leave them in the front seat of the car where you'll see them. It takes awhile, but eventually it will become a habit. Don't forget to recycle any plastic bags you get from the grocery store in the barrels at the front of all three supermarkets in town.
- **Switch to cloth napkins**. They don't add much to the laundry load. Get ones that don't need to be ironed!
- **Use a cloth towel** to dry your hands instead of paper towels. Purchase the "select-a-size" paper towels for those times you need them. I found that I can use the smaller sized sheet 90% of the time, and I end up saving money because I buy fewer rolls.
- **Decide to volunteer** just a bit of your time to help the environment right here in Londonderry. The Solid Waste and Environment Committee meets monthly at Town Hall on the second Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Check it out! Or if you want a more limited commitment, Beautify Londonderry, the annual town clean-up takes place in late April / early May. Contact us at: [Beautifylondonderry@londonderrynh.org](mailto:Beautifylondonderry@londonderrynh.org), or learn about the program on the Town website at [www.londonderrynh.org](http://www.londonderrynh.org).

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