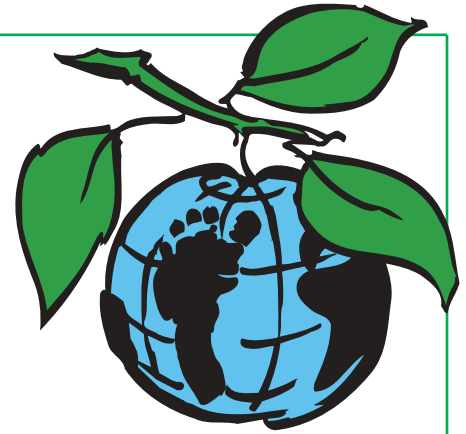


What's Your environmental footprint?



Dear Friend,

Like footprints in sand, the things we do each day have an impact on the environment: the waste we throw out; the water we use; the products we buy; and the energy we consume.

Our actions can increase the resources we use or save them. Many times, the choice to save resources is easier than we think.

We put in place a variety of programs to help individuals, businesses, farmers and students learn how to shrink their environmental footprint:

- The \$1.24 billion **Growing Greener** Program, the largest single investment ever made to restore Pennsylvania's environment, supports local watershed restoration projects, is rebuilding our State Parks, preserving farmland and supporting water and sewer projects to improve our water. More than \$700 million remains to be spent over the next few years.
- The **Land Recycling** Program is a national and international model on how to restore and put back into use our old industrial sites, most at private expense – 1,350 sites have been reused hosting 30,000 jobs.
- The **Water Resources** Planning Act creates the first-ever program to teach people and businesses how to reduce their water use so we can better deal with droughts.

- **Pollution Reduction** and compliance assistance programs have helped thousands of individuals, businesses and farmers eliminate hundreds of millions of tons of waste, water and air pollution and reduced energy use and saved companies over \$1 billion.
- **Pennsylvania's Sustainable Energy Funds** have invested over \$40 million in renewable and green energy projects and have \$40 million more to invest. Pennsylvania has more green and renewable energy customers than any other state thanks to electric deregulation.
- **Growing Smarter** land use initiatives have cataloged dozens of ways communities can grow with the environment, instead of against it, and required state agencies to look at local land use plans in making grant and permit decisions.

To help celebrate Earth Day 2004 on April 22, we have put together some simple things you can do as an individual, business, farmer or student to shrink your environmental footprint. For more, go to my website at www.senatorrafferty.com and look for the Earth Day 2004 link!

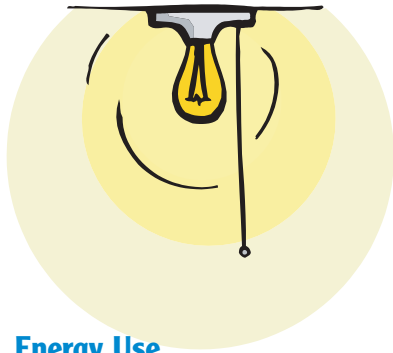
Help us make Earth Day, Every Day!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John C. Rafferty, Jr." The signature is stylized and cursive.

State Senator John C. Rafferty, Jr.

Find More Ways to Celebrate Earth Day at www.senatorrafferty.com

individuals

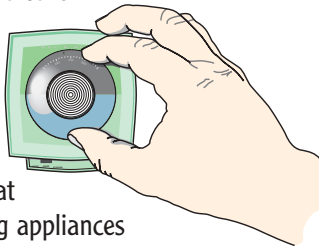


1. Energy Use

If you replaced just four 100-watt incandescent bulbs that burn four or more hours a day in your home with four 23-watt fluorescent bulbs, you'd save \$108 over three years.

For each degree you lower your thermostat in winter, or raise in summer, you can save about 3 percent

on your heating or air conditioning bill.



Households that replace existing appliances with Energy Star products can cut annual energy bills by 30 percent or some \$400. Call toll-free **1-888-STAR-YES** or visit: **www.energystar.gov** to learn more.

You can pick green or renewable electric suppliers. For a list of your choices from the Office of Consumer Advocate, visit **www.oca.state.pa.us** or call toll-free **1-800-684-6560**.

For a copy of Power\$mart: Easy Tips to Save Money and the Planet, call the Alliance to Save Energy toll free at **1-888-878-3256** or visit **www.ase.org**.

2. Your Car

Three easy steps:

1. getting a tune-up;
2. driving a little slower; and
3. properly inflating your tires – will save you at least 43 gallons and more than \$53 dollars a year.

If you're in the market for a new or used vehicle, check the gas mileage and safety information toll-free at **1-800-423-1363** or visit **www.fueleconomy.gov**.

3. Saving Water

Installing water-saving showerheads and faucet aerators in your sinks saves 1,000-1,200 gallons a month.

Fixing a faucet with a slow drip of 100 drops of water per minute can save 350 gallons a month.

Leaks inside a toilet can waste up to 200 gallons of water a day. By putting a jar or plastic bottle filled with water in an older toilet tank, you can save about one gallon with each flush. Caution: do not do this for new, low-volume toilets.

Before washing dishes, scrape them; don't rinse first. Saves 200-500 gallons a month.

Good quality water begins with you! Volunteer with your local watershed group. Contact your county conservation district, or the PA Organization for Watersheds & Rivers at **717-234-7910** or **www.pawatersheds.org** to find out how. You can also join the Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps by visiting **www.easi.org**.

4. Buy Recycled

Recycling isn't enough. Buy products made with the things you recycle. If you don't see them, ask! There are hundreds of products to choose from. Just use the Pennsylvania Resources Council Recycled Products Guide at **www.prc.org** or call **610-353-1555** or **412-488-7490**.



Buying a daily and Sunday newspaper results in using over 300 pounds of newsprint a year. Subscribe to newspapers online and reduce your waste by about 20 percent a year!

Composting everything from vegetable scraps to yard waste can reduce your household waste by as much as 30 percent a year. To learn how, call toll-free **1-800-346-4242** or visit **www.dep.state.pa.us** (Keyword: "compost").

5. Eliminate Radon

Radon gas is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Protect your health by having your home, apartment or school tested for radon. To find out more, call toll-free **1-800-237-2366** or visit **www.dep.state.pa.us** (Keyword: "Radon").

To see and hear how people just like you protect the environment, visit the **www.GreenTreks.org** website.

Sewer/Water Ballot Question

Look for a question on the **April 27 Primary Election ballot** asking voters to approve a \$250 million bond issue to help finance needed drinking water and sewage improvements to help clean up our environment.

businesses

Businesses across Pennsylvania eliminated millions of tons of waste and air pollution, saved energy and water... and reduced their costs by over \$1 billion. Yes, over \$1 billion! You can too!

1. Identify Pollution Reduction/ Energy Saving Opportunities

The best place to start is with a comprehensive review – an audit – of your operations to develop specific steps that will reduce waste and save you money.

If an engineer or consultant you deal with doesn't offer these services, contact these resources:

- American Council of Engineering Companies of Pennsylvania – call **717 540-6811** or visit www.acecpa.org.
- Pennsylvania's 16 Small Business Development Centers – call **215-898-1219** or visit www.pasbdc.org/emap.
- Pennsylvania Technical Assistance Program (PENNTAP) – call **814-865-0427** or visit www.penntap.psu.edu.

2. Saving energy

Some of the largest dollar savings opportunities are in reducing energy use. The 295 companies that won the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence reduced their energy use by over 190 million kilowatt hours over six years.

For a self-guided Business Energy Checkup and other energy saving tips, call toll-free **1-888-878-3256** or visit the Alliance to Save Energy at www.ase.org.

The U.S. Dept. of Energy can help you identify your energy savings opportunities by calling toll-free **1-877-337-3463** or visit www.eere.energy.gov.

Find out about energy efficient heating, air conditioning and office equipment from the Energy Star Program by calling toll-free **1-888-782-7937** or going to www.energystar.gov.

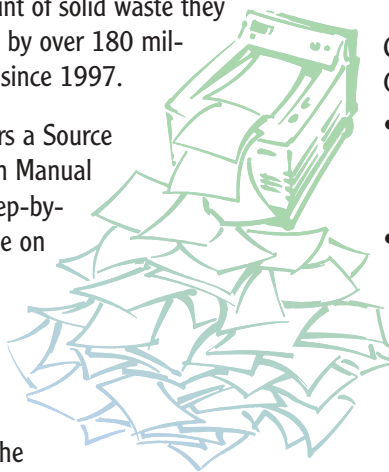
For a list of your green electric choice options from the Office of Consumer Advocate, visit www.oca.state.pa.us or call toll-free **1-800-684-6560**.

3. Reducing waste

Waste = Money Lost. Eliminating waste materials at their source presents another huge opportunity for business. The 295 Governor's Award winners have reduced the amount of solid waste they produced by over 180 million tons since 1997.

DEP offers a Source Reduction Manual with a step-by-step guide on how to reduce waste at its source. Contact the nearest DEP Regional Office to ask for your copy or go online at www.dep.state.pa.us and do a search for Form 25R.

You can also contact the U.S. EPA Waste Minimization Program at **215-814-2394** or go online to www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/wmindustry.htm for more ideas.



4. Building Green

If you plan to remodel or build a new building, consider using green building techniques. Designing to green building specs can reduce energy costs by half, water use by one-third and reduce health risks to employees.

Contact one of Pennsylvania's regional Green Building Chapters to learn more:

- Pittsburgh Green Building Alliance – call **412-431-0709** or go to www.gbapgh.org/Index.asp.
- Central PA Green Building Association – call **717-234-7107** or go to www.gbacpa.org.
- Delaware Valley Green Building Council – call **267-238-3894** or go to www.dvgbc.org.

5. Financial Help

Financial assistance is available to help businesses install new pollution reduction or energy efficient equipment –

- State Pollution Prevention Assistance Account, call toll-free **1-800-379-7448**.
- U.S. Department of Energy call toll-free at **1-877-337-3463** or visit www.eere.energy.gov/financing.

Visit the profiles of past winners of the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence for more ideas on what you can do at www.greenworks.tv/govawards2002/index.asp.

farmers

You can reduce your cost to farm, have healthier livestock and reduce your environmental footprint by taking some basic steps with the environment in mind.

Your first stop should be to contact your **county conservation district** office to get help – technical and financial. They can either help you directly by putting together a farm conservation plan or bring in

other resources like the Penn State Cooperative Extension Service and other state and federal agencies to help. You can find them in the blue pages of your phone book or at www.pacd.org.

Help is also available through the **Penn State Cooperative Extension Service**. You can find them in the blue pages or by going to: www.extension.psu.edu.



educators & students

Kids of all ages can learn about the environment by visiting www.PlanetPA.org, a website especially built for kids that includes activities, videos and other fun stuff to help them learn about the environment in Pennsylvania.

Kids can also join the Explorers Club, sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and learn about the environment

from a national and world perspective by visiting www.epa.gov/kids.

Your one-stop for information and activities for educators, home schoolers and students is the **Pennsylvania Center for Environmental Education**.

Thirteen state agencies and nonprofit groups gathered the best environmental

education resources in one place. Everything from lesson plans and activities to the Environmental Question of the Week help educators and students learn about the environment around them and how their actions can have an impact.

To learn more, visit www.pcee.org or call **724-738-4555**.

Earth Day 2004: Let's Pick It Up PA!

The Department of Environmental Protection 2004 Earth Day theme is "Great PA Cleanup – Let's Pick It Up PA!" to promote anti-littering efforts across the state.

DEP has lessons plans and other resources available at its Earth Day Central webpage at www.dep.state.pa.us (Keyword: "Earth Day Central"). DEP will not be mailing information about Earth

Day to educators and libraries across the state, so check the website often for information. Call the Great PA Cleanup Hotline toll-free at **1-888-548-8372**.



Information Provided Compliments of **Senator John C. Rafferty, Jr.** 44TH DISTRICT

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