

Ideas

Community Buildings

- Undertake an energy audit.
- Use energy efficient lighting.
- Increase levels of insulation especially cavity walls and loft.
- Don't put furniture in front of radiators where the room feels too cold.
- Put foil behind radiators.
- Find out if having a new boiler or biomass heating would save you money.
- Buy A-rated white goods and appliances.
- Think about whether you could get a better tariff for your energy bills.
- Fit draught-proofing.

Personal Actions

- Work out your carbon footprint.
<http://campaigns.direct.gov.uk/actonco2/home.html>
- Set yourself and energy or carbon target.
- Buy low carbon vehicles.
- Put a water saving device such as a hippo into your toilet cistern.
- Become a Master Composter.
- Car share or cycle
- Plant trees.
- Repair rather than replace broken goods.
- Grow your own food or buy local produce.
- Only buy food you will actually eat.
- Borrow or buy a Owl electricity meter.
- Get involved in the October 'Switch it Off' campaign.

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/switchitoff



Warwickshire Climate Change Partnership

Useful links

Community Funding Web Site

<http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/Web/corporate/pages.nsf/Links/5BF5779B892DD02A802573FB003C19DC>

Act on Energy (formerly WEEAC)

Provide advice on energy efficiency. A full energy audit and report for a village hall costs around £200. 29 Wellesbourne House, Walton Road, Wellesbourne, CV35 9JB, T: 01789 842 898, E: advice@actonenergy.org.uk

Central Warwickshire Villages LEADER Project

Funding will soon be available for local groups in rural parishes in Rugby Borough and Warwick District areas to bid for project ideas that fall into the following broad categories:

- Events and activities that encourage communities to come together to create festivals, artworks and performances.
- Support for communities to grow their own food or fuel.
- Developing links between communities and the land based industries in and around them.

Contact: Central Warwickshire Villages LEADER project, Garden Organic, Ryton, Coventry, Warwickshire, CV8 3LG, T: 024 7621 7741, E: ideas@warwickshireleader.net, www.warwickshireleader.net



Parish and Town Councils

Ways to tackle climate change

Ideas

Community Actions

- Establish a Transition Towns initiative in your town / village.
- Find out about the existing level of local knowledge about environmental issues and commitment.
- Identify local environmental champions who provide personal support to people wanting to take action.
- Access the technical expertise available at the District / Borough and County Councils.
- Work out the Parish carbon footprint.
- Go for grants / precept to support your work.
- Hold an energy efficiency evening.
- Use low energy lighting on roads and footpaths.
- Arrange an event to talk about domestic renewable energy.
- Establish community recycling facilities.
- Organise a book swap to recycle used books.
- Appoint a volunteer tree warden.
- Create a wildflower area, community garden or orchard projects (local food).
- Arrange farmers markets and sales of local produce.
- Do a thermal image survey.
- Create more footpaths or cycle routes.
- Create water wise floral or edible displays.
- Hold a green energy clinic at the local pub.
- Run a Green Star Homes project.

Contact the Climate Change Team at Warwickshire County Council on Tel: 01926 736324 or 01926 418036 to find out more.

Useful Links

Warwickshire and West Midlands Association of Local Councils (WALC)
www.walc.org.uk/

Warwickshire Rural Community Council
www.ruralwarwickshire.org.uk

Defra Rural Affairs, Parish Councils
www.defra.gov.uk/rural/communities/parish-councils.htm

Power and Duties of Parish Councils
www.defra.gov.uk/rural/pdfs/communities/PPow-dutylist.pdf

Parish and Town Councils — Act on CO₂ Ways to Tackle Climate Change
www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/uk/publicsector/parish/pdf/ActOnCO2.pdf

Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Act 2006
www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2006/ukpga_20060019_en_1

DirectGov Climate Challenge
www.direct.gov.uk/en/Environmentandgreenerliving/TheWiderEnvironment/Climatechange/index.htm

<http://www.transitiontowns.org/>

Warwickshire's Climate Change Partnership
E: climatechange@warwickshire.gov.uk
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/climatechangepartnership



Warwickshire Climate Change Partnership

Case Study

Ashton Hayes

The Ashton Hayes 'Going Carbon Neutral Project' is a community-led initiative in which this small Cheshire community is trying to become England's first carbon neutral village. Its official launch was in January 2006 and since then the project has attracted widespread support from the local community and from the universities of Chester and East Anglia, local government, numerous businesses and the world's media.

The village has now linked with over 150 like-minded communities around the globe and featured in the 2007 Live Earth concert, the Financial Times magazine and was highlighted as an example of best practice by the Rural Advocate and the Government's Act on CO₂ campaign. The project has inspired behavioural change and residents saved an average of 20% on their energy use and fuel bills in the first year, with some saving 50%.

See www.goingcarbonneutral.co.uk

In 2007 the project won the International Visual Communications Association Clarion Award for Climate Change Communications and the Energy Institute's 'Community Award'. The project website attracts around 100 users per day who download videos and data given out freely by the project.

In 2009, the project was selected to lead Zerofootprint's 'Villages Without Borders' project that uses advanced web 2.0 software tools to help communities record, measure and share their carbon emission data. The software also gives guidance on ways of lowering a community's carbon footprint.

Zerofootprint is an award-winning Canadian not-for-profit organisation dedicated to helping communities go green. The University of Chester is also financing and supporting this initiative and has secured substantial funding from Carbon Connections UK to examine the feasibility of building renewable energy micro-grids in villages similar to Ashton Hayes.



Warwickshire Climate Change Partnership

Parish and Town Councils

Ways to Tackle Climate Change

The One Tonne Challenge

One of Warwickshire's Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets on climate change is to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) by one tonne per capita by 2011.

Climate Change

There is a growing interest within Warwickshire's communities in knowing how to reduce personal and community carbon footprints. Some new community groups are already developing their own solutions and projects, but others do not know where to start.



Where do we start?

The Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Act 2006 gave specific powers to Parish and Town Councils in relation to local energy saving measures. They can take a lead in their communities to tackle climate change. Please check the extent of this power with WALC—see useful links.

2009

