Make a Difference Day
Use less! Do more!

This year, make a commitment to change a few habits for the benefit of our environment. See below for suggestions on how to make a positive difference at home and in your community. Use this list year-round to save water, energy, and money, and create a culture of environmental awareness and action at home and in the community.

The great thing about this list is that most of the tips don't require a radical lifestyle change to have a positive impact. Small actions can add up to significant savings in our consumption of water, energy, and other natural resources. Even small changes can make a big difference!

<u>Do More</u>

By doing more, you are increasing your reliance on human power in your daily life. Here are some suggestions to help you do more for our environment:

- **Plant Trees.**
- **Prevent Energy Leaks at Home**.
- **Go Off the Grid.**
- **Go Plastic Free.**
- **Composting At Home.**
- **Compost Drop-Off Site.**
- **Plant Native Species.**
- **Leave Your Car at Home.**
- **Turn Off The Lights.**
- **Get Involved Locally!**

<u>Use Less</u>

By pledging to use less, you recognize that our consumption habits contribute directly and indirectly to environmental concerns. Every choice we make as consumers translates into greater decisions regarding how water, energy, and materials are used in the production, transportation, and eventual disposal of consumer goods. Small decisions can have far-reaching effects, both positive and negative. By using less, you are taking a small step toward eliminating unnecessary consumption and reducing its potentially harmful side-effects. Here are a few tips to help get you started:

- **Take Shorter Showers.**
- **Lower Your Thermostats.**
- **Switch to Compact Fluorescent or LED Light Bulbs.**
- **Use Low-flow Fixtures.**
- **Seal Air Leaks at Your Home.**

- **Insulation and R-Values.**
- **Fix Water Leaks.**
- **Install Rain Barrels.**
- **Let Your Clothes Air Dry or Use Cold Water**.
- **Improve Energy Performance**.
- **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.**

The list doesn't stop here! Forward your suggestions to environment@gaithersburgmd.gov.