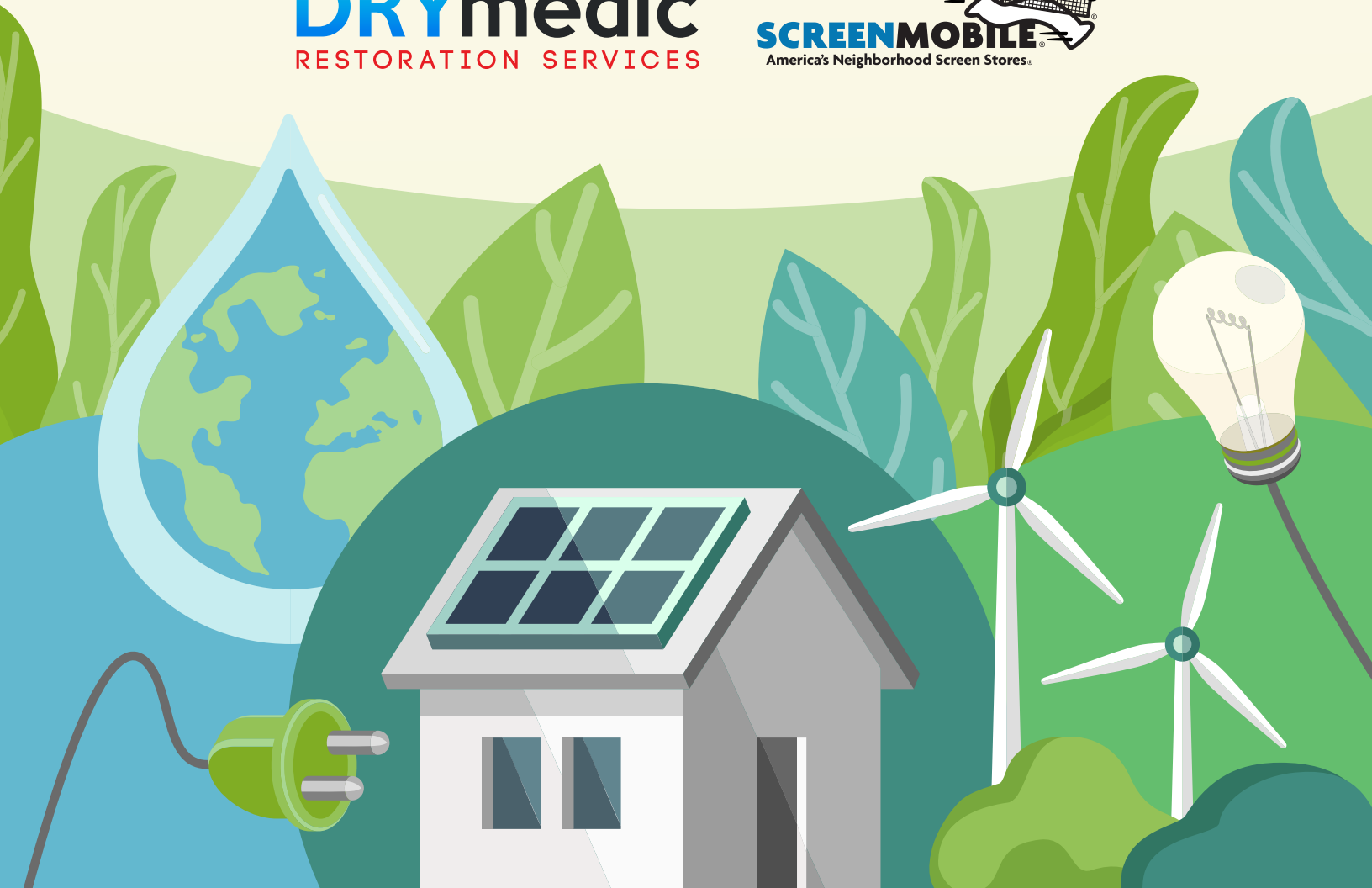


EARTH DAY CONSERVATION GUIDE

From



INTRODUCTION

While Earth Day serves as an important reminder to take care of the planet and make conscious choices about energy consumption, sometimes it's hard to know where to begin. What steps can you take to actually make an impact? Many of us don't have the means to go and plant hundreds of trees or the time to pick up mountains of trash, so how can we help? Luckily, your conservation efforts don't have to be huge undertakings in order to make a difference. You can start with small changes in your daily life, and we at Authority Brands have the perfect guide for just that. As licensed home service providers, we can offer you conservation tips for areas all around your home. Read on to learn ways to make your home better for the environment through your HVAC, plumbing, electricity, and more!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARTICLE 1: Give Your Home - and the Earth - a Hug by Saving Energy	PAGE 1
ARTICLE 2: Get Serious About Water Conservation on Earth Day	PAGE 2
ARTICLE 3: Make Your Electrical Work for the Planet	PAGE 3
ARTICLE 4: Five Ways to Improve Air Quality in Your Home	PAGE 4
ARTICLE 5: A Window of Opportunity for Energy Efficiency this Earth Day	PAGE 5





GIVE YOUR HOME – AND THE EARTH – A HUG BY SAVING ENERGY

When you're kind to the environment, you're often kind to your wallet! Being mindful of your energy usage can make a big difference in cutting down on your utility bills. Plus, there are different ways you can make your home green – some big, like installing solar panels – and some smaller, like regular maintenance.

Check out these 10 Energy Saving tips for a more energy- and cost-effective lifestyle!

1 Seal drafts



2 Install a smart thermostat



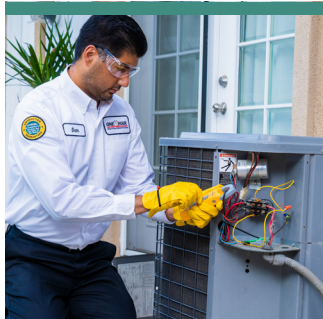
3 Change air filters regularly



4 Let the sunshine in



5 Schedule regular HVAC maintenance



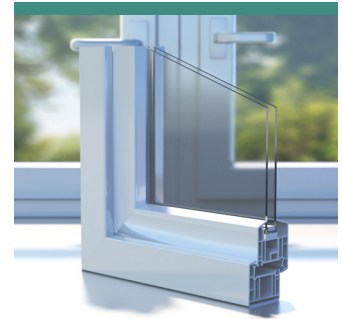
6 Upgrade to Energy-Star appliances



7 Use LED lightbulbs



8 Upgrade to double (or even triple) pane windows



9 Install a tankless water heater



10 Invest in solar panels

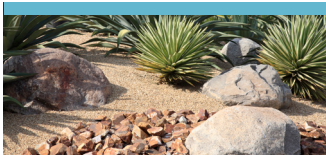




GET SERIOUS ABOUT WATER CONSERVATION ON EARTH DAY

Celebrate Earth Day this year by establishing some new water conservation habits and making some small changes to your home's plumbing. Water is a precious resource, and it takes energy to sanitize it and deliver it to your home – so anything you can do to minimize the amount of water going down the drain is a big help to the health of the planet.

Here are a few ideas to help you make a difference this Earth Day:



Make a plan for xeriscaping your lawn and garden -- that is, using native plant species that will grow optimally with little or no additional watering required. The best way to conserve water is to let mother nature do most of the work!



When you do need to water the plants, use salvaged water. Keeping a bucket in the shower to capture water as it's heating up, setting up rain buckets or washing your fruits and veggies in pans of water rather than under the faucet are all ways to reclaim water that would otherwise go to waste. You can even use saved water to flush the toilet.



Challenge yourself and your family to be disciplined about running faucets. While brushing teeth, washing dishes or doing other everyday tasks, make sure the faucet is turned off as often as possible.



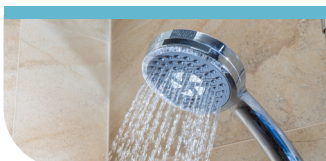
Get the most out of cleaning your clothes and dishes by making sure that the washing machine and dishwasher are completely full before starting a new load.



Start monitoring your water meter and bill every month, tracking your usage over time. Seeing how much water you use may inspire you to work harder to cut back, but most importantly, you'll have early notice if your water usage spikes. This is often a sign of a plumbing leak, one of the biggest water wasters of them all!



If household appliances like your washing machine or dishwasher are due for replacement, shop for newer models that are specifically designed to use less water. Many of these models are also especially energy-efficient, allowing you to minimize your impact on the environment.



While you're planning upgrades around the home, consider new plumbing fixtures. Installing efficiency showerheads is usually a cheap and simple DIY job, and new water-conserving toilets may help you save up to 20 percent of the water used in every flush.



MAKE YOUR ELECTRICAL WORK FOR THE PLANET

Homeowners can make small, simple changes in the home to save on energy use, which is good for saving money and the planet, and they can make even bigger changes with the help of a professional electrician.

Lighting

Yes, changing your light bulbs has a benefit. Options include light-emitting diode (LED) lights and compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs.)

For those with young children, start educating them to turn the lights off when they leave the room as well as turn off their devices when not in use.



Power Strips

Consider using advanced power strips (APS.) An APS prevents electronics from drawing power when they are turned off or not being used, by switching off the entire power strip.



Appliances

If your budget allows, consider the replacement of older appliances. Or, change the settings on some of your appliances to be more energy friendly, such as a moisture sensor in your dryer.

Talk with your family members about using good energy-saving habits such as thinking about what you want out of the refrigerator or freezer before you open it so you don't just leave the door open while you decide.



Smart Home

Every day it seems there is new technology to make homes more “green” and less dependent on energy produced by fossil fuels. Installing solar panels on the roof of your home can be one way to make a change, though there is an investment up front. A smart thermostat might be a more affordable way to start saving on how much energy you use at home.

If your commitment goes beyond the home to your automobile, you can get an EV charger installed in your garage.





FIVE WAYS TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY IN YOUR HOME

This Earth Day, DRYmedic would like to encourage you to take steps to improve your property's air quality. According to studies by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)¹, poor indoor air quality can lead to adverse health effects such as lung cancer and pneumonia. Indoor air pollutants have also increased in recent years with wider usage of chemical-based cleaners, paints, self-care products, insecticides and more.

Fortunately, there are several ways you can counter these influences and create a healthier home for your family and the environment. Not only can these help improve health, they can also reduce property damage caused by mold, leading to potential future savings.

With that in mind, check out these tips on how to make the air inside your property cleaner and healthier.

1 Let Your Space Breathe

- Open doors between rooms and position furniture away from walls so air can move freely.
- Open windows so long as it's not humid outdoors.
- Make sure moisture-generating appliances such as dryers are funneling moisture outside.
- Turn on the stove fan whenever you're cooking.

3 Embrace Eco-Friendly Products

- Use biodegradable, dye-free cleaning products made from plants and other natural ingredients. Or make your own using baking soda, vinegar, and citrus fruits.
- For fragrances and diffusers, opt for essential oils, which have antibacterial properties.
- Use beeswax candles, which are less toxic than paraffin candles and are said to have natural air-purifying effects.

5 Groom Your Pets

Pets' dander (skin cells) and fur can trigger allergies and asthma, and in severe cases may contribute to the development of mold. In addition to thoroughly vacuuming and cleaning your property, your best way to mitigate these irritants is by washing, brushing, and trimming your pet frequently.

2 Floors Need Love Too

If neglected, floors can quickly become a petri dish of dirt, dust, mold spores, dust mites, and pet dander, all of which have a negative impact on indoor air quality.

- Vacuum regularly with a high-quality vacuum cleaner.
- Mop or scrub surfaces to remove grime.
- Remove your shoes to avoid bringing in outside pollutants like pesticides, pollen, fungi, and feces.

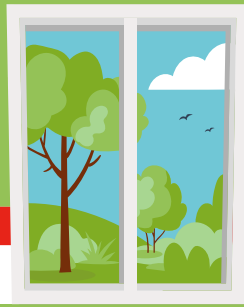
4 Houseplants Are Your Friends

According to a study by the American Society For Horticultural Science², house plants can improve indoor air quality by reducing pollutants such as benzene, formaldehyde, and Ozone (O₃). Some of the best plants to filter toxins from the air include:

- Snake Plant (*Sansevieria trifasciata*)
- Peace Lily (*Spathiphyllum floribundum*)
- Lady Palm (*Rhapis excelsa*)
- Spider Plant (*Chlorophytum comosum*)
- Golden Pothos (*Epipremnum aureum*)
- English Ivy (*Hedera helix*)

1. <https://www.epa.gov/report-environment/indoor-air-quality>

2. <https://journals.ashs.org/horttech/view/journals/horttech/19/2/article-p286.xml>



A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY THIS EARTH DAY

Choosing energy-efficient window coverings is a win-win: you may save money on your bills, and our planet breathes better by using fewer resources. You might think that your individual efforts won't affect Earth significantly, but one household at a time makes a huge difference. And your wallet will be happier too.

Consider the following window covering options:

Window Blinds

Blinds are interior coverings with many advantages. They keep rooms cool in the summer, so you don't need to pump your AC while offering you privacy from street-facing rooms.



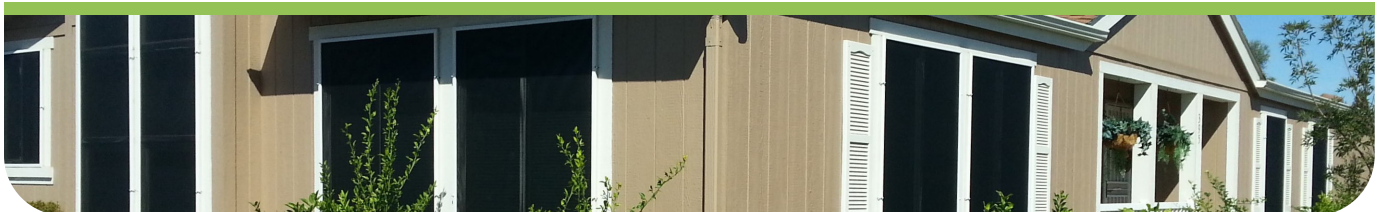
Window Shades

Whether you want to completely darken a room, or simply lessen the amount of light entering your home, shades are a great way to conserve energy and provide privacy. Available in a variety of styles and fabric options, shades can easily compliment your existing decor or quickly transform your space.



Sun Control Screens

By mounting solar screens on the outside of your window, they will shade the glass and keep it from heating up. Cooler glass temperatures equal cooler indoor living spaces, which means less need for air conditioning! (Much more effective than window tinting, which doesn't prevent the glass from heating up.)



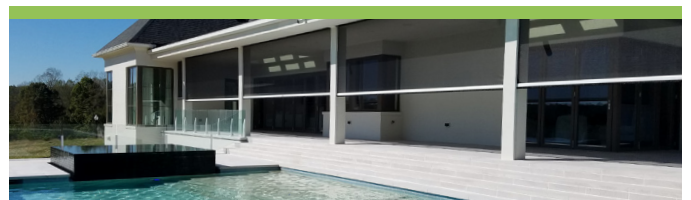
Window Screens

Window screens allow you to ventilate your home naturally while keeping pesky bugs and insects out. Custom-fit to each window opening, screens can cool your living space naturally.



Roll Down Shades

At the push of a button, roll down shades can control the sun coming in and keep bugs at bay. There when you want it, and conveniently tucked away and protected when you don't. Roll down shades can even be linked with many home automation systems or built-in climate sensors for the ultimate luxury experience.



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