



Jan 2026

Climate Corner

A joyous new year to all! Climate Corner offers a suggestion the first week of each month for a small change we can make for our earth and all beings. As the new year dawns, we look back at the suggestions from Climate Corner, 2025.

Replace shampoo bottles with bars.

Replace plastic detergent jugs with laundry sheets (or cardboard boxes).

Make deodorant at home, no chemicals, no plastic. *

Use plant-based or recycled ocean plastic trash bags.

Carry a reusable to-go container to restaurants for leftovers.

Conserve energy at the thermostat.

Buy less (love more).

Give gifts of donations to initiatives doing good work for the earth and climate.

Find more information in <https://thecarbon Almanac.org>.

How did you do? Which of these changes have become part of your everyday life? Even though we may not see results of the changes we make in reversing climate change, we know our intentions and actions matter for ourselves, our earth, and all beings.

Look for a new suggestion each month in your 2026 Climate Corner, and if you have a suggestion for Climate Corner, email communitylifeservicegroup@kcc.org.

*Deodorant: 1/3 cup unrefined coconut oil, 1/4 cup baking soda, 1/4 cup arrowroot powder

Mix well and store in a reusable glass jar. Start with a chickpea size amount and you'll figure out how much you need.

A legal push for climate action

<https://thecarbon Almanac.org/a-legal-push-for-climate-action/>

The United Nations General Assembly just made history. On May 20, 2026, member states adopted a **resolution** backing a ruling from the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the world's top court, that governments have a legal obligation to protect people from climate change. So what does that mean? For years, climate advocates have argued that nations are not just morally responsible for cutting emissions, but legally responsible under international law. The ICJ's opinion, issued in July 2025, gave that argument serious weight, and now the General Assembly has formally endorsed it.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres called the resolution "a powerful affirmation of international law, climate justice, and science." The resolution calls on all UN member states to take every possible step to avoid causing significant damage to the climate, including through cross-border emissions.

Why does this matter? Because it raises the stakes for governments that fail to act. Countries could now face greater international pressure, and potentially legal consequences, for not meeting their climate commitments. The resolution **passed** 141 votes in favour, with only 8 against, including the US, Russia, and Saudi Arabia.

This is especially relevant as global temperatures keep climbing. April 2026 was the joint **third-warmest April** ever recorded, sitting 1.43°C above pre-industrial levels, according to the EU's Copernicus Climate Change Service.

The message from the international community is clear: inaction is no longer just a policy failure. It may be a legal one too.

Climate Action Now – Download the app!

<https://www.climateactionnow.com/>

Our Mission

You don't need us to tell you that climate change is a serious problem. The world's scientists have been telling us that for decades. And now, with an administration in Washington D.C. that largely denies the reality of climate change, you may be inclined to despair that we can fix this problem.

Our response is: **Action is the antidote to despair!** That's why we created the Climate Action Now app and the Climate Action Now website – to make it easy and rewarding for you to take action that can make a difference.

Since **Earth Day 2021**, the **Climate Action Now community** has taken over **4,355,000 climate actions**, sent over **3,664,000 messages** to political and business leaders urging climate action, and **planted over 606,000 real trees** to fight climate change. **Join our community!**

"We don't need to go to Mars or Jupiter. Earth is our common home. It's our responsibility to protect it." Sr. Maria Obiomachukwu Osuji

<https://www.globalsistersreport.org/environment/nigerian-catholic-nuns-fight-climate-change-faith-farming-and-trees>

Give an hour to the planet

<https://thecarbon Almanac.org/give-an-hour-to-the-planet/>

Today marks the 20th annual Earth Hour which is a global movement that began with a single, powerful act: turning off your lights for one hour in support of our planet.

What started as a symbolic switch-off has grown into something much bigger. Since 2022, Earth Hour has expanded its vision, inviting people everywhere to spend 60 minutes taking meaningful, positive action for the Earth. And with millions of participants across dozens of countries, you won't be doing it alone.

Here are a few ways to spend your hour:

- Stargaze without the light pollution

- Take a walk through a local forest or park

- Cook a plant-based meal

- Clean up litter in your neighbourhood

- Upcycle something you'd otherwise throw away

Photograph the nature around you
Watch a nature documentary

Visit the [Earth Hour website](#) for more ideas and to explore resources on biodiversity, climate change, and the solutions being built around the world.

Let's give an hour to the planet as a small act of care for the world we share.

Big Oil's love of plastic

<https://thecarbon Almanac.org/big-oils-love-of-plastic/>

What on Earth is a podcast focused on climate change. In a recent episode, host Laura Lynch interviews Beth Gardiner, the author of *Plastic Inc.: The Secret History and Shocking Future of Big Oil's Biggest Bet*. Their conversation explores how fossil fuel companies are looking to plastic to support demand for fossil fuels, how prolific plastic is in our daily lives and the economics of recycling plastic.

Take a listen [here](#).