

Congratulations New Pearl Home Partners!

See if there are any additional steps you can take for cleaner waterways.



CONSERVE ENERGY

- Install a programmable thermostat.
- Purchase energy-efficient (Energy Star) appliances.
- Run only full loads of laundry.
- Turn off lights & appliances when not in use.
- Unplug electronics when not in use.
- Turn off power strips when going out of town.
- Replace incandescent light bulbs with LED bulbs.
- Open blinds/curtains to help with heating in winter, close to help with cooling in summer.
- Drive less - bike, walk, or use public transportation.
- Choose a more fuel-efficient vehicle.
- Install solar panels.
- Ensure your home is well-insulated
- Draught-proof your home, caulk, seal, and weather-strip.
- Line-dry my laundry whenever possible.
- Use energy-efficient landscaping, such as shade trees, green roofs, and windbreaks, to reduce heating and cooling needs.
- Use an energy-efficient water heater.
- Seal and insulate ducts to improve heating and cooling efficiency.
- Use ceiling fans to help circulate air and reduce reliance on heating and cooling systems.
- Install low-emissivity windows to reduce energy loss.
- Reduce your water usage.
- Shut down computer equipment at the end of the day.
- Change your A/C air filters more often
- Get a virtual or in-home energy audit with your local utility company. <https://www.domsavings.com/home-program/home-energy-evaluation>
- Set your thermostat to 68 degrees or lower in the winter and 78 degrees or higher in the summer.
- Have your central heating and cooling system serviced annually.
- Install advanced power strips, with built-in features to reduce energy.
- Install a door sweep.
- Use dimmer switches.
- Close the damper in your fireplace when it is not in use.
- Keep the dryer's lint filter clean.
- When doing laundry, use warm or cold water.
- Lower the water heater temperature to 120-125°.



KEEP OUR WATERS CLEAN

- Pledge to Scoop the Poop.
- Display Scoop the Poop sticker on city trash can.
- Install an infiltration trench to reduce stormwater runoff.
- Install a rain garden to reduce stormwater runoff.
- Keep a grease can in kitchen for proper disposal.
- Reduce or eliminate use of garbage disposal.
- Sweep fertilizer off driveway, sidewalk, & road, and use natural alternatives instead.
- Keep gutter areas clear of dirt, leaves, & debris so rain doesn't transport them to the storm drain.
- Do not feed ducks & geese.
- Wash the car on the lawn instead of driveway or use carwash that recycles water.
- Turn off water in bathroom sink while brushing teeth and washing hands.
- Use non-toxic and biodegradable cleaning products.
- Take short showers to conserve water & energy.
- Run only full loads in dishwasher.
- Install low-flow faucets/ toilets.
- Adopt a storm drain in your neighborhood.
- Redirect downspout into a plant bed or infiltration trench away from paved surfaces.
- Install stepping stones or pervious pavers in place of concrete or blacktop.
- Avoid using pesticides and herbicides on your lawn and garden.
- Properly dispose of household hazardous waste, such as paints and chemicals.
- Use native plants in landscaping to reduce the need for fertilizers, pesticides, and water.
- Create buffer zones of vegetation around water bodies to filter runoff and reduce erosion.
- Participate in local waterway cleanup events.
- Educate others about the importance of keeping waterways clean.
- Avoid using antibacterial soaps and cleaning products that contain triclosan.
- Use reef safe sunscreen at the beach.



PLANT FOR THE FUTURE

- Plant a native tree.
- Reduce lawn area by converting to landscaped beds.
- Plant nitrogen-fixing ground cover like clovers to bring your soil back to life and reduce the need for fertilizer.
- Test your soil before applying fertilizer.
- Choose native plants for my landscape that require less watering & promote pollinators.
- Remove invasive plants and replace them with natives.
- Choose natural or recycled materials for decks, furniture, and raised garden beds,
- Raise mower blades to 3-inches or higher to slow runoff and keep turf grass healthier.
- Support beneficial bugs and birds in your garden.
- Grow vegetables, herbs or fruits.
- Grow house plants to improve indoor air quality.
- Buy locally made or grown food & products at local markets.
- Buy organically grown food products.
- Say No to Herbicides!
- Support local restaurants.
- Mulch to add nutrients to your soil, suppress unwanted weeds & reduce watering.
- Install a living shoreline.
- Create a backyard habitat for wildlife: bat houses, bird houses, bird baths, and pollinator water sources.
- Create a rain garden to help manage stormwater runoff.
- Participate in community tree planting events.
- Install green walls or vertical gardens to improve air quality and provide insulation.
- Participate in local native plant rescue or salvage programs.
- Support urban agriculture projects.
- Establish pollinator gardens with a variety of nectar and pollen sources.
- Create a butterfly garden with host plants for caterpillars and water sources for adult butterflies and moths.



REDUCE WASTE

- Consistently recycle or reuse items.
- Use a reusable, refillable bottle instead of single use bottles.
- Consistently use reusable grocery bags when shopping.
- Buy groceries & household items in bulk packages.
- Refuse plastic and styrofoam utensils, cups, and straws.
- Buy secondhand goods at thrift & consignment stores.
- Participate in recycling programs.
- Reuse shipping materials when sending packages
- Reuse gift bags and tissue paper.
- Repurpose packaging for storage or other household use.
- Do not release balloons into the air!
- Have a yard sale for items that you no longer need.
- Buy items wrapped in minimal packaging.
- Pay your bills online to reduce paper and postage.
- Switch to digital documents to save on paper and ink.
- Replace plastic wrap with beeswax.
- Make cloth rags out of old, un-donatable clothes.
- Compost kitchen scraps and yard waste or use a compost service.
- Use cloth napkins instead of disposable paper napkins.
- Choose products with biodegradable or compostable packaging.
- Donate or recycle clothing and textiles.
- Use rechargeable batteries instead of disposable ones.
- Repair items instead of discarding and replacing them.



BOATERS

- Pump out your holding tank at designated pump-out stations.
- Switch to marine approved cleaning products for my boat.
- Practice proper waste management—stow it, don't throw it
- Use bilge socks to absorb oil and fuel in the bilge area.
- Avoid anchoring in sensitive areas such as seagrass beds and coral reefs.
- Use mooring buoys instead of anchoring when available.
- Dispose of fishing line and tackle properly to prevent wildlife entanglement.
- Avoid disturbing wildlife and their habitats while boating.
- Follow local regulations and guidelines for boating and fishing.
- Participate in boater education programs to learn about environmental best practices.
- Reduce boat speed in shallow areas to minimize wake and protect shorelines.
- Use environmentally friendly antifouling paint on your boat's hull.



TAKE ACTION!

- Donate to LRNow
- Help with an LRNow monthly cleanup.
- Host a cleanup in your community.
- Communicate with an elected official about environmental issues.
- Participate in local environmental advocacy groups.
- Volunteer for environmental education programs.
- Attend local government meetings to advocate for environmental policies.
- Participate in citizen science projects to help collect data on local environmental conditions.
- Organize or participate in tree plantings and habitat restoration events.
- Advocate for the protection of local natural areas and wildlife habitats.
- Engage in community outreach to educate others about environmental issues.
- Support local businesses that prioritize sustainability and environmental responsibility.
- Speak with your wallet and spend responsibly - Consumers can make a difference by boycotting brands and goods that do not serve our environment.