

“Climate change will not be effectively managed until individuals and communities recognise that their behaviour can make a difference”

Royal Society, 2002

## More on Climate Friendly Communities

Climate Friendly Communities is a three-year project funded by Defra's Environmental Action Fund. The project is designed to promote sustainable development in communities throughout Wiltshire and Swindon, with the potential to roll out nationally. It aims to have at least 12 communities involved by the end of 2008.



### Get involved!

We are looking for representatives from communities across Wiltshire and Swindon. If you think that your street, village or town would like to work towards becoming a Climate Friendly Community, please let us know!



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Stop climate change ...

protect our future ...



Have you ever wondered how far your food has had to travel before landing on your plate? Food miles are one of the largest contributors to our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, yet by eating local food we can reduce our impact and help support local businesses; besides, local, seasonal fruit and vegetables often taste better too! Your community could be...

- ♥ Selling local food in shops
- ♥ Providing locally-sourced foods in schools and businesses
- ♥ Organising local food/farmers' markets
- ♥ Setting up a local food box scheme
- ♥ Producing a local food directory





**Climate Friendly Communities is a new community award scheme aimed at encouraging and supporting towns and villages across Wiltshire and Swindon to adopt greener life-styles and help prevent climate change.**





Gold, silver and bronze awards will be given to communities completing action in waste, energy efficiency, renewable energy, local food and transport, with the aim of cutting their greenhouse gas emissions, particularly carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), by 20%.

## WHO can take part?

Anyone living in a street, village or town in Wiltshire or Swindon can set up a Climate Friendly Community with the help of a few individuals.

## WHY take part?

Taking part in this initiative will bring your community a number of benefits:

-  **Improved quality of life – by reducing traffic, improving local amenities and providing a sense of community and achievement**
-  **Recognition – by becoming part of a recognised certification programme, which in turn is good for publicity, tourism and local business**
-  **Involvement for schools and young people – by providing educational support on environmental issues**
-  **Training – by working with our partners, we will provide education on climate change, waste, energy, transport and food to communities working towards the award**

## WHY is it important?

Climate change threatens to change the face of our planet. It is only by changing our behaviour and living more sustainably that we can help prevent this catastrophe.





The average person in the UK is responsible for emitting at least 11 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year through heating and lighting our homes, fuelling our transportation, producing and transporting the goods we consume and disposing of our waste.

Climate Friendly Communities gives us simple actions we can take to dramatically reduce our environmental impact and demonstrate that by working together we can successfully tackle climate change.

Being 'climate friendly' needn't be a chore or a bore. Many of the actions involved in this scheme will make your area a nicer place to live!







Energy use in our homes accounts for about a third of the UK's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, yet UK households waste £6.5 billion of energy every year! Simple actions can dramatically reduce our energy consumption and help protect the environment. Actions such as...

-  Fitting low energy light-bulbs
-  Installing loft and cavity wall insulation
-  Switching to green electricity
-  Installing renewable energy such as solar panels








Our landfill sites are filling up rapidly and there is a desperate need to rethink the amount of waste we produce. The UK produces around 400 million tonnes of waste annually, polluting and destroying our environment – it doesn't need to be this way! Some of the solutions include...

-  Composting - at home or in community composting facilities
-  Using kerbside recycling schemes
-  Using schools' recycling facilities
-  Using reusable bags



Britain's increasing traffic problem is not only contributing one-third of our climate changing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, but also harming our health and well-being. The actions taken to become a Climate Friendly Community not only reduce our impact on our environment but can also improve our quality of life! Why not try...

-  Sharing a car
-  Increasing bicycle use
-  Increasing bicycle parking facilities
-  Setting up a school travel plan
-  Setting up a car club