

Climate Change Interest Group – Sponsored by Maresfield Parish Council

Local Climate Change Challenge

The Climate Change Interest Group is made up of local people and our aim is to challenge Maresfield Parish residents to make changes in a variety of areas for the good of the environment. We hope you feel inspired to join in with some of our suggestions and would welcome your feedback.

June 2021 – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – Do we do enough?



Most of us try to recycle and reuse to reduce waste but are there ways we can improve how we do this and should we reconsider what we recycle?

Reduce Is favourite for the climate, from fashion to food today's easy come, easy go, throw away mentality is very harmful for the environment. Lets all take a minute to consider if we really need that next purchase and what will we do with the item its replacing.

Reuse Could that item be repaired? there are local Repair Cafes that may be able to help or could someone else make use of it, there are several neighbourhood sites, such as freecycle, where you can advertise unwanted items and nearly always it will be useful to someone and of course we have many charity shops always in need of donations.

Recycle It takes 75% less energy to make a plastic bottle from recycled plastic, compared with using 'virgin' materials, and recycling just one plastic bottle conserves enough energy to light a 60 watt light bulb for up to 6 hours.

Harmful chemicals and greenhouse gases are released from the incineration of landfill rubbish, that which is not recycled, so the more we can recycle the less rubbish has to be incinerated.

Trees take CO₂ out of the atmosphere and replace it with oxygen. Recycling just a 3 foot stack of newspapers saves one tree.

Lets take a look at what we buy and how it is packaged. For instance if we invest in re-usable mesh bags for our vegetables when we shop, not only are we saving money as loose produce is cheaper but we are saving on all of the unnecessary packaging.

By purchasing re-usable pot lids and wraps we can cut down on the use of clingfilm.

Often items we don't believe are recyclable can be if we look a little deeper. Did you know that Green DIY in Uckfield recycle a range of items that your kerbside bin wont take such as crisp packets and bread bags, its amazing how many of these an average family can accumulate.

As well as our kerbside recycling bins we have a very comprehensive household recycling facility in Maresfield, its well worth visiting their website to familiarise yourself with all of the things they will recycle.

Next time we are about to put something in the general waste bin lets just stop and take a minute to think if there is something else we can do with it that would be better for the environment.

Our group meets, currently via zoom, once per month and you are welcome to join our meetings, please contact Nancy for details or with any feedback or suggestions you may have.

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