

What's your Carbon Footprint?

Is your carbon footprint small, medium or large?

TRASH

How much trash do you put out every week? A typical kitchen size trash can is 13 gallons or a typical trash can contains 32 gallons, and the big blue totes are 95 gallons.

1. How many gallons of trash does your family go through each week? _____
_____ gal Trash per week x 52 x 101.92 lbs CO₂ per gal of trash = _____ lbs CO₂ per year

ELECTRIC & GAS

Call your electric and gas companies and ask them for a 1 - 2 year history of your usage. You should get it in a few days. Or use the last few statements to get an annual estimate or go to your account online. Electric Companies: Duke Energy 800-521-2232 or IPL 317-261-8222. Gas Companies: Vectren 800-227-1376 or Citizens 317-924-3311 or go to citizensgas.com, account information, Bill analyzer to get information.

2. Electric: What is your average Household **kWh** usage per year? _____
_____ kWh usage per year x 1.4 lbs CO₂ per kWh = _____ lbs CO₂ per year
3. Gas: What is your total Household **Therm or CCF** usage per year? _____
_____ Therms of Natural **Gas** used per year x 11.7 lbs CO₂ per Therm = _____ lbs CO₂ per year

Your account information will either be in Therms or CCF. For the purpose of this exercise, it's ok to use either.

CARS

Estimate your annual mileage and fuel efficiency for each of your cars. <http://www.fueleconomy.gov/>

4. Car #1: _____ miles per year / _____ miles per gallon Gasoline
x 19 lbs per gallon Gasoline = _____ lbs CO₂ per year
5. Car #2: _____ miles per year / _____ miles per gallon Gasoline
x 19 lbs per gallon Gasoline = _____ lbs CO₂ per year
6. Car #3: _____ miles per year / _____ miles per gallon Gasoline
x 19 lbs per gallon Gasoline = _____ lbs CO₂ per year

AIRPLANES:

You will need to figure out approximately how many airplane miles you and **your family** traveled in the past year. If you need help go to <http://www.webflyer.com/travel/milemarker/> Simply type in your city of origin and then your destination. DON'T FORGET you want the round trip distance.

Mom traveled _____ TOTAL air miles this past year.
Dad traveled _____ TOTAL air miles this past year.
Children traveled _____ TOTAL air miles this past year.
FAMILY _____ TOTAL air miles this past year

7. _____ **total Family air miles** per year x 1 lb CO2 per air mile* = _____ **lbs CO2 per year**

**varies widely among carbon calculators, this is one of the lowest estimates.
Actual CO2 is probably much higher.*

FINALLY:

Add to get your Household Carbon Footprint!

TRASH _____ lbs CO2 per year
ELECTRICITY _____ lbs CO2 per year
GAS _____ lbs CO2 per year
CAR #1 _____ lbs CO2 per year
CAR #2 _____ lbs CO2 per year
CAR #3 _____ lbs CO2 per year
AIRPLANES _____ lbs CO2 per year

MY HOUSEHOLD CARBON FOOTPRINT IS _____ lbs CO2 per year

My goal is to reduce my annual CO₂ emissions by _____ pounds.

HOW MANY PLANETS DO YOU NEED?

Go to the following website and take the quiz to find out how many earth's you need to support your current lifestyle. http://www.myfootprint.org/en/about_the_quiz/what_it_measures/

How many planets would it take to support you? _____