

- ♣ Purchase products made from recycled materials. This will reuse existing materials.

Opportunities for Recycling

- ♣ Offer assistance to local environmental agencies or recycling centers. If such an agency does not exist, consider forming an environmental action group. If this is too large a project for a single Lions club, recruit the assistance of other Lions clubs or local service groups.



- ♣ Introduce recycling programs for paper, aluminum, glass, plastics, telephone books, batteries or oil.
- ♣ Collect recyclables for a month and create a mountain of trash. Locate this exhibit in a public place such as a park or school. Then, start a local ecology club.
- ♣ Lions clubs should recycle. Whenever sponsoring activities, arrange for recycling bins for cans/bottles and paper waste.

Educate the Community

- ♣ Work with nature camps or Scouting groups to teach the community about the environment. Clubs can sponsor ecology fairs or contests. Awards can be presented to the group(s) contributing the most to the sustainability of the area.
- ♣ Organize a forum to propose ways in which the community can help reduce noise pollution.
- ♣ Work with the local media. Provide information on Lions' efforts to improve the environment.
- ♣ Support the inclusion of an environment curriculum in the local schools. Offer to assist the classroom teacher in the performance of an environmental project.
- ♣ Sponsor an Earth Day or World Environment Day program or activity.
- ♣ Cooperate with municipalities, where needed, on the necessity of adequate sanitation and potable water systems.



For more information on club-level environment projects, contact:

- the Lions district environment chairman,
- local, regional, or national government agencies
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), P.O. Box 30552, Nairobi, Kenya
- Environmental Liaison Center International United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), P.O. Box 72461, Nairobi, Kenya
- Program Development Department, International Activities and Program Development Division, Lions Clubs International, 300 22nd Street, Oak Brook, Illinois 60521-8842, USA



Environment service projects for Lions Clubs

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Caring for the planet earth has been a Lions commitment since 1972. In that year, members of the international board of directors declared that Lions should:

“foster and promote the general welfare; to help create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony and fulfill the social, economic and other requirements of present and future generations of mankind.”

Lions Policy Statement on the Human Environment

Improving the environment is necessary for survival of the planet. Lions can serve as community leaders in the protection of the earth's limited resources. In almost 200 countries worldwide, Lions clubs can protect the earth's flora and fauna. Other civic groups may model their environment efforts after Lions programs.

Lions clubs can begin displaying their concern for the planet by teaching the public the three basics - reduce, reuse, recycle.



- ♻️ **Reduce** the amount of waste produced.
- ♻️ **Reuse** materials instead of discarding them.
- ♻️ **Recycle** materials whenever possible.



Lions clubs can educate the public about environmental issues by sponsoring forums and rallies. Issues can include: the dangers of noise pollution; acid rain; ozone depletion; how to preserve endangered species; ways to conserve energy; alternatives to disposing of paint, oil, or other toxic materials in landfills or bodies of water.

As informed citizens, Lions can actively support pro-environment legislation. However, the best education will always come through the example that Lions set within their communities.

Lions clubs can implement environmental service projects. Like all successful service projects, environmental activities require careful study and preparation. Before a Lions club starts an environmental service project, the members should:

1. investigate environmental conditions in the community and the general area;
2. determine environmental needs and/or problems;

3. develop action programs aimed at solutions;
4. develop and publicize a program of public education;
5. work with civic, government and industry leaders to achieve effective action.

“Reduce” Activities for Clubs

- ♻️ Organize clean up campaigns to reduce litter in parks, along waterways, at schools or on highways.
- ♻️ Help reduce the depletion of the ozone layer by planting trees. Clubs can plant trees as living memorials for birthdays, anniversaries or the death of a loved one.
- ♻️ Sponsor an Arbor Day (traditional tree planting day) art or writing contest. Plant a tree in honor of the winner. Place an engraved sign at the base of the tree bearing the winner's name.
- ♻️ Help reduce air pollution by sharing automobile transportation whenever traveling to Lions functions.
- ♻️ Reduce the destruction of flora and fauna by publicizing their endangerment. Work to protect these plants and animals.

Suggested “Reuse” Activities

- ♻️ Return natural nutrients to the earth through the creation of a community compost pile.
- ♻️ Fund potable water programs in developing countries.
- ♻️ Clean a local water system and then stock it with fish. Afterwards, educate the public on the importance of maintaining water systems.