

Carbon Footprint Calculator

Date Calculated _____

To get an accurate picture of your carbon footprint, you will need to use your electric and gas bills (often available on line). A good tool to check annual millage is car repair paperwork. Carbon calculators are generalizations, but they go a far way in helping you understand the carbon emissions for your household.

Enter Your Data	↓	↓	Your annual pounds of CO2 Emissions Do the math!
How many gallons of garbage do you put out each week? An average garbage can holds 32 gallons.		lbs	Taking one gallon of garbage to the landfill results in 2 lbs of CO2 emissions. 1 gallon per week for a year causes 104 lbs of CO2 emissions.
On average, what is your household kWh usage per year?		lbs	Every kWh (kilowatt hour) causes 1.4 lbs of CO2 emissions
On average, how many therms of natural gas do you use per year?		lbs	Every therm of natural gas causes 12 lbs of CO2 emissions.
On average, how many gallons of propane do you use per year?		lbs	Every gallon of propane causes 13 lbs of CO2 emissions.
On average, how many miles do you put on your car per year? 15,000 miles per year is average in the USA. odometer: _____			(On average, it works out to roughly 1 lb of CO2 for each mile driven.)
What is the average gas mileage for your car?		lbs	Every gallon of gasoline causes 20 lbs of CO2 emissions. Total miles per year divided by average gas mileage of your car equals total gallons of gasoline used per year. Multiply that by 20 to get your CO2 emissions.
If you have a second car, how many miles do you put on it per year?			
If you have a second car, what is the average millage of that car. odometer: _____		lbs	Enter total CO2 emissions for your second car. Calculate this the same way you did for your first car.
Estimate the average number of miles that your household travels by plane each year.		lbs	Figure every mile of air travel causes 1 lb of CO2 emissions. (Depending on altitude and time of year and type of airplane, it can be as high as 2.7 lbs per mile average.)
Estimate the average number of miles that your household travels by train each year.		lbs	Figure every mile of air train travel causes 1/2 lb of CO2 emissions.
Estimate the average number of miles that your household travels by bus each year.		lbs	Figure every mile of bus travel causes 1/3 lb of CO2 emissions.
		lbs	← Your Total Emissions

Typical pounds of CO2 emissions per household per year:

United States	54,600
Germany	27,700
Sweden	14,600
Mexico	10,600
Kenya	400

Some of this Carbon Calculator was based on the "Low Carbon Diet Personal CO2 Calculator."

You can access the on-line version at: www.empowermentinstitute.net/lcd

UULM-CA Low Carbon Challenge. If you want to be part of the UU Legislative Ministry Low Carbon Challenge, you can sign up on our website at www.uulmca.org or call us at (916)441-0018. We'll be happy to help get you started or answer your questions!