

# Fleeson ing Green

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## Quick Facts

Eating vegetarian one day a week for a year is the carbon equivalent to driving [1,160 fewer miles per year](#) — or saving 22 pounds of CO2 emissions.

Always wash full loads of clothes and dishes. Washing machines can use [30 to 60 gallons of water](#) for the wash cycle.

Seal the leaks in your ductwork: leaky ductwork may account for as much as [30% to 50%](#) of cooled and heated indoor air loss. Seal all joints and connections with mastic, a putty-like material available at most hardware stores.

**Expert tip:** Never use duct tape! It will quickly dry out. Instead, use UL-181 foil tape.

There is about [100%](#) increase in the total recycling in the United States during the past decade.

## TerraCycle

The unofficial Sustainability Committee is looking into adopting several office-wide recycling initiatives through a program called [TerraCycle](#). TerraCycle takes previously non-recyclable or hard-to-recycle waste through collection programs called [Brigades](#), and then recycles or [upcycles](#) it

into useful [products](#) such as park benches, recycling bins, placemats, bags, and CD cases. The best part about TerraCycle is that

it's a free program, requiring no shipping payment for sending your waste, and most

Brigades even give participants a small credit (usually around 2¢ per individual item), which they can then donate to the charity of their choice. The Brigades we are exploring are the [Candy Wrapper Brigade](#), the [Coffee Bag Brigade](#), the [Scotch Tape Brigade](#), and the [Writing Instruments Bri-](#)

[gade](#). We hope to implement this exciting new program after the first of the year. To read more about TerraCycle, visit their [website](#) or read [The](#)

[Wall Street Journal's article](#) on this innovative company.



## Christmas Tree Recycling Services

Wichita has many recycling centers for Christmas trees after the season ends. Most of these ser-

vices chip your tree into mulch, and many even give away free mulch in exchange for bringing in your used Christmas tree. Check them out at the [Sedgwick County website](#).



## Green Ideas Contest Winner

If my incessant emailing has somehow escaped you, then you probably don't know that the Green Ideas Contest has come and gone, and we now have a winner! Many great ideas were sent in, and the runners up will be published on the [Intranet](#) soon. However, with the following green idea, which will be implemented in the coming weeks, **John Gardner** has been awarded the \$25 gift certificate and the title of Green Guru: Purchase small desktop trashcans for everyone. These mini bins are imprinted with the words "This is all the trash I make," which will be a constant reminder to recycle and generate little waste.