

What is a carbon footprint?

The quantity of carbon dioxide and other global-warming gases produced by driving, heating and cooling our homes, and other ways we use energy.

Using less energy yields a smaller carbon footprint.

What is the Do Your Part! program?

Do Your Part! for ClimateFriendly Parks is the first interactive online program in the country that provides national park visitors and supporters with tools to understand and reduce their carbon footprints and thereby help to protect our national parks from global warming. Do Your Part! is sponsored by the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) in support of the National Park Service's Climate Friendly Parks program.

Why is Do Your Part! important?

From melting glaciers and eroding seashores to growing wildfires and decreasing wildlife, our national parks are being impacted by global warming. Do Your Part! offers the millions of national park visitors educational and inspiring opportunities to do their part to prevent global warming and protect our natural resources.

Why will Do Your Part! turn heads?

Do Your Part! is the first online program to engage national park visitors and supporters in the effort to prevent global warming.

Do Your Part! provides the most advanced tools such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) carbon emissions calculator, to help people curtail global warming.

Do Your Part! provides participants with interactive features such as resource guides, maps, and monthly action e-tips.

Do Your Part! is being used not only by national parks but also by cities, towns, and companies throughout the United States.

How does the Do Your Part! Program work?

Park staff, volunteers, and online communities will inform park visitors and supporters that they can participate in the Do Your Part! program.

When individuals log on to the Do Your Part! Web site they can create a profile and will be able to track their progress, engage friends, and share lessons learned about climate change. They will also be able to see how park visitors and supporters from around the country are doing their part to address global warming.

Individuals will be able to determine their carbon footprint by using the technically advanced calculator developed by the EPA. They can then select actions they pledge to take to reduce their emissions such as driving less, recycling more, and using energy-efficient appliances.

Individuals can choose to commit their emissions reductions to any of the national parks participating in Do Your Part!

Volunteers such as NPCA will help the parks leverage emissions reductions pledged by their supporters in ways that help achieve climate-friendly goals.

How much of a difference can Do Your Part! make?

People often feel their actions are too small to have an impact on an issue as big as global warming. However, when taken together, many small actions can make a big difference. Every year, our national parks see roughly 270 million visitors. If even a fraction of those visitors began making simple changes at home and on the road, the effect would be enormous.

By organizing people in online communities, Do Your Part! removes conventional barriers to taking action.



