



## ECO-TIPS

- 1) Reuse household items instead of throwing them away.
- 2) Request e-statements instead of paper statements. Clear Creek offers this service as well as automatic payment from a credit or debit card so that you can save a stamp! Just call our office for more information: (208) 726-9600.
- 3) Save trees and reduce unwanted mail by visiting [www.stopthejunkmail.com](http://www.stopthejunkmail.com) and eliminating all the mail order catalogs that seem to clog our counters and recycle bins.



- 4) Properly dispose of all unused paint. If you have a lot of leftover paint drop off at any building thrift store. Or put cat litter into paint to absorb it before throwing away.

## REUSING HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

*Reusing is a fast and effective way to recycle. Although recycling is of course very important, it can actually use more energy and fuel to transport the waste to the recycle centers than simply reusing. Use your imagination—the possibilities are endless and you could end up saving lots of money. From reusing your aluminum foil to reusing your plastic shopping bags, the following are a few ideas to get you started.*



- 1) Reuse your old CD's and DVD's for art projects. Simply put the CD's in nearly boiling water to soften them. Then carefully take them out and use scissors to cut and bend them into different shapes. Do this in a well-ventilated area.

- 2) Reuse your greeting cards. Cut the front cover off and use it as a bookmark.



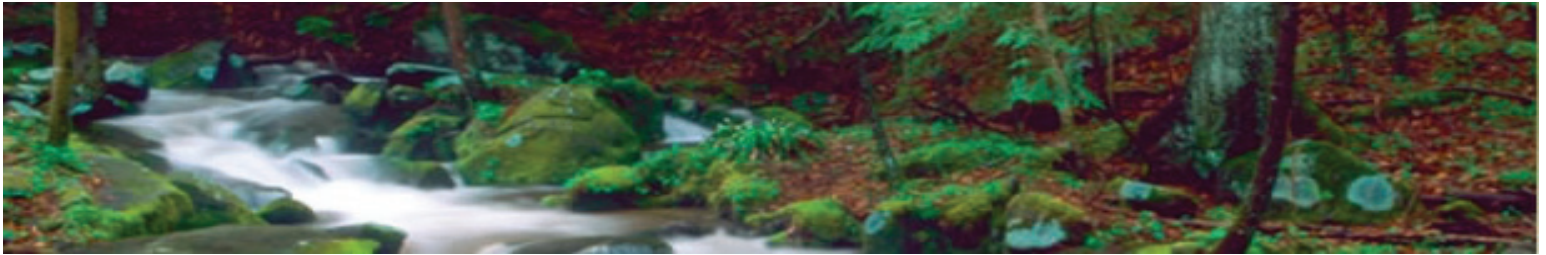
- 3) Reuse old scrap paper to make note pads. Cut sheets of paper into 4 or 6 squares. Pile a bunch together and staple. Of course, keep the blank sides up and together.

- 4) Reuse your coffee grinds. Place used coffee grinds in your houseplants or in your outdoor gardens for lots of extra nutrients.



- 5) Reuse your leftover food scraps by composting them. There are plenty of great compost bins designed for indoor use. Your houseplants and outdoor plants will appreciate it!





## GO GEOTHERMAL!

Using the power of the Earth to heat and cool our homes may sound too good to be true, but for the last 40 years geothermal technology has been used in both residential and commercial applications. These highly efficient systems cost less than traditional heating and cooling systems and are environmentally clean.

Nearly half of all solar energy that our planet receives is absorbed by the Earth. This creates a year-round constant temperature just below the Earth's surface. A geothermal system harnesses this heat. Using a sealed underground loop system of pipes filled with circulating water along with a heat pump, heat is exchanged between your home and the Earth, effectively taking advantage of

these constant temperatures. Yes, all this in your own backyard!

In the winter, the Earth is your source for heat. Water circulating in the pipes absorbs heat from the Earth and carries it to the heat pump. It is concentrated and transferred as warm, comfortable air throughout your home.

In the summer, the Earth is your source of cooling. The heat pump absorbs heat from the air in your home

and transfers it to water circulating in the pipes where it is then absorbed by the Earth. This provides your home with cool, dehumidified and comfortable air.

In addition, geothermal

heating and cooling can be used to provide free hot water and offers federal tax credits and state incentives. All this while saving money and the environment—go geothermal!

