



MEDIA RELEASE

What are you doing to combat climate change?

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

04 June 2009

The Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa (IWMSA) is encouraging all South Africans, to show their solidarity and commitment against climate change on World Environment Day, this Friday 05 June 2009.

This year's World Environment Day focuses on 'Your Planet Needs You-UNite to Combat Climate Change'. Climate change is one of the greatest threats to our planet and to our people. Vincent Charnley, President of the IWMSA says, "We are challenging all individuals and companies to do something extra this World Environment Day, in support of combating climate change."

Add something new to your daily routine either at work or at home to reduce your carbon footprint. Here are a few reminders how...

- Save water by turning off the tap when washing your face, brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Turn off your geyser during the day
- Using an electric razor or hand razor with replaceable blades instead of disposable razors reduces waste.
- Buy locally produced products (buying something local has a lot less carbon mileage than something that has been imported)
- Don't let fancy packaging lure you into buying products
- When packing your lunch, opt for reusable containers to put your food in instead of wrapping the food with foil or plastic wrap.
- Switch off all your lights and appliances at the wall unit; unplug chargers as they continue to consume even if they are not charging. Saving energy helps reduce air pollution.
- Take your own bag(s) when you go shopping
- Instead of driving to the shop down the street, rather cycle or walk there
- Instead of travelling to meetings consider teleconferences

- Lower your office's carbon footprint by changing the settings on computers, monitors, printers, copiers, speakers and other business equipment to their energy saving feature and turning them off at the end of the day.
- Turn off all unnecessary lights, especially in unused offices and conference rooms.
- When cooking dinner, match the size of the pan to the size of the heating element to lower energy wastage.

Let's all unite against combating climate change, not only today, but let's do our bit every single day.

For more information on World Environment Day visit: www.unep.org or contact IWMSA: www.iwmsa.co.za / Tel: 011 675 3462

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on behalf of the Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa