

Wycombe Friends of the Earth - Agenda

For Zoom meeting on Wednesday 3rd February 2021 at 7.30pm:

1. Ecotip and Finance
2. Officer recruitment
3. Climate and biodiversity campaigns, including
 - o BCAA action
 - o Divestment
 - o Community boards
 - o Bucks council
4. 5G (Ed)
5. Forthcoming events
6. AOB

Suggested ecotips (other suggestions welcome by email or at the meeting):

Either keep the Food Waste ecotip for a further month, or replace it with reducing paper (2. below)

1. Food Waste

- **Wycombe Food Hub** (<http://wycombefoodhub.org>) is a charity located near All Saints Church, High Wycombe which diverts supermarket waste food to people on low income. They are currently looking for more volunteers for picking up waste food from supermarkets. Reducing food waste is key to fighting climate change according to Project Drawdown www.drawdown.org/solutions/table-of-solutions. So apart from feeding the needy and saving the planet, you also get some government approved exercise during lockdown.

- **Food waste** generates greenhouse gasses. In landfills, food is broken down by bacteria that produce methane, a gas which contributes to global warming. It's estimated that about 18 million tonnes of food goes to landfill ANNUALLY in the UK. That's also wasted money that people are spending! The key is to only buy as much as you need. By being smarter with food purchases and by eating everything, a family of four could save as much as £70 each month.

- Food requires a lot of resources to grow and transport. Many of the fruits and vegetables that we have here in the UK are not even grown here and they are imported from other countries. This means that we're consuming fuel in trucks and planes to transport food, but it all goes to waste if we're not actually eating the food. Plus, growing crops requires a lot of resources like energy and water too, which gets wasted along with the food if it's not eaten.

- Thousands of people around the world don't have enough food to eat on a daily basis. We should be preserving the food that we are so lucky to have!

So:

- Only buy what you need and plan your purchases.
- Reduce, or eliminate, your meat and dairy consumption.
- Buy your food from sustainable sources where possible.
- Buy local where possible.
- Buy food with reduced packaging.

2. Reduce paper

Reduce your junkmail, use paper for notes if plain on reverse side, recycle anything you can't reuse. The website below will tell you how to do the following:

Stopping junk mail dropping through your letterbox - a note by your letterbox should do it.

Contact Royal Mail

Register with the 'Your Choice' scheme

Register with the Mail Preference Service

Stop particular charity marketing mail

Take your details off the 'open register' on the electoral roll.

Avoid other junk mail

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/post/stop-getting-junk-mail/#:~:text=Put%20a%20sign%20on%20your,want%20to%20get%20free%20newspapers.>