

At Dawyck Botanic Garden we are working hard to reduce our impact upon the environment. We are doing this in a number of ways outlined in our Green Policy Statement. Collectively, though, we believe that if we all play our part and do our 'bit' to help preserve the world we live in then it really can make a difference. This includes you, our visitors to the garden. Here are some ideas on how you, too, can make a difference, both here and in your own home:

- Take care of our natural surroundings. Gardens are places of natural and wondrous beauty. Help to keep them that way. You can help by keeping to the paths, not picking flowers or removing vegetation and don't leave any litter, only leave footprints!
- Take home and plant a tree or a shrub, by growing a plant you are helping nurture the 'green lungs of the world' as plants recycle carbon dioxide and water into oxygen which offsets the onset of global warming.
- Be sure to reduce, reuse and recycle! If you have litter to dispose of, do it responsibly, place in the recycling bins provided (ask staff for details) or take it home and recycle for yourself. Your help is appreciated and will help build on our current recycling initiatives!
- Help to conserve energy by switching off lights when not needed, you probably already do this at home. Some of the lights at Dawyck are automatic, others aren't, but if you see a light that needs not to be on, switch it off or point it out to a member of staff.
- Conserve water, don't run taps unnecessarily, just use what you need to wash your hands and see if one paper towel is enough, you might find it is! Close windows and doors especially in the winter to keep draughts to a minimum and reduce energy needed for heating.
- Can you get here or there without the car? Buses, bicycles, on foot or car share. These are other options open to us all and may prove hugely cost effective, too. Ask our staff about other ways of getting to Dawyck. The Garden's website has links to local bus services.
- We pride ourselves on selling local crafts and goods; many are fair-trade, and locally sourced or homemade food in the café. In this way food and goods miles are kept to a minimum with no compromise on quality. We may not always ask you if you want a bag but if you do; you might find it is recycled!
- Think carefully about wooden products that you may buy, that piece of flat pack furniture or timber that you may use for DIY. Make sure that you look for the FSC logo which is confirmation that it has come from well managed and sustainable forests.
- Our membership of Green Tourism is in recognition of our efforts in looking after our natural world, we thank you for your continued support.

