

CLEAN OCEAN ACTION'S  
~ 10 TIPS ON  
SEA LEVEL RISE ~



1. **Reduce your footprint.** Greenhouse gasses are a major contributor to sea level rise. Calculate your “Carbon Footprint” at [www.carbonfootprint.com](http://www.carbonfootprint.com) to learn how to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases you produce each day.
2. **Protect wetlands.** Wetlands act as natural buffers for coastal areas during rainstorms and hurricanes. They absorb precipitation and storm surge waters. Learn about wetland restoration activities in your area and get involved.
3. **Let it soak in.** Hard surfaces prevent water from permeating into the ground and lead to an increase in runoff and erosion. Use stepping stones for walkways and paver blocks for patios. If you are repaving use permeable pavement which allows water to soak into the ground. Direct rain runoff to rain gardens and barrels.
4. **Plant more plants and save trees.** Plants clean the air and soak up rain. Reduce paper use to prevent trees from being cut down. Set all computers and printers to double-sided printing and reuse one-sided copies as scrap paper.
5. **Reduce your energy use.** Reducing your energy usage is good for your wallet and the environment. Turn off your lights and appliances when not in use and replace them with more energy efficient varieties. Unplug your chargers and appliances when possible because many use energy even when turned off. Adjust your thermostat to reduce AC and heat use.



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6. **Obey “no-wake” zones.** Waves produced by motor crafts increase erosion along shore lines. Operate in deeper water and keep an eye out for “fragile area” and “slow no wake” signs.
7. **Leave the car at home.** Vehicles are a leading source of carbon dioxide production. Reduce the number of cars on the road by carpooling, walking, biking, or using mass transit. When driving, turn your car off if idling for more than 30 seconds. This will conserve fuel, save money, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
8. **Watch what you’re *dune*.** Dunes and grasses protect inland areas from wind and wave action, thus preserving the shore. Dunes and sod banks are fragile areas, so stay on designated paths to avoid them. Support restoration!
9. **Know your flood zone.** Knowing your risk for flooding before a storm strikes will help you be much better prepared for high storm surge. Contact your local government or go to [www.msc.fema.gov](http://www.msc.fema.gov) to view your local flood map.
10. **Push for a Climate Action Plan.** Many cities and states do not have plans to address climate change, which is the primary cause of current sea level rise. Contact your local elected officials and encourage them to take action now.

For more information and the complete 10 Tip Series visit:

**[www.CleanOceanAction.org](http://www.CleanOceanAction.org)**



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