



Climate Change Challenge Crest Requirements

To earn the Climate Change Challenge Crest, complete three of the following five badges and do the energy sleuth game and online calculator (found at www.scouts.ca).

Badges: Recycling Badge, World Conservation Badge, Home Repair Badge, Cyclist Badge, Family Helper.

NOTE: The Climate Change Challenge Crest is NOT worn on any uniform or on the sash.

What is Climate Change?

The atmosphere is made up of a layer of gases that surround the Earth. These gases help keep some of the sun's heat in, just like a window in a greenhouse traps heat inside. They help make our planet warm enough to live on.

One of the most common of these gases is called carbon dioxide or "CO₂". It is important for the health of our planet. Did you know that human beings breathe out CO₂ each time we exhale? Plants and trees take in CO₂ through photosynthesis. We also create CO₂ when we use certain fuels, such as coal and oil, to heat our homes and drive our cars.

When we use these fuels we add more and more CO₂ into the atmosphere. A problem starts when too much CO₂ collects in the atmosphere. These gases could raise the temperatures on earth and change our weather patterns. This is what people are calling "climate change". Climate change could bring more forest fires, droughts or floods as well.

How You Can Help Reduce Climate Change at Home

It is important that everyone helps to reduce climate change. There are many ways you can help. You can plant trees with your Cub pack. Trees help to reduce climate change by absorbing CO₂ so it doesn't stay in the atmosphere. You also can help save energy at home – try some of these things that save energy and help to reduce climate change:

Saving Electricity

- I turn the lights off when they are not being used
- I turn off equipment, like the computer, when it was not being used
- I encourage my family to turn off the appliances and equipment when they are not in use.



Saving Hot Water

- I turn off the tap when I am not using the water
- I take a shower instead of a bath.

Using Less Heat

- The temperature of our house is 22 degrees Celsius (or less) in the winter and 22 degrees or more in the summer
- I encourage my family to wear slippers and sweaters in the winter to stay warm instead of turning up the thermostat.



Use Less Gasoline

- I walk, bike or inline skate for 10 minutes to a destination close to my house (corner store, friend's house, school, club meeting, etc.) two times in one month instead of being driven.

