

# Household Elf

Complete the five steps to earn your Household Elf Badge.

1. **Save energy:** Go on an energy scavenger hunt around your house. Look for at least 5 things that are plugged in when they are not in use. Some things use energy known as “standby energy” even when they are not turned on. Once you have found your items make a plan with your family to keep them unplugged when not in use to conserve energy.
2. **Save water:** Find three ways to save water then challenge yourself and your family to save water for at least a week. Some things that you do could include taking shorter baths or showers, turning off the faucet when brushing your teeth, only running the dish washer when it is full.
3. **Go natural:** Watch the attached video to learn how to make a natural cleaner.
4. **Reuse or recycle:** Weigh or keep track of how much trash your family throws away in a week. Then make a system for recycling or composting and follow that for a week. See if how much trash you have is less.

If your family is already recycling consider donating toys or clothes that you no longer wear to those in needs. Clean and bag up the items and find a place to drop them off.

5. **Clean the air:** Plants are great natural air filters. Spider plants, aloe plants, chrysanthemums, snake plants, and Barberton daisies are great plants for air purification. Buy or grow your own and see if you can tell the difference after two weeks.