

Garden Club of Wilmington Quarantine Conservation Tips

- I am now using a Composter and cutting up the paper bags we can't return to grocery stores to add to food in the Composter.
- Linen/cloth napkins in lieu of paper.
- Everyone should be switching to renewable energy from the grid. We buy wind energy from Arcadia. Go to your local provider and explore your choices. It is so easy to do and makes a huge difference.
- We dug out the compost from the bottom of our leaf pile. Also I divided and transplanted so not as much potting soil needed and a very few plants needed as well!
- UPS stores will accept those nasty styrofoam peanuts used in shipping - there, they will at least be reused !
- I use an old gift card to scrape/clean pans. It is perfect for all types of pans... doesn't scratch and doesn't get all gross with food like scrubbies.
- I don't know if this counts but for years we have used shredded leaves from our trees to mulch. Almost never buy mulch. And I believe it has improved the soil and helped the plants.
- Here's a Swiss habit taught to me by my Swiss friend. It sounds ridiculous but turns out to be quite useful. When you finish a package of crackers, cereal etc. remove the waxed paper liner, shake out the crumbs, cut it straight across if you have made a mess of opening it earlier, and use it when you need a bag to store cheese, half a lemon etc. This way you avoid using saran wrap or a plastic baggie. My Swiss friend is very strict about doing things right so I did not dare not to take her advice!

-The most effective conservation practice in our house is discipline to use things in the freezer before anything else. Amazing what you find in the freezer.....

-Did you have to help your college age student return home this spring when campuses closed early? Is your house full of unwanted shower caddies, laundry baskets and bed risers? Keep your eye out for announcements for "Dump and Run" programs on college campuses; they are a great way to reduce waste and raise money for charities. They organize the collection of college students' castoff items in the spring, so they can be sold to incoming students in the fall.



-With so much hand washing, I got tired of paper towels and bought some reusable ones off of Etsy. They are fabulous! Come on a roll, so can go on regular paper towel holder and you can chose pattern (or not or random). They get softer with every wash and super absorbent



If you want to compost (I have been for years)

My suggestion. Is

A raised bin. This one, of my three, is the best and easiest to use.

It was for sale at target and Wayfair.... though they may be out of stock for that exact one

Have also gotten on from BJs

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