



Chicago Conservation Corps Speakers Bureau  
Green Living Presentation  
**6 "Must Have" Talking Points**

**THEME: If we do not change our lifestyle habits, there will be big environmental consequences.**

1. Burning fossil fuels, landfills, industry, transportation and agriculture create emissions, which are released into the atmosphere forming pollutants. (US EPA)
2. These pollutants are known as human emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHG), which are gases that trap heat inside the atmosphere. GHG's include: **carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and ozone**. (US EPA)
3. In the last 50 years, CO<sub>2</sub> levels have risen by 25% and methane levels have doubled. (The Chicago Climate Action Plan)
4. Temperatures in the region are already shifting. Without action, temperatures in northern Illinois will feel similar to Alabama. (The Chicago Climate Action Plan)
5. If Chicago remains on its current emissions path, GHG emissions would increase by 35%.
6. We can make an impact, but it can't be done without YOU and all Chicagoans taking a hard look at their lifestyles and making small changes that make a big difference.

**Tips for Adapting the Presentations Outlines to Table Events**

The presentation outlines have been designed for a more formal community presentation. Adapt the activities in the outline so that you can still engage your audience and inspire action. Choose one of these activities.

**Photo activity**

- Lay the photos out on the table.
- Using poster board, write out the questions from the presentation outline and leave space for responses.
- Invite participants to choose one photo and submit responses about challenges and solutions.
- At the end of the day, your board will be full of solutions and actions

**Green Living Kit**

- Place each item of the kit on the table
- Quiz participants in the facts listed in the Green Living FACTS Sheet and presentation outline
  - **CFL**: reduces energy use by 75% and last up to 10 times longer than an incandescent, (City of Chicago).
  - **Power strip**: can conserve energy use by 10% by reducing energy used through phantom load, (Energy Star).
  - **Green cleaners**: improve air quality by removing Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) commonly found in household cleaners, (Clean Air Council).
  - **Reusable bag and water bottle**: Americans use approximately 1 billion shopping bags, creating 300,000 tons of landfill waste annually, (Clean Air Council).
  - **Faucet Aerator and Showerhead**: can reduce your home water consumption as much as 50%, and reduce your energy cost of heating the water also by as much as 50% (US EPA).
  - **CTA Bike and Transit Maps**: switching can prevent the emissions of least 30% of GHG's currently emitted (American Public Transportation Association).

**Conservation Pledge** may be completed by all.