



Calculating Your Ecological Footprint

If everyone lived like you, how many Earths would we need?

- Go to <http://www.myfootprint.org/>
- Select a language

Follow these steps for each question on the web site. Go step by step. At the end you will print out your results, put your name on it, and turn it in for credit.

- 1) Select a Country (USA)
- 2) What measurement system would you like to use? (U.S. will be easiest for most)
3. How many people live in your household? (choose how many people live in your home)
4. What is your annual household income in U.S. dollars (\$USD)? (guess, if you don't know)

Skip the email address, uncheck box, and click next

5. What best describes the climate zone you live in? If you are not sure, the dominant climate for your country is already selected. (we live in a temperate zone where we have 4 distinct seasons)
6. What is the size of your home? (guess if you don't know how big your house is...a typical Audubon 3 bedroom house is about 1,800 square feet)
7. What energy sources do you use in your home? Please check all that apply.
 - Electricity (do you have electricity?...for most yes)
 - Natural gas, (do you get natural gas supply...for most yes)
 - Heating Oil (does an oil truck come to your house a few times a year to fill a tank?)
 - Wood or biomass (do you burn wood to stay warm...for most NO)
8. If your house uses electricity, what percentage is generated from renewable hydropower, wind, biomass, or solar sources? The initial value is the country or regional average. (8.29% is average for eastern US)
9. Please enter the number of miles you travel per year for each mode of transportation: (estimate the number of miles you travel each year. The average American drives about 10,000 miles a year in the car)
What best describes the vehicle you most often drive or ride in? (Choose to car you drive most in)
Do you usually share rides with at least one other person?
10. Below is a list of energy saving features and energy saving habits. Please check all that apply (choose any of the following that you do...ask if you don't understand)
11. What best describes where your home is located?
12. Have you purchased offsets for carbon emissions associated with your home energy use and transportation? (most of you NO)
13. What best describes your diet? (select the one that fits how you eat...for most omnivore)

14. Where do you obtain most of your food? (select where you get your food...for most supermarket)
15. How often do you select foods that are certified organic or sustainably produced? (do you/your parents buy organic products)
16. Which choice best describes how much you normally eat? (how do you eat)
17. Do you have a garden or share one to grow your own vegetables and herbs?
18. Which best describes your home? (which type of home do you live in...ask if any question)
19. Was your home or any portion of it built with recycled materials, wood certified as sustainably harvested, or any other green design features? (probably no for most of you)
20. Approximately what share of your home furnishings are second hand or made of either recycled or sustainably produced materials? (few for most of you, but guess)
21. Which water saving features and habits do you have in your home? Please check all that apply. (click the ones that apply to your home...ask if you are not sure what the choices mean)
22. How often do you select cleaning products that are biodegradable or non-toxic? (guess if you don't know)
23. What best describes your spending and saving habits? (guess if you don't know)
24. How often do you buy new things to replace old ones? (guess if you don't know)
25. How many standard size garbage bins does your household fill each week? (think about the trash you throw away each week)
26. What proportion of the following wastes do you recycle? (how much do you recycle the following items?)
27. When you buy clothing or paper products, how often do you select items labeled as recycled, natural, organic, or made of alternative fibers such as hemp or Tencel? (for most of you none)

- *PRINT OUT YOUR RESULTS AND PUT YOUR NAME ON IT (should be 2 pages)*
- *LOOK AT HOW MANY EARTHS WE WOULD NEED IF EVERYONE LIVED LIKE YOU*

Go Back to www.myfootprint.org --- Click on "About This Quiz" and then "What It Measures"

QUESTIONS (Put answers on back of print out page 2)

- 1) *What does it say the quiz estimates? (Read the paragraph)*
- 2) *How many acres are needed to support the average person in the world? How does that compare to your results?*
- 3) *How many Earth's would we need if everyone lived like you? Is that sustainable?*

TURN YOUR PAPER, QUESTIONS AND THIS SHEET FOR CREDIT