



Making a Large Impact in a Seemingly Small Way

Tanvi



1

Introduction

A brief overview about my Generation Green project.



2

Emissions

GHG emissions before and after my project.



3

Conclusion

Our overall experience with my Generation Green project.



My Project



My family took climate action where many believe they cannot make a difference: at home.



We are quite sustainable and ecologically-friendly, but there is room for improvement.



We focussed on specific activities which have high greenhouse gas emissions.




We tracked our activities throughout the duration of time between December 2019 and March 2020.


Activities - 1


Driving

Before

 Both my brother (1.7 km/day for 8 days) and I drove (1.8 km/day for 8 days) to school.

After

 I walked part-way (0.6 km/day for 17 days) or full-way (1.8 km/day for 17 days) to school.


 My brother carpooled with some of his friends (1.7 km/day for 17 days) to school.




Activities - 2

Appliances


Before

 We used the dishwasher (1,200 watts) 31 times in 31 days .

 We used the clothes-washer (512 watts) and clothes-dryer (4,900 watts) 25 times for 31 days.

After

 We used the dishwasher 27 times for 31 days.



 We used the clothes-washer and clothes-dryer 20 times for 31 days.




Activities - 3

Showering

Before

-  In total, my brother (10 minutes) and I (15 minutes) had a total shower time of 25 minutes.
-  My parents already have short shower times (7 minutes each).

After




-  In total, my brother (2 minutes 30 seconds) and I (8 minutes) reduced our total time by 10 minutes 30 seconds.



Activities - 3 (c'td)

Showering

After

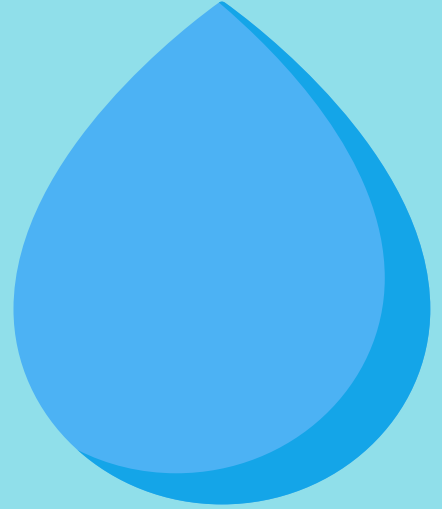
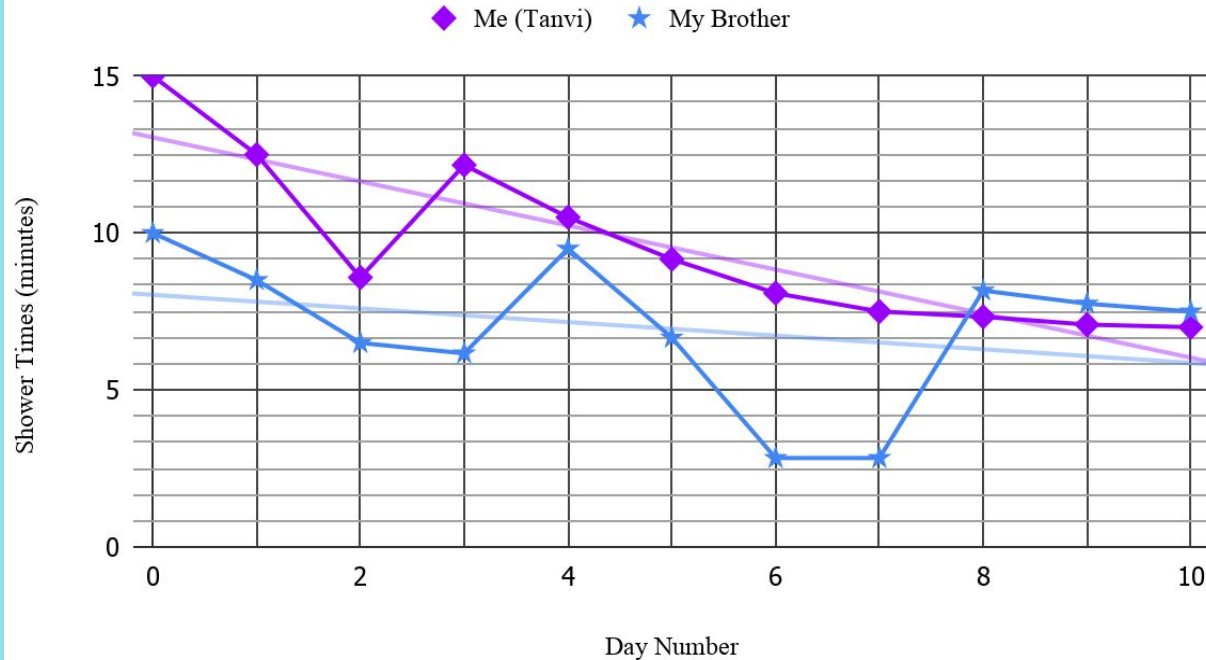
-  Reduced water consumption by 82.5 litres (22.05 gallons).
-  Saved \$0.45 per day. If we continue to shower at the reduced time, we would collectively save around \$163.03 per year.
-  We were vacationing in California in December 2019. California is currently in a state of drought. Therefore, we helped conserve water.



Activities - 3 (c'td)


Showering


Graph 1: Reduction in Shower Times

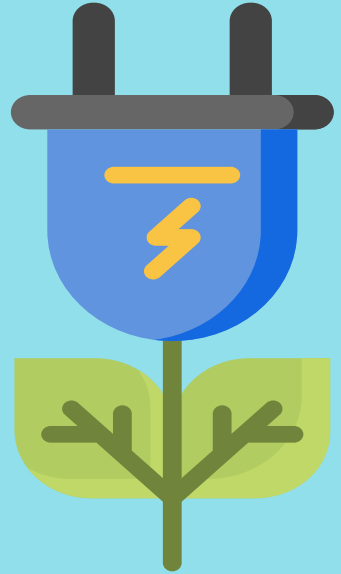


Activities - 4

The Green Challenge

 I participated in The Green Challenge (@the.green.challenge) throughout the month of February.


-  Challenges included:
- Deleting 10 e-mails.
 - Eating vegetarian meals.
 - Walking instead of driving to your destination.
 - Taking a shorter shower.




Activities - 5

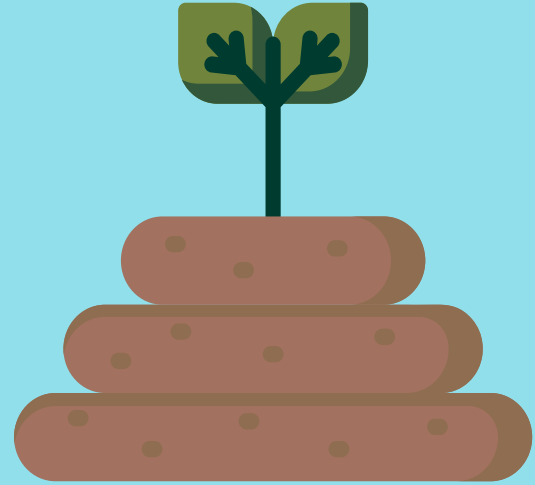
Garbage Bags

Before

 We reused any plastic bags from stores as garbage can liners.


After

 We continued to reuse plastic bags from stores but also used empty bread bags as garbage can liners.




Baseline Emissions


Transportation

 2553.5657 gCO₂eq.

Appliances

 2525.58 gCO₂eq.


Total

 5079.1457 gCO₂eq.




Project Emissions


Transportation

 867.7165 gCO₂eq.

Appliances

 2055.6 gCO₂eq.

Total

 2923.3165 gCO₂eq.



Baseline vs. Project Emissions

Baseline Emissions

5079.1457 gCO₂eq.

Project Emissions

2923.3165 gCO₂eq.



Total Difference

2155.8292 gCO₂eq.



Conclusion



We made seemingly small changes, yet they had a big and positive impact on our family's greenhouse gas emissions (GHG).



My family and I enjoyed the experience inspired by Generation Green.



We will continue it to create a positive and sustainable impact on our home, our community, and our world.

