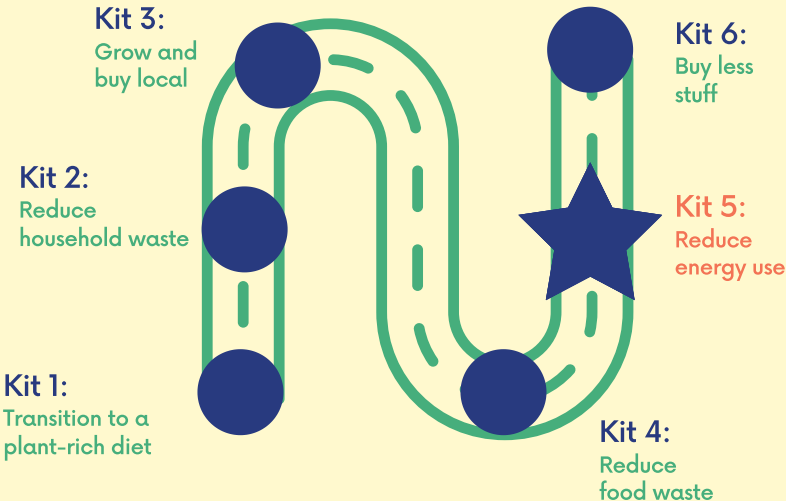


# Welcome to Kit #4!

## Roadmap to Sustainability



## Did You Know? Reduce Energy Use

Americans spend \$130 million per year on wasted energy, or about \$165 per household.

About 75% of the energy used to power our electronic devices is consumed when the products are turned off.

If Americans were more conscious about limiting wasted energy, we could shut down 50 large power plants in one year.

# Kit #4: Reduce Energy Use

Welcome to your fifth Sustainability Starter Kit, reducing energy use! We're so excited to continue on this journey with you to make our planet just a little bit greener. We hope you'll find some new and inspiring tools and practices in this kit!

## What does it mean to reduce energy use?

Reducing energy use refers to reducing the amount of energy that we use that comes from nonrenewable resources, like coal, oil, and gas. These resources often power our household electronics, household heat and air conditioning, cars, and electricity. Reducing energy use can take many different forms, all with the goal of using just a little bit less power.

## Why does this matter?

The United States gets about 80% of its total energy from oil, coal, and natural gas, all of which are fossil fuels. These types of fuels release harmful greenhouse gases into the air each day that further the effects of climate change. By using less energy, you will help to lessen the amount of power that needs to be generated, thus reducing harmful emissions.

## Why is this Jewish?

Above every ark in every synagogue, we're commanded to have a forever flame - a ner tamid - that never goes out. Switching to renewable energy sources is truly the only way to fulfill this commandment, for nonrenewable energy will one day run out, taking great swaths of habitat, species diversity, and healthy air with it. In order to be a light to the nations (Isaiah 49:6), it is upon us as Jews to power our light sources - and the rest of our daily items that require electricity or gas - in a way that honors humanity and all of God's creation.