

How to be Carbon Neutral

Creating a clean environment while maintaining daily energy consumption is possible. Carbon offset programs allow you to create a clean environment and pollute at the same time.

Emission trading programs create the opportunity for offsets. Large businesses that create high levels of greenhouse gases have the opportunity to purchase credits that will offset their emissions from businesses that produce little to no emissions. The Chicago Climate Exchange allows the trading of polluting credits.



Offsets are being used to neutralize the pollution by businesses and individuals for activities like driving, flying, or cooling or heating their homes and offices.



If you drive the yearly U.S. average of 12,000 miles, you are using roughly 500 gallons of gas a year and sending up to 10,000 pounds of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere for a medium sized company. It only takes approximately \$50 to offset 10,000 pounds of CO₂.



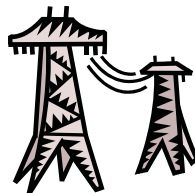
Yes, you can neutralize your CO₂ emissions with a single or monthly payment that is used in projects that clean up the environment. Many offset providers plant trees to help neutralize CO₂ emissions.

Some providers use carbon offsets and Renewable Energy Certificates to start and fund alternative energy projects. Here are five types of projects:



Landfills

Methane producing garbage is captured and burned to generate electricity.

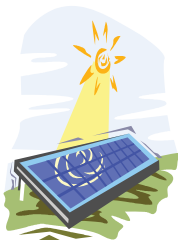


Powering the grid
Power generated by alternative energy projects can be put pack into the grid as green power.



Cows

Methane produced from cow manure can be converted into electricity.



Solar Energy

Offsets can be used to develop solar energy projects.



Biomass

Burning a renewable fuel to generate heat and electricity



Wind

Offsets can be used to develop wind-power projects.

