

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Easy Ideas For A Greener Home-Maintenance Routine

(NAPSA)—Many people think that being eco friendly at home requires excess free time and loads of research. However, going green is a lot easier than it looks. Daily activities such as using the computer, taking a shower or vacuuming the floors can be made greener with some practical products and services.

Jackie Cooper, director of marketing and communications for Electrolux®, explains that even cleaning appliances such as vacuums can be eco friendly.

“The Electrolux UltraSilencer Green™ is a ‘greener’ vacuum that’s energy efficient and made out of 55 percent recycled plastic,” Cooper says. “The majority of the plastic used in this vacuum is recovered from recycled, shredded cars.”

The packaging of the vacuum is also eco friendlier, made from 80 percent recycled, unbleached cardboard.

Equipped with a high-efficiency suction fan unit and bare floor nozzle, this hard-surface canister vacuum provides a thorough clean for bare floors while using only nine amps of power.

Besides offering a better clean for the environment, UltraSilencer Green also reduces noise pollution for a more enjoyable cleaning experience. At only 60 decibels, it operates at the noise equivalent of a normal conversation.



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Additional features on the vacuum include a 360-degree swivel hose; a washable, reusable HEPA filter; and additional cleaning tools such as a crevice tool and dusting brush/upholstery nozzle combo tool that clips to the hose handle.

Cooper offers these additional tips for simple ways to go green at home:

• **Recycle batteries**—Recycling at home should go beyond cans and plastic. Used batteries

can also be recycled instead of thrown away. To find a location to properly recycle batteries, visit rbrc.org.

• **Give computers a rest**—Save a substantial amount of energy by turning computers off at the end of the day instead of leaving them on overnight or defaulting to “sleep” mode. A shut-down computer will save valuable energy and money; according to ENERGY STAR, a program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, shutting down can save consumers approximately \$90 a year.

• **Cut back on the mail**—Save a tree by reducing your junk mail intake. Register with the Direct Marketing Association’s Mail Preference Service at www.dmachoice.org to see a significant reduction in junk mail within a few months.

• **Know your H₂O**—Reduce home water usage by purchasing a water-efficient showerhead. With low-flow models, a family of four can cut water usage by as much as 280 gallons a month—and still not feel much difference in water pressure. For added savings, keep showers under 10 minutes per person.

For more information about UltraSilencer Green or other Electrolux products, consumers can call (800) 896-9756 or visit www.electroluxusa.com.