

Truth or Consequences

1: What percentage of electricity comes from coal in Utah?

- a) 5% b) 10% c) 58% d) 95%

A: "d" 95%. Only a fraction of the electricity generated in Utah comes from clean, non-hydro renewable energy sources.

2: **True or False:** TVs, stereos and other electronic devices use energy when turned off.

A: TRUE. In the average US home, 40% of all electricity used to power home electronics is consumed while the products are turned off in 'standby mode'. Across the US, this equals the annual output of 17 power plants.

3. True or False: Replacing one incandescent light bulb with one compact fluorescent light bulb will SAVE 150 POUNDS of carbon dioxide a year. TRUE

4. The average lifetime of a compact fluorescent light is 8000 to 10,000 hours. TRUE

5. Hour per hour, incandescent light bulbs burn up TWICE as much electricity as compact fluorescent bulbs. FALSE. Incandescent bulbs burn up THREE TIMES as much electricity as compact fluorescent bulbs.

6: If every home in the U.S. replaced 5 lights with ENERGY STAR compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFL), we could prevent the annual output of approximately **how many** power plants?

- a) 1 b) 8 c) 21 d) 150

A: "B" 21. You can save around \$25 in energy costs per CFL over the life of the bulb.

7. True or false: Companies that make new products from recycled material use 20 percent less energy.

A: FALSE. Companies that make new products from recycled material use THIRTY percent less energy because they don't have to process the raw materials from scratch.

8. True or False: Recycling 100 tons of recyclable materials is equivalent to planting 34 acres of trees. TRUE

9. True or False: Last year Recycle Utah collected 222 tons of recyclables every month. TRUE

10. **True or False:** Nationally, the average waste disposal rate is 4.5 pounds of trash and recyclables per person per day. The average waste disposal rate of Summit County residents is TWICE the national average.

A: FALSE. The average waste disposal rate of Summit County residents is THREE TIMES the national average. Per capita for the year round residents in Summit County the waste disposal rate is 13 pound per person per day.

11. The reason Summit County's waste disposal rate is so high is because:

- a. We're slobs
- b. We residents generate more trash than other communities
- c. We dispose of our visitor's trash

C. We have a tourist industry and we are shouldering the burden of disposing of our visitors trash and recyclables. We can bring our waste disposal rate down by getting more hotels and condominiums to recycle.

12. The Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District says that the average person in Summit County uses 100 gallons of water each day. TRUE

13. Which of the following is NOT recommended by Energy Australia as a technique for saving water:

- A: Stop singing in the shower.
- B: Remove toys from the shower stall.
- C: Brush your teeth in the shower.

The answer is C. Brush your teeth in the shower. Energy Australia, that country's equivalent of Rocky Mountain Power, believes that singing in the shower, playing with toys, and brushing your teeth in the shower prolongs water usage. Get your business done and get out.

14. True or false: One effective way Summit County residents can reduce their trash footprint is by home composting.

A: TRUE. Green waste including food waste and grass clippings makes up 30% of your trash.

15. True or false: A single tree will absorb one ton of carbon dioxide over its lifetime.

TRUE. Plant drought tolerant trees in your yard.

16. True or False. You can save 1200 pounds of carbon dioxide if you cut down your trash by 10 per cent.

A: TRUE. Buy foods and products that have less packaging.

17. True or False: You can save 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide every year by recycling half of your household waste.

TRUE. Sign up for curbside collection or take your recycling to Recycle Utah.

18. True or False. You can save 2,000 pounds of carbon dioxide a year by adjusting your thermostat 2 degrees up in summer and 2 degrees down in winter.

TRUE: Wear a sweater!

19. True or False: A programmable thermostat costs more than the money as it is supposed to save.

A: FALSE. A programmable thermostat can range in price from \$30 to \$250, and when used properly, can save as much as **10% per year** on your heating and cooling bills. Depending on your habits and the cost of your thermostat, you could recoup the cost in less than 6 months!

20. True or false. One wind turbine can produce enough electricity to power up to 300 homes.

A: TRUE

21. True or false: Silicon from just one ton of sand, used in photovoltaic cells, could produce as much electricity as burning 500,000 tons of coal.

True

22. Trees raise air temperature by evaporating water in their leaves. FALSE.
Trees LOWER air temperature through by evaporating water in their leaves.

In one year, an acre of trees can absorb as much carbon as is produced by a car driven up to 8700 miles. True