**Measure Your Carbon Footprint! Take the pledge!**

The District 7620 Environment Committee is launching a project to get our District to Net Zero by reducing carbon emissions. How? By measuring your carbon footprint!

Net Zero, or carbon-neutral, refers to achieving a balance between carbon emissions produced from our energy consumption and emissions of greenhouse gases removed from the atmosphere. We can accomplish this by reducing our emissions (carbon footprint) and removing carbon dioxide through mitigation projects, such as planting trees, building gardens with native plants, recycling, or conserving biodiversity.

The USA and 190 other countries are taking steps under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change to mitigate global warming. The President has announced a national goal of reaching a 50% reduction of greenhouse pollution from 2005 levels by 2030 and achieving Net Zero by 2050. We believe Rotarians can lead the way to get there much sooner. Our goal for our District is to reach a Net Zero carbon footprint by June 30, 2025. Yes, in just four years.

The first step is to ask every Rotarian in our District **to sign a pledge to measure their carbon footprint using a carbon calculator**. There are many calculators available on the web. Here is a user-friendly one that we can suggest [**https://www.footprintcalculator.org/**](https://www.footprintcalculator.org/)designed by ***Global Footprint Network.***

To achieve this goal, the D7620 Environment Committee would like you to take thispledge to **Measure your Carbon Footprint!** We can make D7620 the first Rotary District in the world to be Net Zero. This may become a global Rotary Challenge. D7620 will be leading the way! ***Thank-you for supporting the Environment!***

**Carbon Footprint Pledge**

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Rotary Club\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_City\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Today’sdate\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Carbon Footprint Pledge**

I commit to ~~do~~ doing my best to take as many actions as possible to reduce my carbon footprint, for example:

* Measure and report my carbon footprint using a carbon footprint calculator
* Plant a new native pollinator garden every year and watch it grow.
* Plant a tree every year and watch them grow.
* Buy commodities that have a long shelf life.
* Consume less, especially meat and dairy products.
* Support “zero-waste” practices - Reuse, repurpose, recycle spent commodities, reduce food waste, and compost. Support circular economy.
* Use public transportation when possible, low energy transport options, walk more
* Organize an energy audit for my home
* Research ways to change the energy source of my home to a renewable source
* Support policies to address carbon pricing
* Invite my Rotary Club and District to sign up for the Carbon Footprint projects