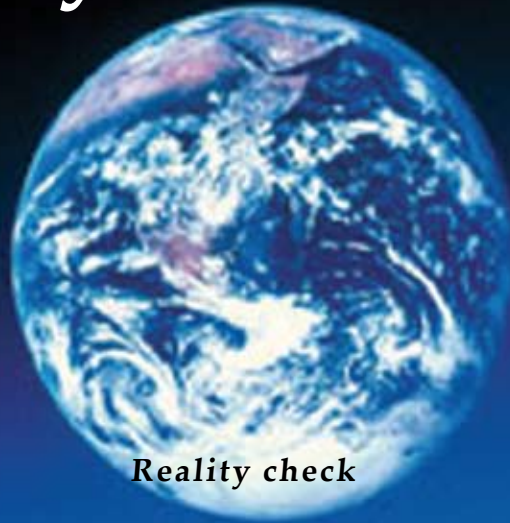


# Earth Day

April 22



## Reality check

- U.S. dollars saved in 2005 because of improvements in automobile efficiency since 1973—177 billion
- Gallons of gasoline saved annually if every American converted to one of the four most efficient cars in each class— 13.1 billion
- U.S. dollars lost daily because of idle electronic functions such as lit display clocks, memory chips, and remote control functions— 8 billion
- U.S. dollars American consumers spend on gasoline every day— 495 million
- U.S. dollars saved annually in electricity costs if all U.S. companies switched to Energy Star “exit” signs— 75 million
- Number of trees saved if we recycled all the newspaper in the U.S. on one average Sunday— 550,000
- Number of pounds of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) released by the average household each year— 22,000
- Acres of rainforest lost every hour worldwide— 4,281
- Year that Mt. Kilimanjaro’s glaciers will be completely gone— 2020
- Percentage of the world’s population that lives in the tropics and will therefore be dramatically affected by climate change effects, such as rising sea levels and warmer temperatures— 70
- Years it will take for the Greenland ice sheet to be completely eliminated at the current rate of emissions— 50
- U.S. dollars saved in energy costs for every light bulb replaced with an Energy Star bulb— 30
- Percentage of total heat lost in a typical home because of poor sealing— 20
- Percentage of species facing extinction because of global climate change— 9
- Percentage saved on the average heating bill for every degree a household lowers its thermostat in the winter— 3
- Number of people it takes to start change— 1

[www.earthday.net](http://www.earthday.net)