

How Cloth Diapers Reduce Your Baby's Carbon Footprint



Using cloth diapers means your baby is doing his part to help reduce vs. create household waste.

Plus, you:

- Prevent thousands of unnecessary diapers from entering our landfills.
- Eliminate the need for repeat manufacturing processes to make, package and transport diapers to stores over and over again.
- Limit the amount of raw materials and natural resources, such as crude oil and trees, needed to make your baby's diapers.
- Reduce your household's waste, using less energy for trash trucks to haul away your baby's diapers each week.
- Use a renewable resource (water) to wash and reuse your diapers – just as you wash and reuse your clothes and dishes.

If you want to make your cloth diapering experience even greener, consider these suggestions:

Hang Dry Diapers – You'll save electricity and shave off a few bucks on your electric bill.

Use Cold Rinse Cycles – Use cold water to rinse your diapers and hot water only for washing.

Use Less Detergent – It only takes a ¼ of a cup of detergent to launder cloth diapers.

Order Locally – Order from a cloth diaper store closest to your home so the diapers don't have to travel cross-country. Combine your order with other area moms to get bulk discounts too!

Have a 2-3 Day Supply on Hand – More diapers on hand means you'll need to do less laundry. Order a 2-3 day supply of cloth diapers so you can wash them every other day. **Environmental Bonus:** They'll last longer too since you're using/washing them less!

Buy Energy Efficient Appliances – Front-loading machines use 65% less energy and a third less water. Key things to look for in a good energy efficient washing machine include:

- *Heating System:* Buy a washer that heats only the water it uses rather than heating the entire household water tank.
- *Less Water:* Some machines only require as little as 14 gallons a cycle and do the same job as rival machines.
- *Fast Spin Cycle:* The faster the cycle (at least 900 rotations/minute) the better water will be extracted from the laundry and less time the clothes need to dry.