



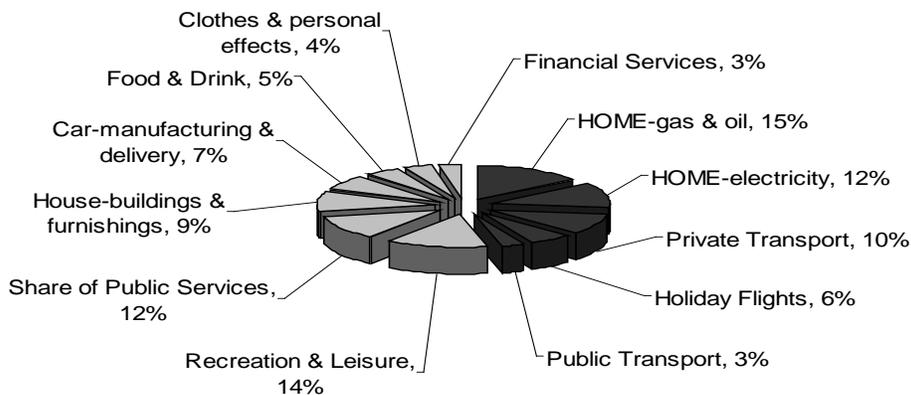
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What is a “Carbon Footprint”?

Submitted by Cheryl Lee

A carbon footprint is a measure of the impact our activities have on the environment, and in particular climate change. It relates to the amount of greenhouse gases produced in our day-to-day lives through burning fossil fuels for electricity, heating and transportation etc. This measurement has units of tones (or kg) of carbon dioxide equivalent. The impact on the environment in terms of the amount of greenhouse gases produced, measured in units of carbon dioxide. Available soon from the Green Committee of the City of Yorkville is a program to calculate your family's Carbon Footprint in order to show areas that can yield the greatest reductions in your “carbon footprint”.

Carbon Footprint



A carbon footprint is made up of the sum of two parts, the primary footprint (shown by the dark grey slices of the pie chart) and the secondary footprint (shown as the light grey slices).

1. The **primary footprint** is a measure of our direct emissions of CO₂ from the burning of fossil fuels including domestic energy consumption and transportation (e.g. car and plane). We have direct control of these.

2. The **secondary footprint** is a measure of the indirect CO₂ emissions from the whole lifecycle of products we use - those associated with their manufacture and eventual breakdown. To put it very simply – the more we buy the more emissions will be caused on our behalf.