

Crickhowell in the heart of the Brecon Beacons National Park is a much loved and popular tourist destination. The area's popularity brings its own set of problems as large visitor numbers bring their own pressures and it's not just the immediate factors that cause a problem. Although issues such as pollution and climate change are global problems they can impact hugely on sensitive eco-systems. CRiC is working hard to make our destination more environmentally friendly, but we need your help. With a little more thought and by making choices we can all reduce our impact on the environment. As a visitor you have a very important role to play in helping us to conserve our natural assets and become a more sustainable destination. Going green does not mean sacrificing quality; looking after the environment is about doing more with less. Here are some tips on how you can help:

- **Give the Car a Rest** - Leave the car behind, if only for a day. Walk, cycle or use public transport. CRiC's volunteers will happily provide you with advice. <http://www.traveline.org.uk/>; <http://www.seat61.com>; <http://www.sustrans.org.uk/>.
- **Put your best foot forward** - Explore the beautiful local countryside on foot - Crickhowell's Walkers are Welcome have developed a series of Cracking Walks for you to enjoy.
- **Totally Locally Crickhowell - Shop Local** - Buy local products, they give you a flavour of the area and help support local communities. We are fortunate to have some fantastic producers of food, drink and arts and crafts. Ask a volunteer in CRiC about local markets or local and regional produce.
- **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle** - Avoid overly packaged goods, say no to that extra carrier bag. You can also support CRiC in our efforts to recycle – please ask staff for more details. *Recycling just one plastic bottle can save the same amount of energy needed to power a 60watt light bulb for six hours.*
- **Be Water Wise** - Use water wisely. Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth, reduce your shower time and adhere to towel policies or other water saving initiatives <http://www.water-guide.org.uk/>
- **Respect Nature** - Help us to look after the landscape and wildlife by not littering, guarding against fire and using footpaths and cycle-ways responsibly. Ensure you follow the Countryside Code <http://www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk>
- **Conserve Energy** - Reduce energy by switching off lights in empty rooms, close windows if heating is on, use low energy light bulbs, boil just enough water for what you need. The Energy Saving Trust provides information on what you can do at home. <http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk>
- **Support Green Businesses** - There are thousands of businesses in the British Isles working to reduce their carbon footprint through the Green Tourism Business Scheme. Businesses are awarded Bronze, Silver and Gold for their efforts to be more sustainable. <http://www.green-business.co.uk>

There are some general principles we should all adhere to in the countryside:

Leave nothing but footprints, take nothing but photographs – leave the land as you find it for others to enjoy and never pick wild plants. Never leave litter in the countryside - Either bin it or take it home.

Fire can devastate vast areas of countryside and forest. Don't start campfires – use a gas stove if camping or stick to specified BBQ sites. Never drop a lighted cigarette or match

Green Tourism Business Scheme promotes practical measures for businesses to reduce their environmental impact and manage resources more efficiently