



## LIVING GREEN

# Durable Goods

Explore the harmful impact durable goods can have on the environment through the use of natural resources and energy.

### What did you learn?

#### QUESTIONS

- Household items, such as furniture and appliances, that are designed to last a long time are known as ...
  - Durable goods
  - Lasting products
  - Household must-haves
  - Forever goods
- The growth of conventionally farmed cotton accounts for ...
  - 99% of all pesticides and synthetic fertilizers used world-wide
  - 75% of all pesticides and synthetic fertilizers used world-wide
  - 50% of all pesticides and synthetic fertilizers used world-wide
  - 25% of all pesticides and synthetic fertilizers used world-wide
- Dryers considered by some experts to be more environmentally friendly than electric dryers are ...
  - Green dryers
  - Diesel dryers
  - Oil dryers
  - Gas dryers
- In some U.S. states, homeowners who install solar panels can sell back energy to ...
  - Their neighbors
  - Electric power companies
  - The government
  - Local schools
- What is *global warming*?
- What is the *greenhouse effect*?

#### TRUE OR FALSE?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| _____ 1. Carpeting is usually recommended for people with allergies because it relieves their symptoms.       | _____ 5. Old computers and other electronics can be taken to recycling stations.   |
| _____ 2. Dishwashers were once considered a luxury item.  | _____ 6. Lawn-care equipment, including leaf blowers, tillers, mowers, weed-whackers, and other machines are responsible for 5% of the total air pollution in the United States. |
| _____ 3. Toilets account for the least water use in the home.   |  |
| _____ 4. In North America, shower use accounts for about 40% of the average person's total water consumption. |  |



## ANSWERS

- 1. a. Durable goods.** According to section "Introduction" on page 4, we know that "Durable goods are household items, such as furniture and appliances, that are designed to last a long time." So, the correct answer is A.
- 2. d. 25% of all pesticides and synthetic fertilizers used world-wide.** According to section "The Bedroom: Mattresses" on page 23, we know that the growth of conventionally farmed cotton accounts for 25 percent of all pesticides and synthetic fertilizers used world-wide." So, the correct answer is D.
- 3. d. Gas dryers.** According to section "Go Green! The Laundry Room" on page 38, we know that "Gas dryers are considered by some experts to be more environmentally friendly than electric dryers." So, the correct answer is D.
- 4. b. Electric power companies.** According to section "Go Green! The Yard" on page 54, we know that "In some U.S. states, homeowners who install solar panels can sell back energy to electric power companies." So, the correct answer is B.
- 5.** According to page 60, *global warming* is "the gradual warming of Earth's surface, believed to be caused by a build-up of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere."
- 6.** According to page 60, the *greenhouse effect* is "the process by which certain gases cause the Earth's atmosphere to warm."

## TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

- 1. False.** According to section "Rugs and Carpets" on page 10, we know that "Carpeting is usually not recommended for people with allergies because it collects dust and other particles that are tracked in from outside." So, the correct answer is False.
- 2. True.** According to section "The Kitchen: Dishwashers" on page 16, we know that "Once considered a luxury item, dishwashers are now found in many homes." So, the correct answer is True.
- 3. False.** According to section "The Bathroom: Water Use" on page 28, we know that "Toilets account for the most water use in the home." So, the correct answer is False.
- 4. False.** According to section "Showers and Sinks" on page 33, we know that "In North America, shower use accounts for about 20% of the average person's total water consumption." So, the correct answer is False.
- 5. True.** According to section "Go Green! The Office" on page 45, we know that "Old computers and other electronics can be taken to recycling stations, such as this one in Sweden." So, the correct answer is True.
- 6. True.** According to section "Lawn Mowers" on page 49, we know that "Lawn-care equipment, including leaf blowers, tillers, mowers, weed-whackers, and other machines are responsible for 5% of the total air pollution in the United States." So, the correct answer is True.