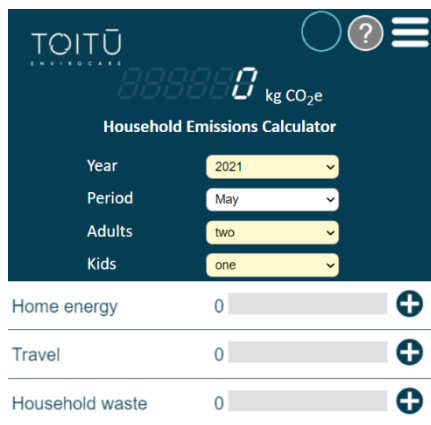


Tracking your Household Carbon Footprint

"Human ecology and environmental ecology walk together." Laudato Si'

In May 2021, many Ōtari parish members committed to measuring household carbon footprints as a first step towards becoming more informed about personal impacts on climate change. Please feel to adapt this information from the Ōtari parish newsletter for other parishes undertaking this activity.

Tracking your Household Carbon Footprint



We can undertake to live more sustainably. A Carbon Footprint Calculator is a powerful tool you can use to understand your household's impact on global warming. It tracks the amount of CO₂ (carbon dioxide) your activities create.

The TOITŪ Calculator is easy to use. It calculates – Home Energy, Travel, and Waste <https://calculator.toitu.co.nz>

If you take up this challenge you will learn a lot about your personal activities and be more informed.

Now you have made the commitment begin to keep a log of the following for one month:

Home Energy

- have access to your records for Electricity, Gas, LPG at for the month you are following (use your bill)

Travel from 1st of the month to the last day of the month

- 1st of the month log the readings from the odometer on all your vehicles. Record the readings again at the end of the month and calculate the difference for each vehicle
- Public transport – keep a log of all travel (eg. Bus, Train, Ferry, Taxi) and estimate the distances of those trips
- Air Travel – keep a log of any flights made during the month
- Accommodation – keep a log of type and dates of these (eg motel, hotel, tramping hut, B&B)

Household Waste from during the month

- Log the weight of waste you are sending to the landfill in the month (each time you put out your rubbish from the house into the collection bag or bin weigh it and then add all these together at the end of the month)

Now add all this data into the TOITŪ Calculator and you will see your CO₂ Footprint. You can also compare your result with the average in NZ for the month for the same household makeup.

Good Luck! Doing this can really help your awareness and empower your household to become active disciples of creation.

