



Solution - After

Saving the tree was the number one priority. A wide S-curve walkway was created to accommodate the tree. The design opened up the walkway so it wasn't so dark, making it safer and welcoming to guests and new energy to enter the home.

Feng Shui Green Tips

Since most people would not turn the clock back 3000 years to recapture that pristine environment, there are a number of things you can do today to live in better harmony with the environment.

Rather than think about the environment from a global perspective, which is out of reach for most, look around your home to find those things you can control and do something about today.

Unclutter first to increase personal energy

Recycle everything. Most people recycle the obvious such as bottles, plastic items, bags, newspapers, boxes and the like, but take a closer look at things like electronic equipment, cell phones, computers, batteries, tools, books, furniture, and appliances. Many areas now offer places to drop off electronic items and libraries love to receive new books that have been read only once. Search out what is available in your area. The environment will be grateful and so will others. *Editor's note: See our story on Freecycle!*

Donate all useable clothing and household items to charitable organizations so they can be recycled to those in need. Check with local organizations like those dealing with domestic violence or the

homeless to see what items they regularly need. Keep that list handy for future use and to share with others. You give others much needed uplifting new energy and unclutter your personal environment, making room for new energy to enter your life.

Remove your name from as many catalogues and flyer mailing lists as possible to reduce the amount of printed mail you receive and loss. Eliminate duplicates by notifying them to remove the duplicate name. Encourage all catalogue companies to print on recyclable paper. If possible, receive catalogues electronically. You save natural resources like wood and oil.

Use canvas, cloth or mesh shopping bags to bring home your groceries. This will lower the number of plastic bags clogging up the environment, plus save on the use of petroleum to manufacture them.

Rather than grabbing for a paper towel, get in the habit of using old towels as rags for some of those simple cleanups and spills throughout the house and garage. Old towels are easily washed, disinfected and re-used. Paper towels add to landfills and destroy trees.

Use eco-friendly soaps, detergents and cleaning supplies. They are better for you to use because they are less toxic. They are better for the environment because they are biodegradable.

Preserve and Replenish to Improve the Environment

In *Feng Shui*, one of the best ways to improve your personal environment is to make sure positive energy enters your home. That means you need to unclutter the outside too, including the walkway leading up to the entrance of your home.

- When landscaping and gardening, remember to use eco-friendly products and preservation/replenishment care in the planning process. If you have large, healthy mature trees, find ways to protect and care for them. They provide protection from the sun and heat, plus help maintain the planet's healthy atmosphere.

- If plants are overgrown, unhealthy, or dead, remove them immediately. They provide negative, unhealthy energy leading up to your home. Plants like this should always be promptly removed and replaced to provide a healthy energy environment surrounding your home.

Many of these *Feng Shui* suggestions are about removing and controlling the clutter in your personal environment, which provides you better energy. Recycling and using more eco-friendly products provide the environment more positive energy rather than having to deal with more waste.