

Tips on Save Money and Energy

Energy Conservation and Energy Efficiency are two sides of the same coin. Most consumers think both mean the same, but they don't. Energy conservation means reducing the level of energy use by turning down a thermostat, or turning off a light, or turning up the temperature of the electrical appliance. Energy efficiency means getting the same job done while using less energy. Efficiency is usually done by replacing an older, less efficient appliance with a new energy efficient one.

Switch off or unplug any chargers or gadgets you don't need on. If they have a standby light, a display or are hot to the touch they will be using energy just by being plugged in. This prevents standby switches from needlessly consuming energy.



Replace old gadgets with new energy saving gadgets. Select the most energy-efficient models when you replace your old appliances. Look for the Energy Star Label - your assurance that the product saves energy and prevents pollution. It gives the information of power requirements and how much energy can be saved.

Laundry for maximum energy savings. Use the shortest wash cycle and use cold water. Maximum energy used in washing clothes goes toward heating the water. Cold water washing not only saves energy, it also prevents fading and helps keep permanent press clothes from wrinkling. Only run the washer with full loads, but don't overload it. An overloaded washer has to work harder and uses more energy. Don't over dry clothes. Use free solar energy to do the drying.



Switch to Energy-efficient light bulbs. Light-emitting diode (LEDs) or compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs use a fraction of the electricity an ordinary light bulb would use and last up to 10 times longer. Although they can initially cost more than traditional incandescent bulbs, during their lifetime they save you money, because they use less energy.

Weatherize your home. Let the sunshine in. Use the natural light. On a sunny day, opening your curtains will let warmth into your house, but when it's colder or the sun goes down don't forget to close them to keep that heat in. Use reflective window film during the summer that can help reduce heat gain.





Home heating and cooling. Do not overheat or overcool rooms. Clean or replace air filters as recommended. It can save 5% of the energy used.

Switch to the solar power system. Use solar power to heat water and more. Switching to solar is a great way to reduce your electricity bill. Solar panels can be used to generate electricity for outdoor lighting.

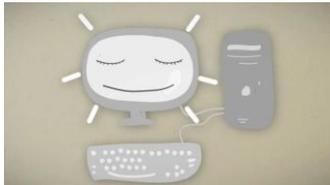


Kill energy vampires. Electronics guzzle lots of power even when not in use. These appliances - from TVs, computers and coffee makers to clothes dryer can suck up energy, costing you money. Stop wasting electricity: Plug them into a power strip, and then turn off the strip.

Save Water. Repair leaking pipes, fixtures, and seals. Small leaks add up to many litres of water. Install water-saving shower heads and low-flow faucet aerators. Collect water from your roof to water your garden.



Set Computers to Energy-Saving Modes. Switching from a desktop machine to a laptop/notebook is a great way to save electricity. Configure your power saving/management options. LCD monitor uses about one-third the power of a cathode ray tube (CRT) display with the same screen area. Don't use a screensaver—they use double energy as when the computer is in use. Instead, set your monitor to go into sleep mode.



Reduce, reuse, recycle. Reduce the amount of waste you produce by buying minimally packaged goods, choosing reusable products over disposable ones, and recycling. Recycle aluminum cans and plastic bottles. Reusing paper and recycling paper saves money and energy.

