



Ways to Conserve Energy

Energy costs might increase this year due to rising gas prices. The following are suggestions to help conserve energy and save money.

- 💡 Turn off your television, stereo and other appliances when you're not using them.
- 💡 Turn off your computer at night, and turn off your monitor whenever you'll be away from it for more than a few minutes.
- 💡 Use a towel or air dry your hair, rather than using a blow dryer.
- 💡 To conserve heat, close your windows and doors.
- 💡 Turn down the thermostat/air conditioning when nobody is home.
- 💡 Replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescents. These come in various shapes and sizes that fit regular, screw-in lamps and light fixtures. They can last up to 10 times as long as old-fashioned bulbs and produce less heat while using only a quarter of the electricity.
- 💡 Take shorter showers. You'll use less hot water and water heaters account for nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ of your home's energy use.
- 💡 Don't keep the refrigerator door open any longer than you need to.
- 💡 Don't leave lights on when there is no one in the room. If you know of a light that everyone forgets to turn off, make a sticker or a sign to hang next to the switch that says "Lights Out!" or "Don't Forget!"
- 💡 Do the dishes by hand instead of using a dishwasher or try running your dishwasher once a week with a full load. Avoid using the heat-dry, rinse-hold and pre-rinse features. Instead use your dishwasher's air-dry option. If your dishwasher does not have an air-dry option, prop the door open after the final rinse to dry the dishes.
- 💡 Shift energy intensive tasks, such as running your washing machine, dryer and dishwasher, to off-peak hours (before noon or after 6:30pm) and weekends.
- 💡 Talk to your landlord about changing the furnace filter monthly.
- 💡 Ask your landlord to inspect the unit for any energy saving ideas.



Why Conserve Energy?

The less energy we use, the less resources we have to use to make up the energy that we do use. As technology advances, sustainable energy generation practices become more viable. If we can continue to reduce our energy needs and more and more of our energy comes from renewable resources, eventually we will not need to use up valuable resources to generate energy.

Energy conservation makes financial sense too. There is no better time than now to develop responsible energy habits that will help you save money on utilities for many years to come.

How Do I Get Involved?

www.housing.umich.edu/sustainability

www.recycle.umich.edu

