

# Save Green by Going Green!



Save 10-40% on your electric bill by focusing on your biggest energy users:

- Lights,
- Air Conditioning,
- Electronics, and
- Your Refrigerator.

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## LIGHTS

**Turn Lights Off:** Get in the habit of turning off lights every time you leave a room and save between \$50 and \$200 per year.



**Replace Bulbs:** Use compact fluorescent lights instead of traditional light bulbs. Even if you only switch out the three bulbs you use most, you'll notice savings of about \$80-\$100 per year.



### Avoid Halogen Torchieres:

Though these lamps may seem like a bargain when you buy them, they are expensive to run and are actually so hot that they can cause serious burns and start fires.

## AIR CONDITIONING

**Block Sun:** Use curtains to block sunny windows during hot summer months. Direct sunlight can raise the temperature 10-20 degrees.



**Use A Fan:** If you use a fan ¼ of the time instead of using an air conditioner you can save \$100-\$400 each year.



**Upgrade to Energy Star:** Switching to an "Energy Star" energy efficient model can reduce your electricity bill by 10-15%.

**Take It Out:** Window air conditioners cause lots of drafts and discomfort if left in the window during the winter. Make sure to take them out by Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>. Contact Winn if you need assistance.



**Turn off Air:** Whether you're using a fan or air conditioner, neither should be operating when you're not home. If you don't like coming home to a hot apartment, get a plug-in timer from a hardware store and set it for a ½ hour before you arrive home. (\$4)

# Electronics

*In most homes, the refrigerator is the second largest user of electricity (13.7%), right after the air conditioner (16%).*



Many electronic devices look like they're off but are actually still using electricity. This "vampire" use accounts for 5 to 10% of home-energy consumption. What can you do?

## UNPLUG

Consider unplugging products that are rarely used. A good example would be an older TV or stereo.

## USE POWER STRIPS

Power strips (\$3-\$15 at a hardware store) can be used to stop vampire use from clusters of products like TV clusters (TV, DVD player, VCR, game consoles) or computer clusters (computer, monitor, printer, scanner, speakers).

## BUY EFFICIENTLY

Avoid "plasma" TVs. A 42-inch plasma TV set can draw more power than a large refrigerator, even if the TV is only used a few hours a day. An LCD flatscreen gives the same high-definition resolution and uses less energy. Look for models that don't draw energy when off.

## QUALIFY FOR A REFRIDGERATOR

Please let us know if you have a fridge that was made before 2001. We'll see if we can match you with a utility program upgrade.

## USE FLIP SWITCHES

Do you have a microwave, toaster, or other appliance with an unnecessary electronic clock? The clock likely uses more energy than the appliance. Purchase an on/off switch (\$3.50) from a hardware store.



## USE POWER SETTINGS

Enable power management on your computer to save \$35-\$80 per year. If you are saving to buy a computer, buy a laptop instead of a desktop to use five times less electricity.

*How much do your electronics cost you each year?*

*Check out HRI's Kill-A-Watt device to test and see.*