

Saving Electricity

Purpose of Activity: To inform residents about different ways to conserve electricity

Materials Needed:

- Tips provided
- Fabric backing (butcher paper if needed)
- Decorations

Content:

1. Kitchen
 - a. Wash only full loads of dishes
 - b. Don't use disposable plates, cups or silverware
 - i. So much energy used to produce and ship, only to be thrown away. Reusable versions, in the long run, use less energy
2. Sunlight
 - a. Use natural light during the day
 - b. When it is cool outside, open your drapes to let the sun help warm the room
3. Climate Control
 - a. Use fans instead of cranking your AC. Be sure to turn them off when you leave
 - b. Two up, two down
 - i. Turn thermostat up two degrees in summer, down two degrees in winter
4. Efficiency
 - a. Use LED lights instead of incandescent bulbs
 - b. Buy Energy Star rated microwaves, fridges, and other small appliances. They are more energy efficient
5. Laundry
 - a. Wash only full loads of laundry
 - b. Wash clothes in cold water
 - i. Much of the energy used to wash clothing is used to heat the water, not run the machine
 - c. Separate wash loads into light and heavy fabrics
 - i. You can dry the light fabrics in less time
 - ii. Consider hang drying your lightest fabrics
 - d. Clean the dryer lint filter every time to promote efficiency
6. Showers
 - a. Shorten showers
 - i. it not only saves water, but it saves energy used to heat the water
7. Electronics
 - a. Consider investing in a laptop—they use less energy than desktop computers



- b. Unplug your phone or laptop as soon as it is fully charged
 - i. it will save electricity and your battery life
 - c. Only replace your phone or other electronics when they are broken, not because your contract is up
 - d. Plug electronics into a power strip. Then you have one switch to flip when you leave and you won't be losing vampire energy
8. Food
- a. Buy local food—it has used much less energy to get to you
 - b. Eat less meat
 - c. Avoid frozen food—it uses much more energy to stay that way compared to fresh food