

More "Green Tips"



- Turn off the tap when you brush your teeth. You'll save 7-12 litres of water per minute, conservatively over 10,000 litres per year! For a family of four, that's almost enough water to fill a swimming pool!
- Use the microwave instead of the stovetop or oven whenever possible. Microwaves use between 1/5 and 1/2 as much energy.
- When you must cook in the oven, resist opening the door. Each peek will cost about 25% of the heat inside.
- Don't put hot foods directly into the refrigerator and cover foods and liquids. Foods and especially liquids will release moisture and cause the refrigerator to use more energy.
- Full freezers operate more efficiently. If your freezer isn't full, fill plastic containers with water and freeze them. This will also help in the event of a power outage.
- Turn equipment off when not in use. It is a myth that computers use large amounts of energy when starting up. It is much more cost-effective to shut down the computer when you are finished using it. Also, ink jet printers use far less energy than laser printers and desktops consume ten times more energy than laptops.
- Many kinds of equipment have chargers. When they are not charging, unplug them, as they draw power whenever they are plugged in.
- Compact fluorescent bulbs last between five to nine years longer and use up to 70% less energy than incandescent bulbs. Even halogen bulbs last two to four times longer and use 40% less energy than incandescent bulbs. At a minimum, use energy saving bulbs in lower wattages and use dimmer switches. A bulb dimmed by 25% uses 10% less energy.
- Keep drapes open on sunny winter days and then close them at night to help retain the heat.
- About 25% of all household hot water is used for washing clothes. Use cold water washing whenever possible and always rinse with cold water. By rinsing in cold water, you can save enough energy for 220 showers per year.
- Recycled newspapers should be saved in its own bin, as this material goes directly back into newsprint recycling. Recycling a four-foot stack of newspapers saves the equivalent of one 40-foot fir tree.
- Every glass bottle recycled saves enough energy for a 100 watt light bulb to be lit for 4 hours.
- Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run your TV for three hours.
- Recycling a 1-gallon plastic milk jug will save enough energy to keep a 100-watt bulb burning for 11 hours.
- Setting your Programmable Thermostat can save as much as 10% a year on your heating bills by turning your thermostat down 10 - 15% for 8 hours each day. You can do this automatically without sacrificing comfort by installing a programmable thermostat.
- Lower Settings on Water Heater as most water heaters are factory pre-set at 140 degrees. This may be more than you need, especially in a one or two person household. If your hot water supply is adequate, try lowering the thermostat to 120 degrees. Experiment within the 120-140 range to find the lowest setting which supplies you with enough hot water. Every degree you reduce will save energy costs