



Power Smart Tips for Home

POWER SMART EMPLOYEE AWARENESS

Here are a few Power Smart tips to help you save energy at home.

Appliances

- When possible, use small appliances such as a microwave or toaster oven instead of a full-size oven.
- Avoid using the microwave oven to defrost food. Use the fridge instead.
- Keep oven pre-heating to a minimum and the door closed during use to avoid heat loss.
- Air-dry dishes in the dishwasher or use the economy setting.

Lighting

- Convert incandescent bulbs to energy-efficient compact fluorescents.
- Use task lighting for close work, rather than lighting the entire room.
- Turn off the lights when you leave the room.
- Keep light bulbs and fixtures clean.
- Control the intensity of light with dimmer switches.
- Turn lights on or off at preset times with timers, or motion sensors.

Thermostats

- Set the thermostat back when you are not home or overnight, and you can save 5 to 10% on your annual energy bill.
- Use programmable thermostats that automatically raise and lower temperatures to preset levels.
- Keep furnace filters clean, as dirty filters deliver less air.
- Avoid heating uninsulated spaces such as a garage, crawlspace, attic or storage shed.
- Recommended thermostat settings:

Sitting, reading or watching TV 21°C (70°F)

Working around the house 20°C (68°F)

Sleeping 18°C (64°F)

Away from home 16°C (61°F)

Water Saving Ideas

- Take short showers rather than baths. A five-minute shower uses about half as much water as a bath.
- Run your dishwasher and laundry appliances with full loads.
- Wash laundry with cold water whenever possible.
- Turn off taps completely and repair leaky faucets.

Office Equipment

- Turn equipment off when it is not in use.
- Enable ENERGY STAR®, features on your computer. Look in the Windows control panel under display settings for this feature.
- If your computer must be left on when you are not using it, turn off the monitor. Up to 75% of the energy used by the computer goes to the monitor, and screen savers do not save energy.
- Unplug chargers, such as laptops and cell phones when they are not charging.

For more energy-saving ideas
and information visit
www.bchydro.com/powersmart/tips

BCHydro 
powersmart