



Top 10 Tips

for reducing your energy use

1

Turn your lights off when you leave the room, even if it's only for a few minutes! This is the easiest one!

2

Unplug your chargers when they aren't charging anything. They continue to draw energy as long as they are plugged in - this is called "phantom energy" or "vampire energy" because it sucks!

3

Turn your computer all the way off when you are finished with it for the day. While going into sleep or hibernate mode does reduce the energy use, your computer appreciates a rest too!

4

Leave personal printers and scanners at home. There are shared printers in every residence hall and in many academic buildings. Connecting your computer to the network is way easier than dealing with printer cartridges. You'll create less waste too!

5

Make sure to get LED lightbulbs for any desk lamps you use. They use less energy than CFLs, don't have toxic mercury in them, and last longer. Plus they're dimmable and come in all colors!

6

Challenge yourself to take showers that are 5 minutes or shorter. This sounds really short, but it's plenty of time to get yourself clean and ready for the day!

7

When doing laundry, only wash full loads of laundry, and always use the "color" mode. This keeps your clothes brighter longer and saves a lot of hot water.

8

Opt to use a clothes rack to dry your clothes instead of the dryer. You'll save a bunch of \$\$\$ on laundry and stuff dries really fast in the dry Colorado air. Get one cheap at the DU Thrift Store!

9

Opt for analogue fun! Board games, frisbee, hiking, biking, and so many more are great non-electric alternatives to movies, video games, and other TV/computer-based entertainment.

10

Decorate your room with houseplants. They are good for air quality, and if they die :(you can compost them, instead of throwing them away like other room decorations :)