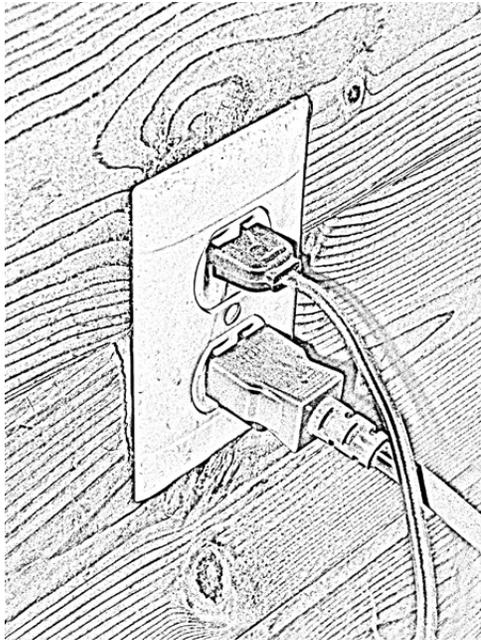


ENERGY CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRONICS AND APPLIANCES



ENERGY CONSERVATION AND EFFICIENCY IN SITKA

ELECTRICITY CONSERVATION

Electricity conservation in Sitka is important so that the development of additional, expensive power generation projects is pushed farther into the future. Saving electricity can save you money on your electric bill and reduce the need for future investments in city infrastructure that will result in higher electric rates.

PHANTOM LOADS

- Energy is used by some small household appliances and electronics even when they're turned off!
- Typically, devices with remote controls or standby settings will cause these "phantom loads," and will consume energy just by being plugged in.
- 75% of the electricity consumed by electronics and small appliances is consumed while the devices are not being used.
- Electronics and small appliances make up 10-20% of overall household electricity use.
- So, 8-15% of household electricity use is by appliances or electronics that are not actively being used (computer, microwave, stereo, TV, DVD, heat trace tape, etc.)
- Using a power strip can minimize the amount of energy your household consumes by plugging electronics into the power strip and then turning the power strip **OFF** when nothing is being used.
- A computer consumes a large amount of electricity when it is turned on, so it should be turned off when it is not being used.

LIGHTING

- Compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs) and LEDs use significantly less electricity than incandescent bulbs.
- Energy lost from incandescent bulbs goes into home heating, but conversion to CFLs and LEDs will create small savings on your electric bill.
- Outdoor lighting should be motion activated, on timers, or should use photo cells (so that it is off during daylight hours). When possible, solar-powered lights or CFLs can be used outdoors.
- Maintain devices that are designed to save energy, such as timers and photo cells, to ensure that they are working properly and serving their function.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Replace appliances with the most efficient appliance when purchasing new appliances to replace worn-out appliances. Cost differences are minimal and buying the more efficient appliance will save money in the long-term.
- Turn your computer off when you are not using it rather than putting it on sleep or standby mode.
- Plug electronics into a power strip and turn it off when nothing on it is being used.
- Turn off lights when you leave a room and use task lighting rather than lighting an entire room.
- Consider installing CFLs and LEDs to reduce electricity use.

APPLIANCES AND ELECTRONICS

Sitka Statistics

78% of respondents to the 2007 Sitka Residential Energy Survey have an energy saving device installed.

Of these households, 69% have at least one compact fluorescent lightbulb.

Energy Star appliances, programmable thermostats, low-flow shower heads, and power strips are also used to a lesser degree.

Sitkans can take advantage of these products to save both electricity and money.

ENERGY STAR APPLIANCES

- The ENERGY STAR label is an easy way for consumers to find products that use less energy than other similar products, as those products that have an ENERGY STAR label have met energy efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Energy.
- All large household appliances come with a yellow energy guide tag on them and some may have the ENERGY STAR label.
- The ENERGY STAR label is also used on more than 50 products such as programmable thermostats, compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), and computers.
- For certain appliances, such as a clothes washer, you should also look at the Modified Energy Factor to select the most efficient model. This information can be found on the ENERGY STAR website.

STANDBY ENERGY

Amount used by TV when turned off: 7 watts

Amount used by VCR/DVD when on standby: 5 watts

Computer monitor on standby/sleep: 3-7 watts

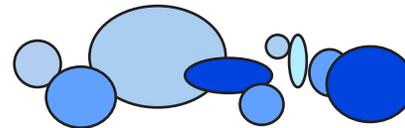
Computer on screensaver: 17-119 watts, depending on age and model

Computer left on: 17-125+ watts, depending on age and model (laptops use less than desktops)

Printer left on: 8 watts

Microwave: 1 watt

Light left on (incandescent): depends on wattage of bulb, but ~50-120 watts

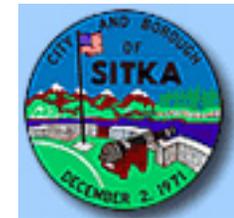


FURTHER RESOURCES:

Information on energy efficient appliances, electronics, and lighting: <http://www.energystar.gov>

How to save electricity in your home: <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/consumer/tips>

Fact sheets on home energy: <http://www.rmi.org/sitepages/pid119.php>



FOR MORE
INFORMATION,
CONTACT THE CITY AND
BOROUGH OF SITKA
ELECTRIC
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OR
THE SITKA
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