

Energy Use & Reduction

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When the sun is bright, turn off the light!

Help reduce Fort Collins' energy use footprint by implementing easy practices into your lifestyle.

Reduce Your Energy Use!



Key Principles of Energy Use

As you embark on adulthood and take on more responsibility, you may want to become more aware of energy use in your daily life. Whether it's charging our devices, using lights, or kicking back to watch T.V. after a long day of classes, we are constantly consuming energy to power our lives. We get this energy through consumption of fossil fuels, hydroelectric power, wind power, and more, all of which have some costs to the environment and human life.

By reducing unnecessary energy use, we can reduce the amount of pollution and environmental harm both in Fort Collins and globally. Did you know that if you left a 100W light bulb on for a year you would generate 750 kg of carbon dioxide (Daisy Energy, n.d.)? Turning off the lights, unplugging appliances, and ensuring you don't leave fans or computers running while you aren't home are just a few of the ways you can lead a more sustainable life here at CSU!

Virtual Resources for Sustainable Energy Use

Use these tools to learn more about sustainable energy use and renewable energy production!

EPA Power Profile Interactive Energy Footprint Tool: <https://www.epa.gov/egrid/power-profiler#/>

EPA Emissions & Generation Resource Integrated Database (eGRID): <https://www.epa.gov/egrid>

Energy Sage Solar in Colorado Guide: <https://www.energysage.com/solar-panels/co/#>

United States EIA Renewable Energy Explained: <https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/renewable-sources/>

Energy Sage 15 Ways to Save Energy: <https://www.energysage.com/energy-efficiency/101/ways-to-save-energy/>

Fort Collins Resources for Sustainable Energy Use

How CSU is Building a More Sustainable Campus

Learn more about what CSU is doing on campus to be more sustainable: <https://housing.colostate.edu/about/sustainability/>

Energy Efficiency Programs in Fort Collins

Learn how to track your energy use and learn about Fort Collins' energy efficiency programs at:

<https://www.fcgov.com/utilities/residential/energy-efficiency>

Community for Sustainable Energy Website

Learn more about CforSE's involvement and initiatives in Fort Collins and Colorado: <https://www.cforse.org/>

City of Fort Collins Net Zero Energy District (FortZED)

Learn about the FortZED partnership and its projects: <https://www.fcgov.com/fortzed/>

City of Fort Collins Climate Action Plan

Learn about Fort Collins' initiatives and goals to reduce energy emissions: <http://ftcollinscap.clearpointstrategy.com/energy/>

Fort Collins Utilities Green Energy

<https://www.fcgov.com/utilities/residential/renewables/green-energy/#:~:text=Fort%20Collins%20Utilities%20is%20also,at%20the%20Rawhide%20Energy%20Station>

Fort Collins Community for Sustainable Energy

A local organization that aims for local government accountability related to sustainable energy: <https://www.cforse.org/>

Tips and Tricks for Energy Reduction at Home

- Unplug any devices/appliances not being used from outlets when you head out
- Turn off lights as you leave rooms
- Replace incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs
- Use an energy efficient dishwasher if you have one rather than hand washing

Ways to Reduce Heating and Cooling

- Shut the blinds to prevent the room from heating up when it's warm
- Open the blinds to allow sunlight to heat the room when it's cold
- Open your windows when it's cool enough instead of turning on the A/C
- If you have drafty windows, hang heavy curtains

No A/C? No Problem!

- Buy a box fan for your window to circulate the air (especially at night!) and keep the room cool
- Shut the blinds when you leave the room to prevent the room from heating up

References:

Daisy Energy. (n.d) *How Much Does it Cost to Power a Lightbulb for a Year?*

<https://daisyenergy.ca/how-much-does-it-cost-to-power-a-lightbulb-for-a-year/>