

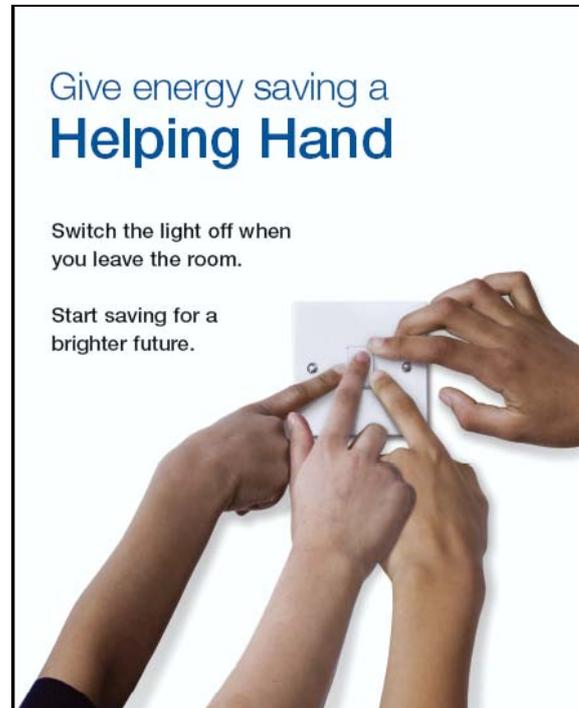


# Some bright ideas for saving energy...

## Save your 20%

It cannot have escaped anyone's attention that energy efficiency has been receiving considerable media coverage lately. Whatever buzz words you might hear 'carbon footprint', 'climate change', 'global warming' or 'the greenhouse effect' they all spell out the same problem. Gases that are produced when we burn fossil fuels to generate energy are causing global temperatures to rise. This change in temperature is now recognised as the biggest threat to our environment.

The College's annual energy bill rose by over 100% in 2006. Much of this energy is used unnecessarily, costing money and contributing to climate change. As part of a wider energy saving campaign the College is encouraging staff and students to **switch off** and cut carbon emissions.



**Here are some things you and your colleagues can do today to reduce your energy consumption by up to 20%. The best thing is it won't cost you a penny.**

### Take your computer as an example:

A typical computer might be on for 35 hours a week.

By turning your computer off during your lunch break or a meeting you can save at least 5 hours worth of energy per week. That's a 14% reduction in your energy use already. Add to this savings that can be made by switching off other appliances when they are not being used.

## Switch it off!

A common misconception is that switching equipment on and off uses more energy than leaving it on. This isn't true - the surge of energy used during start up is insignificant compared with the energy saved by switching off.

**An average office wastes £6,000 each year by leaving equipment on over weekends and during holidays.**

## Make energy efficiency part of your daily routine

Small changes make a big difference.

- Switch lights off when you leave an empty room. If you see an empty room with lights on, switch them off. The main culprits are offices, kitchens, toilets and store rooms– this can reduce lighting costs by 15%.
- Turn your monitor off whenever you leave your desk - screensavers *don't* save energy. They were originally designed to stop screen damage and some actually increase energy use.
- Don't leave equipment on standby overnight – leaving a computer monitor on all night wastes enough energy to microwave six dinners, that's all from that little coloured LED.



## Nominate an energy champion

Does your office have an energy champion? Nominate one person in your team to be responsible for turning off all office equipment, lights, shutting windows and locking up at the end of the day. It could be the person who is last to leave each day. It's a simple procedure that will soon become second nature. Use this **energy checklist** to get you started:

- Computers and monitors
- Printers and photocopiers
- Other electrical equipment – TVs, videos, projectors, DVDs
- Office lights and windows
- Kitchen/other lights
- Lock up
- Take your good energy habits home with you

## Set up for power saving

On your computer or laptop, set the power options to savings mode. To do this for Windows systems:

1. Right click on your desktop and select properties. This opens the display properties window
2. Select the screen saver tab
3. Click on the 'power' button next to the ENERGY STAR logo and set your preferred options.



For more information about energy saving visit:

<http://www.rhul.ac.uk/sustainability/energyandcarbon.aspx>

or contact **Anna Kosteletos, Energy and Sustainability Manager extension 4926**

