

Save Energy. Save Money. Protect the Environment!



What You Can Do

Conserve Energy

- ✓ **Pull the plug:** Appliances and chargers draw energy even when switched off.¹ Unplug appliances, or use a power strip to cut all power. Turn off lights, electronics, etc.
- ✓ **Install Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFL):** new bulbs offer same light as incandescent; use 65%–75% less electricity; last up to 10x longer; will save \$30 in energy costs/bulb.
- ✓ **Use energy at off-peak times** when there is less demand.

Improve Your Efficiency

- ✓ **Buy efficient appliances:** Look for EnergyStar logo when buying new appliances.²
- ✓ **Wash with care:** Only wash full loads in washing machine/dishwasher. Heating water accounts for 90% of energy in a laundry load. Consider cold or warm settings.
- ✓ **Make your home an energy-saver:** Conduct energy audit³; insulate, add weather stripping, raise or lower thermostat by 1°.⁴

Green the Road

- ✓ **Don't idle!** Idling your car for 10 seconds uses more fuel than turning off engine and restarting.
- ✓ **Drive slower:** A car that gets 20 mpg can save \$18.74/week by slowing from 75 to 55 mph.
- ✓ **Or don't drive:** Consider carpool, public transit, bike, walk, work at home options.
- ✓ **Support** alternative fuel cars, fuel economy improvements, improved mass transport, more sidewalks & bike paths.

Current U.S. Energy Policy

- U.S. economy is based on coal (electricity) & oil (gas).
- 70% of our oil purchased from foreign nations, some hostile.
- In 2008, U.S. will pay over \$700 billion to import oil.

What's the Big Deal?

U.S. Dependence on Foreign Oil is Dangerous.

- Oil from Middle East & Venezuela finances hostile regimes.
- Some energy funds are used to sponsor terrorism, with U.S. and Israel as primary targets.
- Greatest transfer of U.S. wealth in history to foreign nations.

Today's Energy Use Damages Our Health and Environment.

- Mercury, smog and air pollution cause health risks and worsen asthma, heart and lung disease.⁵
- Particular impacts to children, and the poor.
- Environmental damage: Polluted water supplies, contaminated soil resources, risks to food.

Innovative Energy Opportunities for the Future

- **Wind:** Midwest corridor can provide 20% of U.S. electricity.⁶
- **Solar:** Earth receives more energy from sun in 1 hour than world uses in 1 year. Israel uses solar energy to heat hot water tanks. Technology rapidly improving.
- **Geothermal:** Electricity from underground hot rocks, enough in U.S. for more than 2 million homes.⁷
- **Tidal/Wave-Generated:** New research to capture wave and tidal energy with turbines.⁸
- **New Biodiesels:** Without impacting food systems, ie. algae, french fry oil, citrus juice industry waste.⁹
- **Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC):** Uses temperature differential in surface and deep seawater.¹⁰
- **Designing Green Buildings** can reduce energy use by 50%, through new building codes and upgrades.¹¹

Green Energy is a Good Investment

- Global investment in renewable energy climbed 25% in 2006.⁶
- Clean-energy industries (biofuels, wind, & solar) each surpassed \$20 billion in revenue in 2007.⁶
- New green energy development can create millions of jobs at home and products for export. Many clean energy jobs (ie. electricians, lab technicians, machinists) do not require advanced degrees.
- U.S.'s environmental technology hosts 1.6 million jobs in over 50,000 firms; generates \$220 billion/yr.¹⁰

FOOTNOTES:

1. www.aceee.org/pubs
2. www.energystar.gov
3. www.FPL.com
4. www.energysavers.gov
5. Harvard School of Public Health, May 2000: Study links air pollution from 2 coal-fired Massachusetts power plants to 43,000 asthma attacks & 159 premature deaths.
6. DOE, 2008 www.20percentwind.org
7. www.wecansolveit.org
8. www.gcktechnology.com
9. Fl. Senator Saunders www.burisaunders.com/issues/O62308.htm
10. New Scientist 11/19/08.
11. www.usgbc.org/

For more energy ideas and teachings, visit:

www.CanfeiNesharim.org/energy