



ENERGY CONSERVATION



In this modern age of technological advancement, a consistent electricity supply is an absolute necessity. However, presently, in Guyana, much of our energy needs are met by the use of fossil fuels which contribute to the global phenomenon global warming and ultimately climate change. While we wait for renewable energy sources to be developed within our country, it is therefore our duty to adopt practices that will contribute to energy conservation. **Here are some tips.**

At home

- Turn off lights when not in use
- Use energy saving bulbs instead of incandescent bulbs.
- Always unplug electrical appliances when not in use.
- Buy electrical equipment that has the ENERGY STAR label since these are designed to be energy efficient.
- Conserve water: It takes a considerable amount of energy to deliver and treat the water we use every day. Therefore, we should always use water wisely, and prevent its wastage when we can.



At work

- Unplug appliances: Just like in the home, turn off and unplug all lights and electrical equipment when not in use.
- Send correspondence via email as much as possible.
- Avoid wasting paper by printing on both sides of the paper.

- Reuse scrap paper to print unimportant documents.
- Make as much use as possible of natural light and air to save on energy costs.



On the Road

- Make sure your car gets routine maintenance checks to extend its life and improve gas mileage.
- Carpool wherever possible.
- Ride a bike or walk to work if you live close enough.
- Inflate your car tires to the recommended pressures.
- Avoid unnecessary idling, excessive speeds and heavy braking.
- Take your own reusable shopping bag; this reduces the need for plastic bags, which consume a lot of energy during production and are not biodegradable.

For the holidays

With the festive season upon us, here are some energy saving actions specifically for the season.

- ❖ Wait until dark to turn on your fairy lights; then, turn them off before you go to bed. Six hours or less of daily use is a good goal to aim for.
- ❖ Instead of using old, traditional fairy lights year after year, use LED Christmas lights which use up to 90% less energy than traditional lights use.



- ❖ Keep lids on pots when cooking. Foods cook faster (meaning less energy use) when the lid is on.
- ❖ Make the most of your oven and the energy that goes into heating it, by baking several dishes at once.
- ❖ Reuse waste paper and cloth to make creative decorations.
- ❖ With the expected traffic congestion around this time of year, park the car and walk from store to store when going shopping.

Share your ideas and questions by sending letters to: “Our Earth, Our Environment”, C/o EIT Division, Environmental Protection Agency, Ganges Street, Sophia, GEORGETOWN or email eit.epaguyana@gmail.com