



Energy Savings

Prairie Stewardship Network
www.prairiestewardship.org

At Work

- Turn off the lights when not in your office or in a room/bathroom.
- Connect PCs, monitors, fax machines and computer "peripherals" to one power strip, and then turn off that power strip when not in use and every night and on weekends. If unable to switch off the entire computer, turn off the monitor and printer.
- Turn computers, copiers and other office equipment to low-power standby mode when not in use.
- Use laptop computers and ink jet printers, if available, since they use 90% less energy than desktop and laser printers.
- Implement paper-reducing strategies, such as double-sided printing, re-using paper, and using e-mail instead of sending memos or faxing documents.
- Replace all incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs.
- Close blinds to conserve heat in the winter and keep the building cooler in the summer.
- Avoid using space heaters.
- Eliminate phantom loads (40 percent of the electricity consumed by these appliances occurs when they are idle, waiting to be used).
- When purchasing or leasing equipment (photocopiers, computers, fax machines, television, etc.) look for energy-efficient models – **Energy Star**. These models use half the energy of regular machines and offer a corresponding cost savings.
- Run full dishwasher loads.
- Select air-dry option on dishwasher.

Building

- Have an energy audit done to identify ways to reduce energy use.
- Replace all incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs.
- Replace incandescent exit lights with three to seven watt LED exit lights. These lights last longer (up to 25 years) and reduce maintenance costs.
- Install programmable thermostats that adjust the heat depending on time of day and building use.
- Install motion sensors in areas not frequently in use (e.g., bathrooms).
- Correct operation and maintenance of equipment, including heating, cooling and office equipment, is essential for obtaining maximum energy efficiency. Check and replace filters often and follow manufacturer recommended instructions.
- Weatherize the church/administrative building.
- Landscaping (adding trees or a berm) around a building can provide shade in the summer and protection against wind in the winter -- lowering heating and cooling costs and saving money.
- Reduce moisture accumulation in always-moist areas and use a dehumidifier that cycles 50% of time.