

# Tips for Helping to Save the Planet



## Good housekeeping:

- Plug all electronic devices into an advanced power strip or surge protector
- and turn off the strip when the devices are not in use
- Select power save settings on game consoles
- Stream media using tablets or smart TVs rather than game consoles
- Wash clothes using full loads on a cold setting
- Place furniture so it does not block heating vents
- Close windows when using air conditioning or heating
- Use fans in hot weather and close blinds/drapes to keep out the sun
- Open blinds/drapes in cold weather to let in the sun's warmth; close them at night to stop drafts
- Put plastic linings around windows if the room is drafty

## Before you leave for class:

- Turn off all the lights
- Set thermostat to 60 degrees when cold outside and 80 degrees when hot
- Turn off individual electronics or, better yet, the power strip

## Inspect your dorm facilities:

- Are washing machines and dryers high efficiency?
- Do communal areas use occupancy-sensored lights?
- Are there incandescent light fixtures that should be updated to fluorescent or LED?
- Do windows/doors need caulking or sealing to prevent drafts?
- How does the campus track and manage energy use?

## Get Involved:

- Create a Facebook group to track the thermal comfort of dorm residents
- Check your school's club page for campus sustainability/environmental groups
- Talk to your R.A. or facilities manager about starting a dorm energy competition
- Take your green building efforts campus-wide
- Learn about efforts at other campuses for inspiration
- Follow the Energy Star Student Activity Guide



**Use hashtag #ShrinkYourDormPrint to post photos and info on campus efforts to save energy.**

