



IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

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Energy Conservation Tips for Businesses

Building Occupants

- Turn off the lights when not in your office or cubicle.
- Turn off your computer at the end of the day.
- Use compact fluorescent lighting for desk lights.¹
- Close blinds to conserve heat in the winter and keep the building cooler in the summer.
- Avoid using space heaters – wear a sweater.
- When purchasing or leasing equipment, look for energy-efficient models.
- Run full dishwasher loads.

Building Owners

- Many utilities offer energy audits to help businesses identify ways to reduce energy use.
- Install timing devices on lights, vending machines and copiers to power down the machines during times of low use.
- Turn off advertising lights on vending machines; this can save up to \$100 a year on energy costs.
- Install programmable thermostats that adjust the heat depending on time of day and building use.
- Replace incandescent exit lights with three to seven watt LED exit lights. These lights last longer (up to 25 years) and reduce maintenance costs.
- Buy energy-efficient photocopiers and fax machines. These models use half the energy of regular machines and offer a corresponding cost savings.
- 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.
- 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.

For More Information

Idaho Energy Conservation Loan Program provides low-interest loans to businesses to install energy-efficient equipment. For information contact the Idaho Department of Water Resources Energy Division at (208) 327-7900 or visit its web site at www.idwr.state.id.us.

EPA's EnergyStar Program offers interactive tools, software and benchmarking calculators to help businesses evaluate and track energy use. Visit its web site at www.energystar.gov.

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Idaho Department of Water Resources
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Department of Energy
Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center
Energy Ideas

www.deq.idaho.gov
www.idwr.state.id.us
www.epa.gov
www.doe.gov
www.pprc.org
www.energyideas.org

¹ Note: Fluorescent lighting contains mercury and should be recycled or properly disposed. Visit DEQ's on-line recycling directory at www.deq.idaho.gov/waste/recycling/recycle_home.cfm for services in your area.