Plug Load Reduction

Plug load can account for as much up as much as 15% of total electricity use in residential consumption and up to 20% of commercial consumption.[1] Here are a few ideas for reducing our electricity use at home and work:

SHUT IT DOWN & UNPLUG[2]

1. The best way to conserve is to eliminate need: shut down computers at home and work to eliminate energy use while on screen saver or sleep mode. A desktop PC can use as much as 45% of electricity when in 'sleep' mode[3]
2. Unplug charging devices for smartphones and laptops
3. Unplug unnecessary digital clocks and alarms if not in daily use. Clocks are especially energy draining as they require constant power[4]
4. Plug devices into power bar with a "smart strip" or timer
   - Power bars with built-in timers or with auto-shutoff allows users to control power availability
   - Try to group appliances that you use together into the same Smart Strip power bar, it will make shutting off electronics commonly used together an easier task

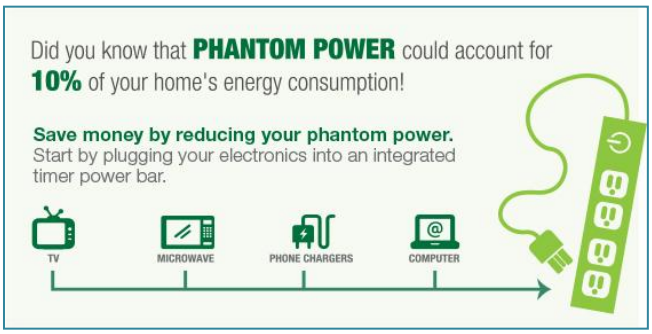
CHOOSE EFFICIENCY

Choosing to purchase energy efficient appliances for your office or home can make a big difference.

An ENERGY STAR® certified product is typically in the top 15 to 30 percent of its class for energy performance.[5]

SAVE ON ENERGY POWER WHAT'S NEXT

Take advantage of SaveOnEnergy online coupons to save on ENERGY STAR® labeled home and office fixtures, such as power bars with built-in timers or with auto-shutoff. Visit: saveonenergy.ca



MORE INFORMATION

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[1] Snell, Essie (2012): Mind the Gap: Taking a Comprehensive Look at Plug Load Energy Use. https://www.esource.com/ES-WP-14/White-Paper/PlugLoads
[2] Image from SaveOnEnergy: Benefits. https://saveonenergy.ca/Consumer/Programs/Instant-Rebates/Benefits---Environment.aspx
[3] Ontario Ministry of Energy: Learn: Phantom Power. http://www.energy.gov.on.ca/en/empowerme/phantom-power/
[4] Enercare: Phantom Power is draining your home's energy and your wallet. https://www.enercare.ca/home/tips-energy-efficiency/article/phantom-power-draining-your-homes-energy-and-your-wallet
[5] Natural Resources Canada: Energy Efficient Products. http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy/products/12509

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