



Electronics Savings Tips from Ameren Missouri

The average home today has many items that fall into the electronics category. For example, most homes have an extensive list, including computers, TVs, CD players, game units and mobile chargers. If you have a home office, the number of electronics typically increases to include a printer, scanner/copier and other business electronics.

No-to-Low Cost Improvements

- Turning off office equipment when not in use. Also, plugging the equipment into a power strip will enable you to avoid "vampire" or "phantom" loads.
- It is a common misperceive that screen savers reduce a monitor's energy use. Use automatic switching to use the sleep mode or simply turn it off.
- Appliances throughout your home continue to draw a small amount of power even when they are turned off. These "vampire loads" occur in most appliances that use electricity, such as DVD players, TVs, stereos, computers and kitchen appliances and more.
- Unplug battery chargers when batteries are fully charged for items such as electronic games, phones, digital cameras, laptops and mobile devices and tools.

Improvements that Require Investments

- Consider buying a laptop for your next computer upgrade; laptops use less energy than desktop computers. Look for the ENERGY STAR® certified label to ensure you are getting an energy efficient laptop.
- When making a new TV purchase, remember plasma TVs use more energy than LEC and LCD televisions. According to ENERGY STAR, TVs are getting larger and can use as much energy as a standard, new refrigerator - roughly 500 kWh every year. On average, ENERGY STAR certified televisions are more than 20% more energy efficient than conventional models.

When it comes to saving energy, your actions matter. For more Energy Tips for your home or business, including rebate and incentive programs, visit Ameren Missouri at www.ActOnEnergy.com.