



## ENERGY CONSERVATION TIPS & IDEAS

### USE YOUR GADGETS WISELY!

#### *Fuel for Thought: Conserving Energy*

##### **Green Your Video Game System**

Did you know that video game systems consume 16 billion kilowatt-hours annually, about the same amount of electricity used to power San Diego for year?

1. **Turn Off the Console When Not in Use**

By simply turning off the video game console, you can save gobs of energy. When left on 24/7/365, some units use as much energy as two modern refrigerators.

2. **Use the Power Saver Mode**

Search your console's menu for the auto-power down or energy-saver mode. Selecting this option will reduce energy use.

3. **Don't Watch Movies on Your Game System**

Watching DVDs on some gaming consoles uses 5 times more power than watching movies on a standard DVD player.

4. **Dispose of Mangled Systems Properly**

If your system breaks and cannot be repaired, never throw the system into the garbage. Most modern video game systems contain toxic chemicals, such as beryllium, bromine and phthalates. Make sure to dispose of it with other hazardous materials. Local used video game stores or fix-it shops may be able to take the broken machine off your hands and reuse materials from it.

More information at:

<http://planetgreen.discovery.com/tech-transport/green-video-game-system.html>

##### **Green Your iPod®**

Get in tune with your iPod®'s energy consumption. Lowering the light level or turning it off altogether during the day will up your battery life significantly, reducing the number of times you have to recharge.

Want to green the energy that powers your iPod®? Invest in a solar charger. It's clean and cheap – you only have to pay once for the charger!

More information at:

<http://planetgreen.discovery.com/tech-transport/green-ipod-tips.html?campaign=daylife-article>

iPod is a registered trademark of Apple, Inc.

## **Green Your Computer**

*For PCs:*

First, right click on the desktop and select Properties. Then turn off your screen saver. The screen saver actually doesn't save energy—it keeps your computer running at full power, rather than slipping to sleep. Next, go to your control panel in the start menu and select power options. Change your settings to allow your computer to go to standby and to shut off your monitor and hard disks when not in use.

*For Mac®:*

Click on the Apple® icon and go to System Preferences. Under Hardware, select Energy Saver. Here you can adjust power supply settings for Better Energy Savings. You can adjust the timing for sleep mode for the computer and monitor similar to the steps for a PC.

*For Notebooks:*

It is also important to use a power save scheme on laptops, which allows you to adjust the screen brightness, display options, and sleep mode timing for further energy savings when you're unplugged from your charger. These settings are also available in the power options area.

### **Extra Steps:**

- Turn your computer off at night.
- Plug components into a power strip so you can cut off all power when not in use.
- For laptops, unplug the charger when the laptop is turned off to prevent vampire power.
- Avoid turning your printer on when you don't need it.

More information at:

<http://planetgreen.discovery.com/tech-transport/green-computer-power-saving.html>

*Tips courtesy of Planet Green.*

Mac and Apple are registered trademarks of Apple, Inc.

## ***Fuel for Thought: Green Ingenuity***

Ignite your imagination by reading about some of the ingenious inventions currently in the works:

Biomimicry: Shark-Inspired "Skin" for Cars Claims to Improve MPG

<http://www.treehugger.com/files/2009/01/biomimicry-skinzwraps-shark-skin-car-wrap-mpg-plus.php>

23 Electric Cars Driving the Revolution

<http://www.treehugger.com/files/2009/01/23-electric-cars-revolution-ev-slideshow-gallery.php>

Green Glossary: Piezoelectricity

Find out how wattage from walking, sprinting and even disco dancing can be channeled into usable energy.

<http://planetgreen.discovery.com/tech-transport/green-glossary-piezoelectricity.html?campaign=daylife-article>

See Innowattech Collect Energy From the Road, In Action

[http://www.treehugger.com/files/2008/12/innowattech-launch.php?dcitc=TH\\_sbr\\_cars](http://www.treehugger.com/files/2008/12/innowattech-launch.php?dcitc=TH_sbr_cars)

Schwinn's Tailwind Bike Uses Exclusive Toshiba Battery Tech (Video)

<http://www.treehugger.com/files/2009/01/ces-2009-schwinn-tailwind-bike-uses-exclusive-toshiba-battery-tech-video.php>

EnviroTeens.com - Bookmark this site and find out how kids your age are getting in on the green movement.

<http://planetgreen.discovery.com/work-connect/green-teens-web.html>



For more resources, visit [www.FuelOurFutureNow.com](http://www.FuelOurFutureNow.com).