

OL.5 NO.3

efferson's Energy Conservation Newsletter

DR. WATTS' BRILLIANT SAVINGS

Pane Management

If you're shopping for new windows, glass doors or skylights, look for the *Energy Star* label. Today's high-efficiency windows are three to four times more energy efficient than windows commonly installed 10 years ago.

Special low-e (emissivity) or spectrally-selective (solar control) coatings greatly reduce the amount of heat that flows through glass so there isn't as much heat lost in winter or gained in summer.

Shop for windows with a minimum "U" value of 0.3. ("U" is a measure of the window's capability to transfer energy.)

What's Up?

Oil prices, that's what. As we go to press, the cost of a barrel of oil is nudging \$52. And analysts maintain that it could go higher.

Well, as oil prices rise, so do gasoline costs. Short of parking the car, walking to the store and taking the train or bus to work, here's a few tips for those times when you must rely on your car:

- If you own more than one vehicle, drive the one that gets the better gas mileage whenever possible.
- Curtail aggressive driving. Speeding, rapid acceleration and rapid braking waste gas and lower mileage by about 33% at highway speeds, according to DOE.
- Inflate tires to the proper setting not only to increase fuel economy, but also to make tires safer and extend their life.
- Use the recommended grade of motor oil to maximize fuel economy. Look for the energy-conserving label that ensures friction-reducing additives inside.

Do you live in New Jersey? Save up to 75% now through November 30 on EnergyStar[®] lighting products at the www.njcleanenergy.com website.

Energy Myths Debunked!

Energy Myth #3: Compact fluorescent lights are those glaring, humming, flickering tubes seen in some offices.

The Facts: There's a whole new generation of compact fluorescent light bulbs that are suited for home use. They screw into the same light socket and produce the same quality of light as an incandescent bulb. Even better, a compact fluorescent light bulb uses 70% less electricity and lasts up to 10 times longer than an incandescent light bulb. Using compact fluorescent bulbs is like putting your money in the bank and earning 50% interest!

GO FOR IT!



CURRENTS

On the Home Front Don't frown over high heating oil costs this winter act now and smile later!!

Getting ready for ol' man winter

Plug energy leaks and stop cold air from infiltrating into your home. Spend an hour or two on a sunny day, enjoying the autumn weather while caulking and weather-stripping all seams, cracks and openings to the outside. This project may seem trivial but you can cut your heating bills by 10%! A crack just 1/4" wide around an average door is about the same size as a 2" x 3" hole in your wall. Also install door sweeps on exterior doors and doors that adjoin unheated spaces, like your garage.

The gift that keeps on giving

And add insulation – starting in your attic. If you have a row home, you may lack a traditional attic but you still have a crawl space above the ceiling on the top floor. Unless this crawl space is insulated, your heating dollars are still being wasted. Look for a small access door in the ceiling on the top floor of your row home. This access door is commonly in a closet. Grab a flashlight, use a good ladder, lift the access panel and poke your head through and see if you have any insulation. If there's no insulation, contact a contractor and get insulation blown into this space. Insulation is the gift that keeps on giving – year in and year out. It has no moving parts and requires no maintenance. All it does is save you money.

Learn how efficient your home is by visiting **www.energystar.gov** and clicking on "Home Energy Analysis." Use their Home Energy Yardstick to find out if your home's energy use is above average.

And finally, remember that many of the countries that supply us with oil are countries with which we are currently embroiled in controversy – from war to heated words. Less oil use by us (everyone of us, huh?) translates directly into less influence and wealth (ours!) for these countries and less dollars for terrorists based in those countries. Action is called for – so caulk, weather-strip, insulate!

* Look for more ideas to cut your heating bill in the winter edition of *Currents*. We'll be discussing things like insulating hot water pipes – measures that you can implement regardless of the weather.

Bright Ideas

May I Have the Envelope, Please? <drum roll> And the Winner is.....



Ron Frank and Ed Blair, Supervisors in the Facilities Services Department, are shown receiving their \$100 awards from Randy Haines, Energy Manager. Their joint suggestion is to cycle the main low pressure steam valves in their buildings to save thousands of dollars per year in steam use. With the high cost of oil and natural gas, this idea comes at a good time.

Savings at Work – Center City Campus			
Apr-June 2004	Budget	Actual	Prior Year Actual
Electricity	\$2,003,000	\$1,956,229	\$1,848,454
Steam	854,200	1,181,924	1,407,729
Water	323,625	311,936	247,139



Don't stop looking for ways to cut energy use around here. We need your input and are counting on you. We're also counting out the bucks – don't forget, we'll be awarding a \$100 bill to that person who submits the best idea for cutting energy use on campus. And, if we have 2 good ideas, well there's nothing in the rules (what rules?) to prevent us from awarding more than one \$100 bill. Winners announced in the winter edition.

Look around your area and observe operations, develop a good idea to lower energy use and then call me, Randy Haines at 503-6099 or email me at randolph.haines@jefferson.edu. Enter the competition and earn some holiday shopping dollars.

The Future

Every day, more solar energy falls on this country than all of the energy used in the United States in an entire year.



