

Some Airmen may think that while living in the dorm, they would have little opportunity to make a impact on an installation's energy bill. To the contrary, daily habits of each dorm resident impact energy usage more than one would think. Collectively residents doing simple things to protect the power can equate to huge savings. For example, Dorm 1346 of Osan Air Base, Korea, was able to save \$52,000 in energy costs during a nine-month Energy Consumption Reduction Competition hosted by the 51st Civil Engineer Squadron. Members fostered an energy awareness culture, which included the five simple tips below.





Turn off lights when not in use or when natural daylight is sufficient.





Turn off power to computers, TVs and all electronic devices when not in use to avoid wasting standby power, which can account for as much as 10 percent of energy use.





Plug multiple devices into a power strip with a surge protector so you can turn them all off with the flip of one switch, while also protecting them from damage.





Use water wisely. Turn water off when not in use, such as while brushing teeth and shaving.





Turn up or down the thermostat by 2 degrees. Each degree that you lower the thermostat can reduce your heating costs by as much as three percent. Dress for the season, and use sweaters and extra blankets when it's cool outside.