



TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM

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A Sustainable Jersey™ Certified Municipality



Chatham Township Environmental Commission (CTEC)
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July 2011 "Go Green" and "\$ave Green"

Even when turned off, most electronic appliances and devices* continue to suck electricity from the wall outlet in your home, school, or office. More surprising is that "chargers" for cell phones, iPods, power tools and other such devices continue to consume electricity even when the device is not attached to the charger.

This wasted energy is significant--both in cost to you and to the environment. The U.S. Department of Energy states that on a national basis, standby power accounts for more than 100 billion kilowatt hours of annual U.S. electricity consumption and more than \$10 billion comes out of our pockets in annual energy costs.

The Department's *Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory* estimated that 10% of the average home electricity bill comes from the energy used by these "energy vampires."

Take the Costly Bite out of these Vampires: Unplug these devices when not in use, or at least at end of day! For convenience, use a power strip for multiple electronics and turn off several devices with one flip of the strip's switch. Also, when you remove your cell phone, iPod, power tool, etc. from a charger, be sure to unplug the charger too. One note about unplugging: some devices have functions such as pre recording or remote recording, clock displays or timers, etc. and they need "standby power" --that is, if you unplug them, they may need to be reprogrammed when you are ready to use them again.

Energy Vampires: Plasma TVs are one of the most costly devices, other vampires included computers, laptops, coffeemakers, microwave ovens, cable and DVR boxes, all types of TVs, VCRs, DVDs, stereos, gaming devices, cell phones, iPods, power tools, and chargers for electronic devices.

For more information: http://www.energysavers.gov/pdfs/energy_savers.pdf page 29 & 30

<http://abcnews.go.com/Business/unplug-energy-vampire-appliances-electronics-stop-standby-power/story?id=14148929>

<http://www.lbl.gov/Publications/energy-breakthroughs.html>

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