



# G Is For Green

Easy-to-use tips, tricks and ideas to save the planet.

September 19, 2008



## HOME EDITION



### 4 Perfectly Painless Home Eco-Fixes

**1. Turn Down Your Water Heater-** Hot water heaters are huge energy and dollar guzzlers. Lowering the temperature on yours from 140 to 120 degrees will reduce your water heating costs by 6 to 10 percent. Give it a try. Many people find that tweaking the dial to save energy and money can become addictive.



**2. Unplug Unused Chargers-** Even when they aren't charging anything, plugged-in cell phone, laptop and other chargers continue to draw electricity. Americans throw away about 8 percent of their annual electric bills this way, wasting billions of dollars. Simply unplug them, or plug them into a surge protector and flip that switch when your device has pulled enough juice.



**3. Install a Programmable Thermostat-** Make your life easier and cut down on potential arguments over the temperature by installing a program-

mable thermostat. It allows much finer control over where the heating is set and always 'remembers' to turn down the heat at night, so the average family will save \$150 a year, according to the EPA.



Programmable models can be had at most home improvement and hardware stores for \$50 to \$100.

They are easy to install with the instructions (or are a very quick task for a professional). Get peace of mind and lower bills.

**4. Turn Off the Tap While You Brush-** Don't let your water dollars and one of nature's most precious resources run down the drain. Just turn off the water while you brush your teeth. The average bathroom faucet flows at a rate of two gallons a minute, according to the EPA's WaterSense initiative. That means you'll save up to 8 gallons of water a day per person.



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