



Recycling and
Environmental
Action
Planning
Society

Greening Your Office

...one tip at a time!

We care about the environment and we know you do too. Your office is a great place to make little changes that make a big difference. Here are some ideas to help you do just that. Provided monthly by R.E.A.P.S., we hope they inspire you to create change!

GREEN TIP #65:

September 2015

Power-Save with your Computer

The typical office environment consists of many machines operating all at once in a day—printers, fax machines, scanners, copiers—but computers are usually our greatest energy wasting devices in the work environment. Not because of how they are used in the office, but because of their lack of use outside of office hours.



Given that the typical office day lasts from mid-morning until late afternoon/early evening, it is surprising that most computers are left on for the duration of the time spent away. Evenings and weekends are the biggest culprits of unnecessary power consumption for computers. Further to the environmental consequences, this may be a major financial cost that can be very simply eliminated.

The best way to mitigate this is to set and monitor the power settings on a computer. Every modern computer has in place a number of optional power settings. The “Eco” mode will help your computer operate at a method that is best for the environment. If this is not feasible, power settings can be manually set to fit individual needs. The most important element of these power settings is that ensuring that computers that are left on during the evenings and weekends turn off automatically if left for a set period of time. Furthermore, that when left for an extended period of time during the day, that the computer enters a “power saving” hibernation state, that consumes less power than if the machine was left running in a normal state.



Do you have any questions or suggestions? Call or email us at green_solutions@reaps.org!