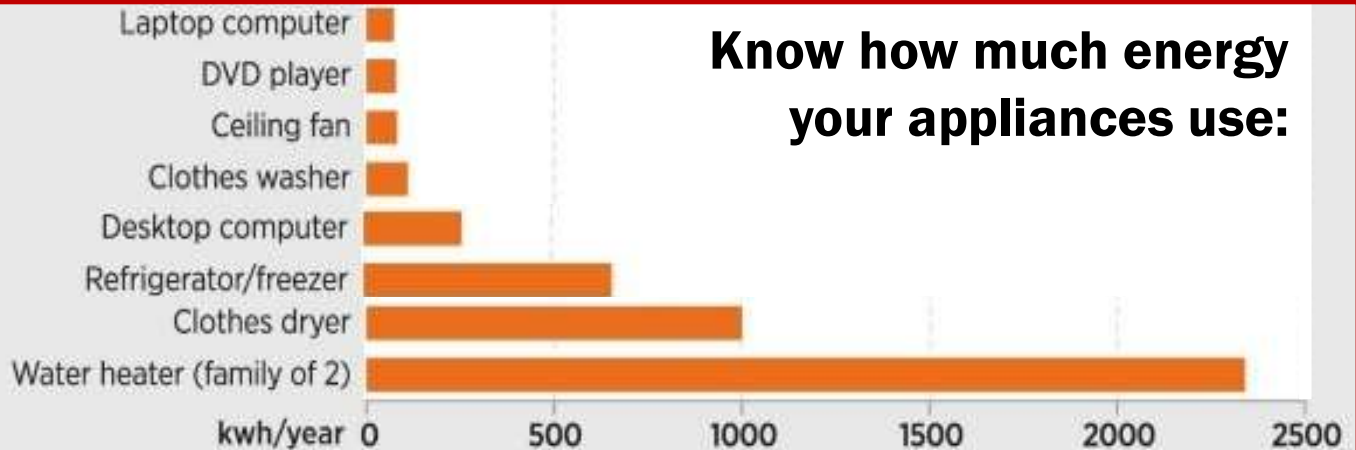


In March

TASK OF THE MONTH

Be energy smart

TIPS for electrifying our homes



Know how much energy your appliances use:

Water heaters can use about 20% of a home's energy, so upgrading has a high impact. Time to replace? Install an **EnergyStar®** heat pump water heater.



Set your **refrigerator** to 35°F to 38°F, your freezer to 0°F.

<https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/refrigerator-freezer-use-and-temperature-tips>

And don't block the air flow!



Replacing your refrigerator? Consider size & compare **EnergyStar®** scores.



Want to know *exactly* how much energy your appliances or electronics are using?

Borrow an **energy monitor** from the Kirkwood branch of the Monroe County Public Library's "Library of Things" to measure how much energy each is using.

Save energy on lighting:

LEDs use less energy and last longer than CFLs, so there is less waste. They do not contain toxic mercury and turning off & on doesn't reduce their life like with CFLs.

But LED features & quality vary:

Color temperature (in Kelvin)

- Warmer (2700K) for living areas.
- Whiter (3000K) for work areas.

Read the labels

Look for a Color Rendering Index (CRI) in the 80s to 90s for better quality of light. Brightness is listed with incandescent equivalents and compare efficiency ratings.

Use surge protector strips to shut off **electronics** when not in use.



Earth Care Bloomington

<http://www.earthcareindiana.org/>

Questions: contact@earthcareindiana.org

