



GREEN YOUR DORM

Follow these steps to make your living space more sustainable!

Reduce Energy

- Switch off the lights** in unoccupied rooms.
- Make use of **natural light** during the day.
- Replace incandescent bulbs with **LEDs**, which can last more than 40 times longer and use **90% less electricity**.
- Plug electronics into a **power strip** and switch off the power when they are not in use; some electronics continue to draw energy even after they're turned off.
- Enable **sleep mode** (vs. a screen saver) on your computer, and turn off your monitor when it's not in use.
- Keep **windows closed** when the heat is on (if it is still uncomfortable, call Facilities Customer Service at 8-8000).
- Adjust the temperature** if you have a thermostat. [Princeton's Energy Management](#) guidelines specify heating rooms to 68°F degrees in the winter and cooling rooms to 78°F degrees in the summer.
- Look for the [Energy Star](#) when purchasing appliances and electronics.
- Bike to class and around campus, and always wear a helmet!

[View Princeton's Energy Progress!](#)

Save Water

- Don't let the water run.** Turning a showerhead on before you get in or letting a faucet run while you brush your teeth can waste more than a gallon every minute.
- Take **fewer and shorter** showers. The average 15 minute shower uses 22.5 gallons of water; a 25 minute shower uses nearly 40 gallons. And shorter showers also mean you can wake up later!
- Report any leaks.** Drippy faucets can waste more than 3,000 gallons each year; a leaky toilet can waste about 200 gallons each day. To report a leak, call Facilities Customer Service at 8-8000 or go to the [Princeton Facilities website](#).
- Wash only **full loads of laundry**; each washer load uses ~40 gallons of water. **Air dry** your clothes to save energy.

[View Princeton's Water Progress!](#)

Reduce Waste and Increase Recycling

- Carry a **reusable** water bottle or mug. Find your closest [Drink Local](#) station.
- Buy **second-hand** furniture, books, and clothing for big savings. Search [Free and For Sale](#), [Tiger-Trade](#) and [University Surplus](#) for deals on books, furniture, electronics and more.
- Follow the [Recycling Guidelines](#) and recycle plastic (#1 - #7), paper, cans, bottles, and more!
- Donate** to end-of-the-year drives (books, food, furniture, and school supplies). Trash increases significantly at the end of each academic year.
- Reduce paper use by only **printing double-sided**. Princeton uses 100% post-consumer, chlorine-free recycled printer paper, certified by the [Forest Stewardship Council](#).

[View Princeton's Waste Progress!](#)

Shop Greener

- Opt for **natural and organic** food, personal care products, textiles (i.e. bedding and towels) and cleaners.
- Choose **reusables** over disposables for dishware, silverware, shopping bags, mugs and water bottles. Campus cafés offer discounts to people who bring their own mugs and you can refill with [filtered tap water](#) instead of buying bottled water. Use your reusable spork to avoid disposable plastic utensils.
- Support environmentally-conscious companies**. Prioritize products that contain safer, natural ingredients.
- Shop for clothing in **consignment or thrift stores**. Local stores include [Greene Street](#) and [Jane Consignment](#).
- Decorate with **live plants** to help filter indoor air pollutants. View a [list of common houseplants](#) that have been found to be effective in cleaning indoor air.

[View Princeton's Purchasing Progress!](#)

Have suggestions? Contact us at sustain@princeton.edu