

Energy & Waste Watcher December 2006



Electronic resource conservation and recycling newsletter for state agency resource coordinators



DAS Buildings Savings Update

State agencies are required to reduce their nonrenewable energy use by at least 10% from the amount used by the agency in the 2000 calendar year. **Usage and cost is reported per month.** Electricity is reported in kilowatt-hours (kWh) and gas in therms. This data is not adjusted for weather or any other factors.

The % column is combined electric and gas savings in Btu's compared to the year 2000 usage. **The % Change is reported year-to-date for 2006.**

August and September 2006:

	Billed Electricity (kWh)	Billed Fuel (MBtu)	Billed Cost \$	YTD % Change
Agriculture:	179,319	778	\$ 14,840	-36%
Albina:	99,727	7	6,190	-38%
Archives:	217,727	3,283	20,100	-21%
Blind Commission:	58,732	221	5,181	-9%
Burns Data: ⇨	84,609	---	4,733	---
Central Data Cntr: ◇	833,669	701	57,365	---
Central Point:	98,899	499	6,184	-15%
Commerce:	59,317	91	4,884	-45%
Employment:	537,700	---	38,481	-7%
Executive:	170,155	42	13,744	-19%
General Services	129,982	0	10,901	-21%
GS Annex:	9,366	0	793	-8%
Human Services:	732,973	1230	54,383	-24%
L&I:	511,518	218	37,474	-20%
Library: ◇	65,604	0	4,612	---
NMOB:	255,983	0	19,791	-13%
Pndltm (old) SOB:	51,027	109	3,304	-10%
Pndltm (new) SOB:	89,801	2,721	8,548	+24%
PDX Crime: ⇨	260,751	1,236	19,436	---
PDX SOB:	499,972	520	37,138	-21%
PDX MP:	32,042	23	2,702	-37%
Print Plant:	336,820	152	24,416	-12%
Property Dist:	56,756	17	3,573	-9%
Public Service:	416,562	163	30,507	-12%
Public Utility:	272,916	131	20,946	-16%
Real Estate:	36,557	148	3,221	-13%
Revenue:	995,631	10,568	78,625	-21%
Salem MP:	69,830	95	5,476	-25%
Springfield MP:	17,386	2	921	---
TOTAL:	7,181,331	22,955	\$ 538,469	

KEYS:

- ◇ New/ renovated buildings: Library, Central Data Center. Baseline adjustments required.
- ⇨ Buildings experiencing extenuating circumstances causing them not to meet the energy usage reduction goals: PDX Crime and the Burns Data Warehouse.

'Phantom' Power Load

Those tiny glowing LEDs and associated standby activities in your microwave, cordless phone, TV, DVD, etc., are estimated to cost more than a billion dollars annually in the US. The EPA estimate that a whopping 75% of energy used in the average home comes from appliances that are thought to be 'turned off'. In fact, they're only in 'standby' mode. TVs, phones and computers seem to be the worst offenders.

Cable and video-game boxes, DVD players, and other electronics can use as much energy in "standby mode" as a 75-watt light bulb that's left on. If a device offers an "off" option for standby lights, use it. Otherwise, try plugging electronics into a power strip, which you can turn off.

How many times have you left your cell-phone charger plugged in, even when your phone is not? Wall chargers for things like iPods and cameras suck energy out of the socket, even when not attached to their mates. Read more details at:

- <http://www.slate.com/id/2151798/>
- http://www.treehugger.com/files/2004/11/ecotip_home_app.php

Basic Fresh Tree Rules

Check the condition of the needles—fresh needles bend rather than break with gentle pressure. Shake the tree gently — losing needles may mean the tree is too dry and could be dangerous.

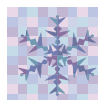
Check the cut end of the trunk. A fresh tree should be sticky with sap rather than smooth and dry. Trim the end of the trunk before placing it in water.

Keep your tree away from heat sources, such as a heat duct or television. Check the water level. If the water level drops below the trunk, a seal will form, preventing the tree from absorbing water.

Recycle your tree. Mulch your tree for the garden or watch for recycling collection options in your area.

Never burn a Christmas tree in the fireplace. Trees are fire hazards, as the pitch content in the bark and needles can cause them to burst into flames from the intense heat.

- <http://www.americanforests.org/news/display.php?id=96>



It was so cold we had to chop up the piano for firewood but only got two chords.

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