**-----------------------------------------ARTICLE 1----------------------------------------------**

**Title : Save electricity, Save money and the planet**

**1. Reduce your “water footprint” to save electricity**

There are a variety of small steps you can take to lessen your carbon footprint while simultaneously conserving our fresh water. In the process, you can even shave some money off of your yearly electricity bill! One perfect example of how you can get started is by taking shorter showers and even looking into purchasing a low-flow showerhead. There are websites, such as this one, that can help you determine how much money you are currently spending on water and energy. Let’s work through an example together. If we have an electric water heater and take a warm 10 minute shower each day for a year with a showerhead that uses 2.5 gallons per minute (today’s average) at a cost of $0.12 per kWh, we could expect that electricity cost to be around $500 for a year.

Now, you aren’t going to believe this! For as little as $8 you can purchase a highly reviewed low-flow showerhead, which would reduce the amount of water your showers used per minute to 1.25 gallons. The truly shocking thing is that installing this type of shower-head can save you around $250 on your electricity bill! Considering it’s only an $8 purchase, you would definitely be getting more than your money’s worth. To top it off, you would also be saving somewhere in the range of 5,000 gallons of water and 2,500 pounds of CO2 emissions each year! You might be thinking to yourself, the savings sound great and all, but I don’t know how to install something like that. Have no fear, youtube is here.

**2. Switch to a “smart thermostat”**

You may or may not know this, but according to the US Department of Energy heating and cooling alone account for nearly half of a home’s energy costs! Luckily, there is a simple step you can take to help reduce this cost as well as your home’s CO2 emissions.

The most obvious way is to lower your desired temperature during the winter and leave it a bit higher during the summer - putting less strain on your heating and cooling system. However, as you and I both know, it is very easy to forget to do this on a regular basis. We lead busy lives, and it’s likely that thinking about altering the temperature on the thermostat for future energy savings is not the first thing on our minds. Wouldn’t it be great if our thermostat could pay attention to this for us? Though it might sound outside the realm of possibility, there are thermostats (“smart” thermostats) that can do this! Smart thermostats offer a variety of benefits. Even the most basic models are highly efficient, and more expensive models offer features such as the ability to be programmed from your phone and motion sensors that can learn your schedule and adjust accordingly when no one is home.

Making the switch from a manual thermostat to a smart one can save you upwards of $180 a year in energy costs and would reduce your home’s CO2 output by about 1800 lbs! Considering the fact that you can buy a good one for around $170, that means you would already be saving money during the first year after installation. There are a plethora of models available in a wide range of prices- all with different features. It is wise to read Amazon reviews and do some Internet searching before settling on what model is best for your home. Don’t forget to make sure that the model you have chosen works with your heating and cooling system! And, if installing the thermostat is a bit intimidating, you might want to consider hiring a contractor.

**3. Hang-drying laundry**

Hang drying your laundry is another great way to save electricity and money all while lessening your impact on the environment; it also has the added benefit of prolonging your clothes’ lifetimes and doesn’t require a huge investment!

A dryer usually takes about 3.3 kilowatts per hour of energy; this equates to about 11 cents per kilowatt of energy. On average, a small load of laundry takes 45 minutes to dry, and knowing the earlier statistic, we can then assume that this costs somewhere around 0.36$- which doesn’t even include the cost of fresheners, softener sheets, and other laundry items. This means that cutting out using the dryer once a day for an entire year would save you at least $130! It is also important to note that the amount of CO2 released burning the coal needed to run your dryer for a single year would be about 1,300 pounds!

Luckily, many of us can turn toward an option like hang drying. There are a plethora of benefits associated with making the switch to this method, such as a smaller electrical bill and fresher, comfier clothing. There are estimates that clothes drying accounts for 6% of domestic energy use, and as we’ve already demonstrated, making the switch to hang drying will have a profound affect on your savings and the environment. Making this switch can also help you avoid the negative side effects of shrinking clothes, bacteria, and stiffness by allowing the sun to cleanse and dry them. Your clothes will be cleaner, smell better, feel softer, and last longer!

You don’t even need many tools to get started on the path to hang-drying your laundry. Essentially, all you need is a place to hang them from and maybe some clothespins! Depending on the amount of space you have, you can use either a clothesline (with clothespins) or drying rack. If you’re short on space, considering investing in a good drying rack; you can find highly reviewed options for less than $30! There are also many things you can do to make hang drying your clothing simpler. For instance, giving your clothes a good shake before hanging them out to dry will prevent wrinkles and reduce the time needed to dry. It is also a good idea to hang T-shirts on a hanger to avoid having to iron them later. In the rare instance that you need something cleaned too quickly for hang-drying, make sure to use the spin feature on your washer before putting it in the dryer, as this will absorb water from the clothes and save electricity used by the drying machine.

**4. Use motion-sensor light switches**

Many people think that leaving lights on if you’re not going to be gone for a long time is cost-effective and reduces your carbon footprint. Though there is some truth to this, the reality is that people often forget they’ve left the lights on and end up losing money as well as making a larger environmental dent; any time you forget to turn off the lights after a period of over 24 minutes, you’re on the losing side. The US Department of Energy actually recommends switching lights off if you will be gone for longer than 15 minutes but leaving them on if it will be less. Though this advice is sound, it becomes useless if you forget to turn the lights off. However, if you have a motion sensor lightbulb, you can simply program it to turn off if there is no activity detected after a time frame of 15 minutes!

Motion sensor lightbulbs offer many benefits. For example, they are simple to install, come in a wide range of costs, and can be set to turn off after however many minutes you’d like. They can save electricity by 35-45% and save your household a substantial amount of money. On top of these benefits, they can help you lessen your carbon footprint and do your part to protect our environment.

There are online calculators that you can use to find out how much money using your particular lights costs. By looking at the watt rating of the bulb you can tell how much energy it consumes per hour. You can then multiply this by the amount of money you are charged by your electricity company.

Consider this: if a room has 4 60 watt lightbulbs that are on for about 8 hours a day at a cost of $0.12/kWh, the cost would be about $21.03. However, if this room installed motion sensor lightbulbs, electricity usage would be reduced by an average of 35-45%, and the new cost to keep the room lit would be between $11.56 and $13.67. The average home has around 40 lightbulbs, which means you could easily save around $70 per year! Imagine how much of an impact this would have if implemented throughout your entire home!

This change would net you a reduced CO2 output of around 700 lbs per year, which definitely makes a difference. Though you have to spend money to start, there’s no need to worry! Using motion sensor light switches actually let's you save electricity and money over time, all while lessening your carbon footprint!

**5. Go green in the kitchen with your microwave**

There are also some simple steps you can take while cooking to help reduce your carbon footprint. Firstly, keep in mind the fact that using an oven requires a substantial amount of energy and results in high CO2 emissions; for instance, a meal that requires 1 hour to cook in an electric oven would expend 2.7lbs of CO2. Using a slow cooker is often a more environmentally friendly alternative, as they expend only about 0.9lbs of CO2 over the course of seven hours. When cooking in the oven, it is also important to try and make multiple things at once; that way you will be utilizing the CO2 it releases to the best of your ability! The most environmentally friendly meals however, are those that can be eaten cold. For example, salads and chilled soups can be put together with minimal CO2 emissions, as they do not need to be heated or cooked.

**7. Save electricity at work**

Whether you are a business owner or employee, think of ways you can reduce your company’s total carbon emissions. There are many benefits associated with this, including increased employee morale, financial savings, and enhanced brand. Right now, business travel and commuting alone account for about 20% of emissions in UK.

However, there are many simple steps your business could take to go green. It is great to start out by identifying how much Carbon your company consumes. If hiring an expert is too expensive, you can rely on free applications, like Office Footprint Calculator, to find out. This can help you identify the areas your company most needs to improve in.

From there, take small steps toward a greener workplace. A perfect example would be replacing CFL lightbulbs with LED ones. Depending on the amount and type of lightbulbs your company uses, savings will vary. There are some fantastic resources you can use to find out how much money your business would save by switching to LED lights based off of lights currently in use. A good example is this LED Savings Calculator. Though it might sound like a costly endeavor at first, in actuality, choosing to do so will save electricity and money for the company in the long run! There is also the added benefit of knowing that an energy saving LED bulb has reduced carbon emissions of about 13kg per hour when lit. Even a small company, with only 50 60 watt lightbulbs, would save around $300 and 3,000 lbs of CO2 a year if LED lights were installed!

**8. Make greener choices during the winter months**

There are quite a few habits we can let ourselves get into during the winter time that are not the best for our environment. It is wise to keep the temperature at a constant 22-23°C and lower it by about 5-10°C at night and when the house is unoccupied. This simple change can reduce the amount of natural gas you are relying on by 6.5% and lower your electricity consumption by 0.8%. Even if the house is still a bit colder than you would like, you can always layer up! Resisting the urge to crank up the heat will reduce your carbon footprint and, depending on your average energy usage, you could predict to see as much as a 6.5% decrease on the amount of money you spend on natural gas for the year.

On another note, it is important to know that the winter cold does not make composting impossible! Though many of us might be in the habit of throwing away uneaten food or other sources of organic material, it is best when we don’t. Doing so causes the landfill to reach maximum capacity much more quickly and releases the dangerous greenhouse gas, Methane, into our atmosphere. In 2007, Canadians wasted about 183kg of solid food per person, which resulted in 680kg of greenhouse gas emissions per person. If you normally compost, don’t allow the winter weather to get in your way, and if you don’t already compost, consider investing in a bin! You could place it near your home in order to avoid having to walk through the harsh weather. There are even a variety of articles, such as this one, that can walk you through the process of creating your own composter from either materials that you might have lying about or things you can buy from your local store for cheap.

Talk to us, Our experts can guide you best at your convenience call Utility Deals at 03301 247 333 / mail us at : [info@utility-deals.com](mailto:info@utility-deals.com)

Utility Deals is a leading independent Energy Consultants with over 40 years of combined experience in the Utility industry and have over 50 suppliers in the UK. We strongly believe that our customers should not have to worry about Utilities whilst they are focusing on their business or personal life. That is why here at Utility Deals we prefer to have a face-to-face meeting with our clients, sourcing great deals, helping them to switch over with no hassle and provide them an excellent customer service.

For more details visit us at : <https://www.utility-deals.com>

**----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------ARTICLE 2-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

**Title : Switching Energy Providers Guide**

Nowadays, UK Citizen's have a pile of motivations to look for another vitality supplier, especially as market deregulation has given clients the opportunity to get up and leave in the event that they're unsatisfied with their present arrangement or retailer. Albeit numerous family units may consider exchanging vitality organizations eventually, there's normally a touch of disarray around to what extent the procedure takes, just as the charges in question.

At Utility Deals, we plan to eliminate any confusion air and demystify any regular misinterpretations of changing power or gas suppliers. Along these lines, regardless of whether you're moving house and looking for a new beginning or you need to discover what else is out there, perusing this guide is your most logical option to discovering greatest incentive in your next vitality plan.

The most effective method to switch power suppliers in 10 basic advances, A suggestion to Switch Energy Provider composed on a note card .

* Survey your present arrangement's leave expenses
* Set up your vitality needs
* Think about arrangements in your general vicinity
* Switch vitality suppliers
* Your old vitality supplier may get in touch with you
* Get an invite pack from your new retailer
* A last meter perusing will happen
* Your new vitality supplier will be in contact
* Access any extraordinary highlights of your arrangement
* Don't simply set and overlook

Confused with all the above, Don’t worry we are here. Call Utility Deals at : 03301 247 333 / mail us at : info@utility-deals.com

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**----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------ARTICLE 3-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

**Title : Lockdown and Staying indoors? Shave your bills !!**

There are as yet numerous approaches to set aside cash however a large number of us are for the most part stuck inside.

Family vitality bills are probably going to ascend as a great many Britons attempt to make the best of generally being stuck inside for years to come. Yet, there are a lot of things you can do to monitor your expenses during the lockdown.

Discount vitality costs have fell in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, pushing down the expense of new arrangements which means individuals sitting on expensive standard gas and power levies could set aside to £380 every year by exchanging.

Numerous homes that would ordinarily have been to a great extent void during the day are presently a hive of action as individuals telecommute, self-separate and attempt to fight off weariness. Grown-ups and kids will utilize more vitality therefore.

Hotter climate and lighter nights will make life simpler and should mean a decrease in gas and power use. Utility Deals Energy Comparison algorithm predicts that stuck-at-home families on poor-esteem, standard variable gas and power arrangements could wind up spending an extra £16 every month on vitality – proportionate to £195 per year.

In any case, specialists state there are heaps of ways we can lessen our electric & gas costs.

Turning the indoor regulator somewhere near 1C can spare £75 to £80 every year.

Try not to leave anything connected, or on, that isn't being utilized. A few apparatuses, for example, refrigerators clearly should be kept on constantly, however numerous others are left on that don't should be, and this foundation power use is known as ghost load, says the home vitality sparing help Loop. It named the absolute greatest offenders as set-top boxes (a flawed or unused one simply staying there could cost more than £75 every year whenever left on reserve); unused refrigerators and coolers; and work stations.

For many individuals, lockdown implies loads of cuppas. In any case, ensure you fill the pot just with the water you need. The modest pot eats up about 6% of all the power provided to British homes. A year prior, Guardian Money told how a college teacher had assessed that, just by filling the pot accurately, the normal UK family unit could shave £19 off their yearly bill.

"The least expensive vitality bargains have dropped drastically. This implies clients have a brilliant lucky opening right presently to chase out astonishing arrangements. Numerous providers don't compensate steadfastness, so don't anticipate that a decent arrangement should come to you," says Mark Todd, the fellow benefactor of Utility Deals.

The least expensive arrangements are right now 16-18% lower than this time a year ago. So anybody falling off a fixed arrangement will have the option to spare by exchanging once more. Those with the most to pick up are the millions on a standard variable gas and power levy, presumably with one of the large six providers.

It was a little more than a year back that the administration's vitality value top became effective. This is a top on the value that people pay for vitality on the off chance that they are on a standard variable levy or one they have not picked – known as a default duty. These are generally the most essential bundles offered by vitality organizations, and will in general apply on the off chance that you have not looked for a superior arrangement.

Confused with all the above jargons, Don’t worry we are here. Call Utility Deals at 03301 247 333 / email us at : info@utility-deals.com

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