

ENERGY STAR Update
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
November 5, 2013

EPA Celebrates ENERGY STAR Day by Encouraging Consumers to “Do 1 Thing ENERGY STAR”

On this, the second annual ENERGY STAR Day, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency celebrates the many individuals and organizations throughout the country who have helped protect the climate by saving energy, and challenges all Americans to “Do 1 Thing ENERGY STAR.”

To date, more than 3.2 million Americans have taken the ENERGY STAR Pledge, making individual commitments to energy saving purchases and actions in their homes that represent a total of \$1.2 billion in reduced energy costs and 15 billion pounds of prevented greenhouse gas emissions. ENERGY STAR partners have worked all year to raise awareness about energy efficiency.

- The Boys and Girls Clubs of America and Parent Teacher Organization Today engaged more than 115,000 young people and their families as members of Team ENERGY STAR, teaching kids across the country about saving energy and protecting the climate. As part of this effort, Boys and Girls Club members put together a book titled, “Tales from Team ENERGY STAR: How Boys and Girls Club Members Joined the Epic Fight to Protect the Climate”, filled with inspiring stories, artwork, and poems about saving energy and helping the planet.
- Tens of thousands of young people across the country participated in this year’s Team ENERGY STAR Challenge by submitting energy-saving stories and pledges as well as competing to win the challenge through social media. Congratulations to the following winners: Tammi L. – Douglasville, Ga; Maggie S. – Traverse City, MI; Linda B. – Cecil, WI; Amber C. – Mount Olivet, KY; Christopher G. – Clinton Town, MI.
- Thousands of organizations showcased energy efficiency-focused, grass-roots events on the [ENERGY STARs Across America map](#). EPA’s online map allows people across the country to learn about saving energy through events in their own backyard – everything from consumer education to home makeover events supporting families and others after hurricanes Katrina and Sandy.

It is not too late to make a difference in the fight against climate change -- Do 1 Thing ENERGY STAR today. From changing a light to an ENERGY STAR certified bulb, to sealing and insulating your home to reduce drafts and improve comfort, to power managing your computer – there is something for everyone. To help make it easy, EPA will be featuring an energy-saving tip each week on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). This week’s idea is to change a light: if everyone changed just one bulb to an ENERGY STAR certified model, we would save enough energy to light 3 million homes for one year -- a savings of more than \$680 million in annual energy costs and 9 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions.

Established in 1992, ENERGY STAR is a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) voluntary program that helps people across America make the best choices to save energy, save money, and fight climate change – at home, at work, in their businesses, and in their communities. Products, homes and buildings that earn the ENERGY STAR label prevent greenhouse gas emissions by meeting strict energy efficiency requirements set by the U.S. EPA. In 2012 alone, Americans, with the help of ENERGY STAR, saved \$24 billion on their utility bills and prevented greenhouse gas emissions equal to those of 41 million vehicles. From the first ENERGY STAR qualified computer in 1992, the ENERGY STAR label can now be found on products in more than 65 different categories, with more than 4.5 billion sold over the past 20 years. Over 1.4 million new homes and 20,000 office buildings, schools and hospitals have earned the ENERGY STAR label.