

PLEASE POST!

Please help the District reduce utility use! As an environmental steward you will be a good role model and help to protect our communities and our health.

Remember, **communication is essential for effective change!** Principals, custodians, and staff should always work together to conserve resources.

Reduce **ELECRICITY** Use!

Reduce redundant lighting:

- Look carefully at your outdoor lighting! There may be large panels of lights that are needed during dark mornings but not in the afternoon. Check to see that outdoor lighting is off during daylight hours
- Places like the lunchroom and library probably don't need the lights on when there is nobody there. Be sure lights are off before and after regular school hours.
- Check the lighting near windows. You may be able to turn off an entire bank of lights if there is enough illumination coming from the windows. If it is dark in the morning and gets brighter in the afternoon, turn off the lights when you no longer need them.
- Limit or discontinue the use of personal electrical appliances like mini-fridges and space heaters.

Reduce **NATURAL GAS** Use!

Get comfortable in rooms at 68° heating and 76° cooling:

- Dress appropriately for the seasons! In the winter, dress warmly in thick socks, a sweater, and a scarf. In the fall and spring, wear thinner clothes or short sleeves that allow your body to cool down.
- Make sure that your thermostats are working properly and never try to "fool" them into thinking it's cooler or warmer than it is. This can cause the thermostats to break which will leave you without heat/cooling until they can be fixed!
- Ask parents to dress their children appropriately. Layering helps to moderate temperature.

Reduce **WATER & SEWER** Use!

Eliminate unnecessary water consumption:

- Report leaky or constantly running faucets and toilets immediately!
- Remember that there should be virtually no water use when the building is unoccupied. Check the meter when you leave at night and again in the morning to watch out for leaky pipes.
- Only irrigate when necessary! Most vegetation does not need to be watered every day and will rarely need to be watered during our rainy winter months.
- Turn off the hot water circulating pumps (if you have any questions please contact Mike Kennedy, Mechanical Coordinator)

Reduce **DEMAND!**

Eliminate spikes in Demand:

- Demand is charged based on your maximum electricity use at a given time, whether you use that maximum amount for 15 minutes or 15 days. To reduce demand, don't start up everything at the same time (turn on lights, heat, etc.). Instead, stagger these things so you don't create a spike in demand. We suggest you consult the District for ways that your facility can reduce demand.

Each facility is different from the next and will use utilities differently. Some resource use may be centrally controlled. **For customized ways to reduce consumption at YOUR facility, contact Nicole Riss at 206-252-0599 or nariss@seattleschools.org.**