

Byron Shire Energy Saving Challenge

The average Byron resident uses around 7-10 kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity every day. Your challenge is a target of... ***less than 5kWh per person, per day!***



Step 1. Read your bill to find out your daily average

Step 2. Take steps to reduce your consumption

Step 3. Compare your most recent power bills

CALCULATE YOUR DAILY CONSUMPTION

- Your energy bill provides you with this information. It is usually located on the graph at the top of page 2.

APPLIANCES

- Switch appliances off instead of leaving them on 'stand-by'. This can slash your energy bill by up to 10%.
- Make energy efficiency a top priority when you're purchasing products, appliances and equipment. You can search and compare appliances at www.energysavings.gov.au
- Air or sun-dry clothes rather than using a dryer.

LIGHTING

- Switch them off. It's that simple.
- Install energy saving globes.
- Minimise the use of downlights. They are energy hungry and hang around in packs.

RENEWABLE ENERGY FROM THE GRID

- Switch to Green Power. Contact your electricity supplier and ask them to source your electricity from renewable sources such as solar, wind, biomass and hydro. For more information go to www.greenpower.nsw.gov.au

HOT WATER

- Replace your old electric hot water system with a solar hot water system. Water heating is typically the biggest energy user in NSW homes. Rebates apply.

REFRIGERATION

- Resist the urge to run a second fridge or freezer. Turn it on for busy holiday periods if necessary.
- Keep the coils at the back of the fridge clean and well ventilated to improve efficiency.
- Consider replacing your old fridge. They can consume twice the energy of a new fridge.

HEATING AND COOLING

- Every 1°C difference in temperature adds 10% to heating/cooling costs and greenhouse emissions.
- Use the heater or air-conditioner as a last resort, and then only sparingly.
- Don't cool below 25°C in summer or heat above 21°C in winter.
- Add extra insulation to walls and ceilings, and keep cooler by using external shading such as eaves, awnings, shutters or trees to reduce heat gain by as much as 80%. Rebates apply.