

Top tips for saving energy

Try one of these simple energy-saving tips to conserve resources and reduce energy bills at your leisure centre.

Leisure centres could save **£70m** a year by making a 10% improvement in how they manage energy.*

Heating and hot water

Heating can account for as much as 60% of a leisure centre's energy bills, so it's a good place to start when looking for ways to save energy.

- ▶ 1°C of overheating can increase fuel costs by 8%**, so look for ways to conserve heat wherever possible.
- ▶ Tell your energy manager or facilities team if any areas are too hot, cold or draughty. This could indicate a maintenance problem.
- ▶ If you do override the heating or air conditioning controls, remember to correct it later, and to tell the energy or facilities manager.
- ▶ Check taps aren't left running – and report any dripping taps and overflowing cisterns to the energy or facilities manager.

DID YOU KNOW? Turning the thermostat up to its maximum setting doesn't warm up the space any faster; it just leads to overheating.

Lighting

Lighting typically makes up about 25% of an organisation's electricity bill*, so look for savings here too.

- ▶ Switch off lights in rooms that aren't in use – and tell others to do so too.
- ▶ Speak to your energy manager about getting some reminder stickers to put on light switches and appliances in staff and public areas.
- ▶ Report any faulty or inadequate lighting to your energy or facilities manager.

DID YOU KNOW? If you turn off a light for just a few seconds, it saves more energy than it takes for the light to start up again.

Appliances

Gym, office and catering equipment all use energy, but you can be smart about how you use appliances.

- ▶ Don't leave appliances in standby mode; they're still using power! Check with the gym or facilities manager which equipment can be turned off outside opening hours.
- ▶ Encourage the public to help save energy too, by getting them to report any problems around site to the manager.
- ▶ Turn off vending machines at night – if possible – to save up to £120 a year on energy alone.†
- ▶ Make sure that you use any power-saving settings available on your computer and turn it off outside hours. A computer left on 24/7 costs around £53 a year.††

DID YOU KNOW? Switching off your computer at night and weekends reduces its cost to around £11 a year and saves the equivalent amount of energy required to make more than 30,000 cups of coffee!††

Talk to us! Report any lighting or heating problems to:

Inspired by EDF Energy's schools programme. Find out more at jointhepod.org