

Purchasing Energy Star Rated Electronics & Appliances

BACKGROUND

ENERGY STAR is a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency voluntary program that helps businesses and individuals save money and protect our climate through superior energy efficiency. ENERGY STAR is a joint program "established at the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency a voluntary program to identify and promote energy-efficient products and buildings in order to reduce energy consumption, improve energy security, and reduce pollution through voluntary labeling of or other forms of communication about products and buildings that meet the highest energy efficiency standards."¹

ENERGY STAR labels products in the following office product categories: Computers, monitors, displays, copiers, fax machines, mailing machines, printers, scanners, all-in-ones, and water coolers.
EPA maintains a complete list of ENERGY STAR labeled products.

BENEFITS

According to ENERGY STAR, the following benefits may be achieved through the purchase and installation of ENERGY STAR-qualified products²:

- ✓ Reduced energy use of 10-75 percent, without compromising quality or performance.
- ✓ Changing the behaviors of your tenants, employees, and customers can help you save energy and money.
- ✓ Employees want to work somewhere with a good environmental record.
- ✓ Consumers prefer to do business with environmentally responsible companies.
- ✓ [Read more](#) about the benefits of purchasing ENERGY STAR rated electronics.

CHALLENGES

There are few down sides to purchasing Energy Star appliances besides high up-front costs, and these high upfront costs are almost always offset by the long-term energy saving benefits of Energy Star appliances. Even so, take your time to research the Energy Star appliances that will help support your organization most in transitioning to more sustainable products.

GBCSC MEMBERS ADOPTING THIS PRACTICE

- CBS Corporation
- Hewlett Packard
- Ready Refresh by Nestle
- Office Depot Inc.
- Orange Unified School District
- The Walt Disney Company

FINANCING, INCENTIVES, AND REBATES

[Energy Star Rebate Finder](#)
[Federal Tax Credits for Consumer Energy Efficiency](#)
[Edison Rebates](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[ENERGY STAR Purchasing and Procurement](#)
[K-12 School Energy Efficiency Programs](#)
[California Clean Energy Act Prop 39](#)

IN THE NEWS

["Boston Back in Top 10 U.S. Cities with the Most Energy Star Buildings"](#) EPA, March 2015
["Changing to more energy efficient light bulbs"](#) Redbluff Daily News September 2015
["Is Energy Star Being Tarnished?"](#) Consumer Reports, October 2015

Sources: 1. <http://www.energystar.gov/about> ; 2. <http://www.energystar.gov/buildings/about-us/how-can-we-help-you/communicate/energy-star-communications-toolkit> ;