

CURRENTS

JNEC's September 2025 Newsletter



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Test Your Savvy on Home Appliances

We all love to relax on the couch and watch a good movie, but hours of gaming, streaming video binges and Facebook chatting can add up. Plus, vampire appliances continue to drain energy even when they're not in use.

How much electricity are you wasting in your living room? Take this quiz to find out. Many of the answers may surprise you.

What percentage of the average electric bill comes from vampire devices?

5%–10%. The average American has 20–40 devices and appliances continuously plugged in and sucking power, even when they're not in use.

Which type of television uses more energy: plasma or LED?

Plasma TVs consume about twice as much power as LEDs. In fact, plasma models consume more than 1,400 kilowatt-hours each year, on average, which can add more than \$200 to your electricity bill.

True or False: Video game consoles cost Americans a combined \$400 million annually in utility bills just from sitting idle.

True. Of the total \$1 billion that American gamers pay in gaming-related utility bills, \$400 million comes from consoles on standby. A National Resources Defense Council report translates that number into a staggering 10 billion–11 billion kilowatt-hours of usage each year.

True or False: Your best bet for saving energy after using your gaming console is to turn it off with the power button or remote.

False. Unplugging the console is a sure way to make sure it's not sucking any energy, as some power buttons go straight into standby mode and continue to drain electricity. Go into settings to turn off standby mode completely, and set the device to turn off automatically when it's idle.

What is the most energy-efficient mode in which to leave your work computer: power off, sleep mode, screensaver or log out?

Power off. The most energy-smart way to leave a computer for several hours is to turn it off completely. If you must leave your computer on, put it in sleep mode.

True or False: When connected to the charger, laptops use just as much energy as desktop computers.

False. While the CPU and monitor of a desktop computer can use more than 200 watts, laptops typically use less than 70 watts. But beware: Laptops continue to drain power if you keep them plugged in when they're fully charged, so remember to unplug them once they reach 100%.

True or False: It's not good to turn the computer off and on too many times.

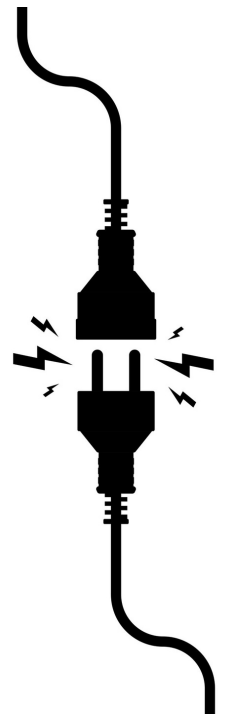
False. Most PCs reach the end of their useful life due to advances in technology long before the effects of being switched on and off multiple times have a negative impact on their service life. The less time a PC is on, the longer it will last.

Which type of printer is more energy efficient: inkjet or laser?

Inkjet printers, by a wide margin. Inkjets use an average of 30–50 watts while they're in use and continue to draw 3–5 watts in standby mode. Laser printers, on the other hand, can use more than 600 watts per hour.

Which TV device uses the most electricity when turned off: satellite or digital cable?

Digital cable boxes consume more than 17 watts when they're turned off, whereas satellite set-top boxes use just over 15 watts. Remarkably, these boxes use almost as much energy when they're off as when they're on and active.



Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricane Season is June 1- Nov. 30.

Preparedness Checklist:

- ✓ **Make an Evacuation Plan.** Find activated evacuation routes here: [DriveTexas.org](https://www.drivetexas.org) or by dialing (800) 452-9292. Call **2-1-1** to find out if you live in an evacuation zone.
- ✓ **Sign-Up for Emergency Alerts.** Make sure your device is enabled to receive Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEAs).
- ✓ **Prepare an Emergency Supply Kit.** Learn how to build an emergency kit here: <https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>
- ✓ **Review Your Home Insurance Policy.**
- ✓ **Register with State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR):** <https://stear.tdem.texas.gov/> or by dialing **2-1-1** if you live in evacuation zone and:
 - have a disability or medical needs and do not have a car or other vehicle to use in an evacuation.
 - have a disability or medical needs and do not have friends or family to help in an evacuation. ****STEAR Registry information collected is confidential****

Hurricane Preparedness Online Resources:

Texas Division of Emergency Management Website: www.tdem.texas.gov
Texas Department of State Health Services: www.texasready.gov
American Red Cross: www.redcross.org
U.S. Department of Homeland Security: www.ready.gov
Office of the Texas Governor Greg Abbott: www.gov.texas.gov



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Take advantage of “shoulder months,” which refer to the transitional periods between peak heating and cooling seasons. During the fall, these milder weeks typically occur between September and November. Shoulder months offer a great opportunity to reduce home energy consumption as the need for extensive heating or cooling is reduced. Look for simple ways to boost indoor comfort without running your heating and cooling system. Use ceiling fans and open windows on breezy days to ventilate your home. On cooler days, add a layer of clothing and avoid running the heat.



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JASPER-NEWTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Preparación para Huracanes

La temporada de huracanes es del 1 de Junio al 30 de Noviembre.

Lista de verificación de preparación:

- ✓ **Haga un Plan de Evacuación.** Encuentre rutas de evacuación activadas aquí: [DriveTexas.org](https://www.drivetexas.org) o marcando (800) 452-9292. Llame **2-1-1** para averiguar si usted vive en una zona de evacuación.
- ✓ **Regístrese para recibir alertas de emergencia.** Asegúrese de que su dispositivo esté habilitado para recibir Alertas de Emergencia Inalámbricas (AEI).
- ✓ **Prepare un estuche de Suministros de Emergencia.** Aprenda cómo construir un estuche de emergencia aquí: <https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>
- ✓ **Revise su póliza de seguro de hogar.**
- ✓ **Regístrese en el Registro de Asistencia de Emergencia del Estado de Texas (RAEET):** <https://stear.tdem.texas.gov/> o marcando el **2-1-1** si vive en una zona de evacuación y:
 - tiene una discapacidad o necesidades médicas y no tiene un automóvil u otro vehículo para usar en una evacuación
 - tiene una discapacidad o necesidades médicas y no tiene amigos o familiares para ayudar en una evacuación. **** La información recolectada del Registro RAEET es confidencial ****

Recursos en línea para la preparación en caso de huracanes:

Sitio web de la División de Administración de Emergencias de Texas: www.tdem.texas.gov
Departamento de Servicios de Salud del Estado: www.texasready.gov
Cruz Roja Americana: www.redcross.org
Departamento de Seguridad Nacional de los Estados Unidos: www.ready.gov
Oficina del Gobernador de Texas Greg Abbott: www.gov.texas.gov

