A GENERAL'S GUIDE TO EASY ENERGY EFFICIENCY & SUSTAINABLE LIVING

YOUR THERMOSTAT AND YOU
Set Cooling at 74°F or above
Set Heat at 72°F or below
Leaving for the day, or longer?
Widen the range!
Keep Fan mode in “auto” so it will only come on when needed
The “Emheat” mode indicates auxiliary heat and is extremely energy intensive. Avoid it!

MAKE YOUR WASH LOW-WASTE
Only run your washer/dryer with full loads.
Hot water is not necessary for most loads of laundry. Unless it’s really gross, choose “warm” or “cold” settings.
Added benefit of using cold water: you don’t have to separate colors.
When possible, skip the dryer and air-dry your clothes on a rack.

DON’T SEND SAVINGS DOWN THE DRAIN
Turn off water while you brush your teeth, shave, scrub dishes in the sink etc. Turn it back on to rinse.
Keep your shower short. These fixtures use 2.5 gallons per minute — every minute counts!
Report leaks to Facilities Management

BEWARE OF EXHAUSTION
Run bathroom exhaust fans only when necessary. They are designed to replace 100% of the air in a space. This cycle uses a lot of energy. In these units your bathroom exhaust fan is tied to the light switch. Be extra attentive to having this light on only when it’s really needed.

MANAGE YOUR BLIND SIDE
Hot Outside? Close the blinds during the day to keep the sun from adding heat to your space.
Cold Outside? Leave blinds open during the day to let solar heat in, and close them at night to help keep it in.

GET SOME FRESH AIR
Mild weather? Turn your thermostat to OFF and open doors and windows. Remember to close them again before turning the thermostat back on.

REAL WORLD TIP: You save 3% on energy costs for every degree you go down in heat mode or up in cool mode. But everything in moderation – don’t go lower than 55°F for heat or higher than 85°F for cool. Letting temperatures get too extreme can be counter-productive

REAL WORLD TIP: Clothes dryers are usually the most expensive appliance in a house. Limiting dryer use can save you hundreds of dollars a year.

REAL WORLD TIP: A dripping faucet, a running toilet, and letting water run while you brush all seem like small things, but each of these things can waste hundreds of gallons of water a month. Practice now for when you start paying the bill.

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THINK GLOBALLY, EAT LOCALLY
W&L’s dining halls and several Lexington restaurants source food locally. Look for signs that point to produce from our own campus garden. Visit the Farmer’s Market to fill up with nutritious foods and help the local economy.

BLUE BIKES, TRAVELLER, TRAILS, AND CARPOOL... OH MY!
Do you really need to drive your car? Can you get a Blue Bike? Or walk? Or use Traveller? Or ride together? Think before you drive to Red Square and Davidson Park... there are better, healthier (for you and for the planet) ways to get there.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!
Think about your waste in this order: First, refuse extra stuff that you don’t need. Then reduce what you are using. If you can reuse it, then do so. If not, then recycle it (you’ve been provided with a recycling bin). Once you’ve gone through this process, only then should you dispose of waste.

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IF IT’S GREEN, IT’S CLEAN
Think about the toxins you’re putting into your living space with your cleaning products. Green cleaning supplies will clean just as well and don’t leave toxic chemicals behind.

REAL WORLD TIP: Check out www.nsf.org/consumer-resources/green-living/green-cleaning-tips Don’t buy expensive cleaners when cheap pantry items might do (think baking soda!)