Search...
Get in touch

Energy Helpline 03 9385 8555

- For home
  - Lighting
  - Insulation
  - Solar Power Systems
  - Heating and Cooling
  - Draughts & windows
  - Member councils
  - Transport
  - Waste
  - Positive Charge your block
  - How to read your electricity bill
  - Bokashi Compost Bins
  - GreenPower
- For business
  - Business energy saving
  - Next steps
  - Videos
  - Top tips
  - Case studies
  - LED Lighting (Moreland)
- Councils
  - What we deliver
  - How we partner
  - Smart Energy Solutions
  - Community
  - What we've achieved
- Latest News
- Events
- About
- Contact

Six ways to stay cool without the expense

Want to keep cool this summer, without sending your electricity bill through the roof?
Here are six tips to stay cool and save!
Use fans instead of air-conditioning. Fans are a cheap and efficient way to keep cool, costing just 1-2 cents an hour and using about 50 times less energy than air conditioners.
Stay cool, but not cold. When using an air conditioner, set the thermostat to around 26°C. Every degree lower cost you more in cooling costs.
Stay shady. Keep unwanted summer sun out, using eaves, blinds or by planting deciduous trees.
Care for your air-con. Make sure your air-conditioner isn't working harder than it needs to, by cleaning the filter fortnightly during summer.
Let the night in. Give yourself a good night's sleep, by opening doors and windows and letting the cool evening air in.
Insulate. A well-insulated house will be cooler in summer, warmer in winter and less expensive to run all year around.
Positive Charge can help you find insulation that suits your home and budget – so that your house

feels like a home and not an oven this summer!
Our recommended range includes ceiling, wall and floor insulation – available for 10% off regular retail prices. Request a quote or call our energy helpline for expert advice on 9385 8555.

Cooking up an energy-saving storm

Stay-at-home Melbourne mum, Amy Chua, has adopted a range of simple and easy practices to make her kitchen a low-energy and sustainable one. She tells us how.
"It's about doing our bit for the environment, but it also means cooking well, and cutting waste – we don't like wasting food or energy at our place!
"I soak beans, lentils and anything soft before I cook them – so the cooking time is reduced. And I often also use a thermal cooker, which can shorten cooking by at least two hours."
With clever tricks like these, not only can you save time cooking, but you're also using less energy overall.
Amy is also careful with water. She uses rainwater to do a first wash of her vegetables, before using tap water to finish off the cleaning. This tap water is collected in a container under the tap then used to water her veggie patch – and the cycle is complete!
Tell us some clever ways you save money, time, power or water in your kitchen.

Meet the experts behind Positive Charge

Greg Snelders is one of our technical specialists and all-round nice guy.
Now a father of two, he gave up a career as a talented chef to study science and become the energy master he is today.
Greg has brawn as well as brains. "When I'm not working, I'm usually busy building my shed using second-hand materials. But what I call a shed my three-year-old daughter calls a cubby house, and I have a sinking feeling it may end up more cubby than shed!"
If you call our energy helpline with a complex energy conundrum, need a Home Energy Assessment or are a school who wants to go solar, chances are you'll end up speaking with our mild-mannered man, Greg.
Do you have a tricky energy problem you can't resolve? Get help from Positive Charge experts like Greg by calling our free helpline: 9385 8555.

Give the gift of solar this summer

This festive season, gift someone you love a piece of sunshine – with a Positive Charge gift voucher!
Solar is a gift that keeps on giving, delivering savings on your bills for years to come, and helping out the environment too.
Vouchers can be redeemed on any of our products, including solar, electric bikes, insulation, lighting and more.
Purchase a $100 or $250 green gift voucher today, by calling us on 9385 8555 or via email.

Give a 'good gift'

The Good Gift Shop returns this Christmas to encourage Australians to do good by giving gifts sold by social enterprises – businesses that exist to tackle social and environmental problems.
With a collection of good gifts that you can buy online, the Good Gift Shop puts the fun back in shopping.
So go on, shop your social heart out at the Good Gift Shop website.

SPECIAL OFFER

5% off Fair Food

This festive season, feed your family with a feast of local organic produce, or put together delicious hampers sourced from local producers.
To help, we've gotten together with CERES Fair Food to offer all Positive Charge members 5% OFF their first order of organic groceries. Just use the coupon code POSITIVE at checkout, to redeem.
Place your order today at the CERES Fair Food website!
Terms & Conditions: Offer expires 31st of January 2014. Storewide discount is only available for first time customers who have never ordered before and who do not already receive a standing discount.

One coupon use per customer only. No deliveries available during Christmas closure from Wednesday 25th December 2013 - Monday 6th January 2014.

TIPS

Do your fridge a favour

In most households, fridges cost more than any other appliance to run. So do your fridge (and bills!) a favour this summer, with these easy tips:

Set the fridge thermostat to 4°C and the freezer to -18°C.
Keep a five-centimetre gap around your fridge, so air can circulate freely.
Position your fridge out of direct sunlight and away from the oven.
Have two fridges or freezers? If possible, fill one up and turn the other off – saving you $110 each year.
Defrost your freezer every 6 months or when 1cm of frost builds up.
When choosing a fridge, freezer or other appliance, choose an energy efficient model by comparing the star ratings.

Positive Charge is a social enterprise powered by independent sustainability experts, the Moreland Energy Foundation, and supported by Port Phillip City Council.

Phone

9385 8555

Email

Send us as email

- Sign up for eNews
- Contact us

Stay connected

Facebook Twitter