

October 5, 2015

DIRECTIVE: JOB CORPS PROGRAM INSTRUCTION NO. 15-07
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TO: ALL JOB CORPS NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF
 ALL JOB CORPS REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF
 ALL JOB CORPS CENTER DIRECTORS
 ALL JOB CORPS CENTER OPERATORS
 ALL NATIONAL TRAINING AND SUPPORT CONTRACTORS

FROM: LENITA JACOBS-SIMMONS
 National Director
 Office of Job Corps

SUBJECT: Department of Labor/Job Corps Energy Action Month

1. Purpose. To recognize and celebrate October as Energy Action Month.
2. Background. Job Corps makes positive changes in students' lives. For Energy Action Month, October 2015, students and our staff are encouraged to make positive changes in their lives and communities by saving energy, reducing carbon emissions, and conserving water. Positive changes can turn into habits that will last a lifetime.
3. Action. The following simple actions will help reduce energy and water usage. These suggestions are only a few of the many ways to reduce Job Corps student and workforce environmental impact. The Centers' Green Committees should consider taking up these ideas for campaigns to reduce energy and water usage.

Water Conservation

- **Take Shorter Showers.**
 - Reducing your shower by 1 minute saves between 1.5 and 5 gallons of water.
 - A 5-minute shower uses more energy than a typical computer (100 W) in 8 hours.
- **Turn Off Water While Shaving or Brushing Teeth**
 - Turning off the water while brushing your teeth saves between 3 and 5 gallons of water.

Energy Conservation

- **Take Slightly Colder Showers.**
 - Reducing the water temperature by 10 degrees in a typical shower saves energy.
- **Turn Off Lights, Use Daylight**
 - Leaving fluorescent lights turned on 8 hours a day for 200 days in a typical office (4 bulbs, 32W) costs \$25 per year on average.

- **Wear a Sweater/Turn Down the Heat**
 - Turning down the heat 1 degree can save 3 percent on heating costs in a typical house.
- **Wear Fewer Clothes In Summer**
 - Turning up the air conditioner by 1 degree will save an average of 6 percent in cooling costs for a typical house.
- **Get Rid Of Portable Electric Heaters**
 - Using one 1,500-W electric heater (8 hours/day for 4 months) costs \$110.
- **Install LED or Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs**
 - Replacing one incandescent light bulb with an LED bulb can save between \$4 and \$18 a year (8 hours/day).
- **Unplug Chargers, Coffeemakers, Printers When Not In Use**
 - Unplugging chargers and appliances that store energy when not in use will save energy and money.
- **Turn Off Your Computer Monitor**
 - Turning off your desktop computer saves an average of \$60 a year; if you have a separate monitor, the savings can increase to \$90 per year.

Healthy Lifestyle

- **Park the Car**
 - Using mass transit saves 0.78 lbs. of carbon emissions per mile.
 - Riding a bicycle or walking saves 1.5 lbs. of carbon emissions per mile
- **Eat More Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts and Grains**
 - Fruits, vegetables, nuts and grains use less water and energy to produce than meats and animal based products.
- **Eliminate Disposable Cups, Water Bottles, Plates and Silverware**
 - Most disposable paper and plastic products are not recycled, and will wind up in landfills.

With thousands of students in Job Corps at any one time, the power for us to make a real difference is tremendous. For example, if all Job Corps centers reduced heat by 2 degrees in all buildings this winter, Job Corps could reduce CO₂ emissions by between 3 and 6 million lbs.

We are always looking for feedback and good ideas for measurable energy and water savings within Job Corps. Please let Ron Siegel (202-693-3102 or siegel.ronald.j@dol.gov) know what actions your center has taken to save energy and water.

4. Expiration Date. Until superseded.
5. Inquiries. Inquiries should be directed to Ron Siegel at (202) 693-3102 or siegel.ronald.j@dol.gov.