



# BALTIMORE ENERGY CHALLENGE

## WHO ARE WE?

In 2009, the Baltimore Office of Sustainability, in partnership with the Baltimore Community Foundation, launched the Baltimore Energy Challenge (BEC). The program has worked with community groups, neighborhood volunteers, and city residents to spread knowledge, resources, and motivation to help our communities save energy and money.

During our nine month pilot in eight neighborhoods across the city, resources and behavioral tips were provided that helped communities reduce their utility bills by as much as 12.8%! Since then, we have expanded into 20 additional neighborhoods, communities of faith, schools and citywide events.

## WHAT IS AN ENERGY HUB?

An Energy Hub is a Baltimore City neighborhood where BEC works with schools, neighbors, businesses and faith groups to help the community lower their energy usage. In 2012, BEC partnered with Baltimore City Public Schools to teach students, parents and staff about energy conservation. These schools are assigned BEC AmeriCorps members who provide materials to make their school more energy efficient, along with \$1000 to be used towards energy conservation awareness activities.

### WHAT ARE WE OFFERING YOU?

- Free Energy Savers Kit to help you lower your energy use and utility bills!
- Fun and engaging activities to spread the word about the program and its benefits
- Access to information, programming, demonstrations, and trainings.

### WHAT DO WE WANT FROM YOU?

- Sign a public pledge to take action in your home and school to reduce energy.
- Allow us access to energy use information about your home.
- Have FUN saving energy!
- Share what you're doing with your family, friends and neighbors!

## GET INVOLVED!

Baltimore Energy Challenge  
901 N. Milton Ave, Baltimore, MD 21205  
410-927-6088

[www.BaltimoreEnergyChallenge.org](http://www.BaltimoreEnergyChallenge.org)  
Facebook: Baltimore Neighborhood Energy Challenge  
Twitter: @WattsNewBmore



# WHAT'S IN THE KIT?

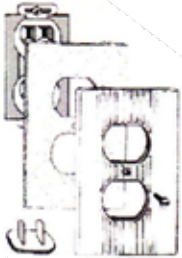


## **Reusable Grocery Bag**

Plastic grocery bags cost taxpayers money and are bad for our environment. They take a lot of energy to make, but also to break down. Cities spend an average of 17 cents to dispose of every bag, depleting millions of dollars of taxpayers' money. The bags we have included for you are durable, long lasting, and more convenient than plastic bags. Carry them with you everyday!

## **Outdoor CFL Light**

Looking for a bright idea? Switch to a CFL (Compact Fluorescent Light) is the smart energy choice. A CFL uses 75% less energy and lasts 4 to 10 times as long as a standard light bulb. Each light bulb can save you up to \$50 during its lifespan.



## **Draft Stopper Gaskets: Switch & Outlet**

This is a great energy-saving product. They replace the empty space behind the light switch and outlet plates with insulation to prevent drafts. Plus, not only do they help save fuel, they are flameproof and extremely easy to install!

## **Refrigerator / Freezer Thermometer**

This thermometer shows the temperature of your fridge or freezer. You can be wasteful if your fridge is not set to that perfect temperature. By using the recommended settings, you can save energy and money! The ideal refrigerator temperature is 37 degrees Fahrenheit and the ideal freezer temperature is 3 degrees Fahrenheit.



## **Toilet Tank Bank**

Most toilets use too much water when they flush. Fill this bag up with water and hang it on the inside of your toilet. It will reduce the amount of water your toilet uses by an entire gallon! This is a great way to save water! water!

## **Light Switch Decal**

It's so easy to forget about turning the lights off. Well not anymore! This handy light switch decal will remind you and everyone in your home to flip the switch to bring in energy savings!



## **Energy Savers Guide**

This booklet is full of simple ways to reduce energy use at home and on the road. Take a look at the book with you family and friends. There are tips on how to save energy from the roof down to the basement. You'll be sure to find a lot of valuable tips that will surely make a world of difference for you and your community and the future to come.

