

# What is Energy Efficiency?



Energy efficiency is a holistic approach to using less so you can have more. Sounds contradictory? It isn't. When you find smarter, more efficient ways of using energy, you use less of it, while still enjoying the benefits of your appliances, vehicles and air-conditioning units. Energy efficiency means using energy smarter so you can save money and conserve energy sources for the future.

For example when you replace an appliance such as a refrigerator or washing machine, or office equipment such as a computer or printer, with more energy-efficient models, the new equipment performs the same service but uses less energy. This saves money on your energy bill. See? It's simple!

You can also practice energy conservation by doing without in the short term, to save energy in the long term. Like turning off a light when you are not in a room, or opening a window to let cool air in instead of turning on a fan or an air-conditioning unit. Got it? Easy!

## WHY IS ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPORTANT?

Energy powers your life. From your homes, to your business, from your school to your industry, you cannot live without energy. But the demand for energy has begun to grow faster than energy sources can keep up. So you've got to be smarter and think carefully about how much energy you use find ways to either use less of it or be more efficient in the ways you do use energy.

Although Trinidad & Tobago is energy-rich, with oil, natural gas and minerals from quarrying, we must still look at ways to be energy efficient to ensure our resources last for future generations. Because we also export a great deal of our energy to other countries, we have begun to explore ways to use renewable energy sources for domestic use which is good for our economy and good for our environment.

## HOW CAN YOU BE MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT?

Check out our 10 tips for being more energy efficient in your home and office and learn more about energy efficiency and renewable energy. This includes what the Government of Trinidad & Tobago is doing to take us into a more energy efficient future based on renewable energy. Play our Power Tower Game to become a real energy star!



The solar PV panels and solar stills installed on the roof of the Parvati Girls' Hindu College.



Bieke stands on the edge of the Chaguaramas Boardwalk while waiting for the sun to set and the solar lights to come on.

