



LIVE **ARMY** GREEN

US Army Residential Communities Initiative (RCI)
RCI ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM



Now is the time, more than ever for the Army to **LIVE GREEN.**



Across the Department of Defense, energy conservation programs are underway with a goal to reduce our overall energy consumption in the United States by 20 percent; ultimately reducing our dependency on foreign energy.

The Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) and the Department of the Army's (DA) Residential Communities Initiative (RCI) with Congressional support, has required DA to work with each privatized Family housing partner to develop procedures which provide incentives for Soldiers and their Families living on post to be responsible for their energy consumption. Saving energy and our nation's precious natural resources are key elements of the program.

LIVEARMYGREEN is the Army and privatized partners' communications program for Soldiers and their Families to gain a better understanding of the OSD and the DA's utility policy through education about utility billing at Army installations as well as conservation education in the form of energy-saving tips, programs and events.



"We have developed a program based on fairness where Soldiers are responsible only for their consumption. Just like Soldiers are leading the fight against the global war on terrorism, we now see Soldiers and their Families being good stewards about saving our nation's energy."

Ivan G. Bolden

Chief, Public-Private Initiatives Division,
Directorate of Installation Services,
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff
for Installation Management

Why Go Green?

Conservation is not only the way of the future, but energy conservation is good for YOUR community. Millions of dollars are annually spent at Army installations for residential utilities. By conserving, more funds can be allocated for enhancements such as new playgrounds or home energy-efficiency upgrades!



How to Live **ARMY** Green?

As a resident of privatized Army Housing, you already are part of the solution. Simple, eco-friendly choices you and your Family make can have a huge impact on your total utility consumption and a long-term impact on the environment as a whole. Contact your Neighborhood Office for specific environmentally-friendly programs and activities already taking in place in your community. You can make a major difference just by following the simple tips you received in your move-in packet.

Under the OSD policy, all new and renovated homes at RCI sites will be for gas and/or electricity. Each privatized partner will administer the Resident Conservation Program and a third-party provider will be hired to read meters and administer the billing process. Monthly Conservation Statements, or invoices, will be sent to each resident's home.



"I think that the program makes good common sense....Why would you have the air conditioning on and the windows open...you're only cooling the outside."

Fort Carson Resident

Fort Carson, Colorado.

What is a Monthly Conservation Statement?

Under the Army's RCI Resident Conservation Program, you receive a monthly conservation statement from a third-party utility billing company. These statements will include your meter readings, the amount of your consumption and where you stand (including your buffer) in relation to your established baseline.**

How is my Conservation Statement calculated?

Using your home's attributes such as size, age and location, your home is grouped with the same type or similar homes to determine the energy baseline for each type of home.

The average Baseline is calculated monthly. The monthly calculation takes into consideration several factors including removing like homes that may be vacant. Your average Baseline is then calculated for homes similar to yours.

A buffer zone surrounds the baseline to provide Families with the opportunity to receive a no action Required notice on their statement, or no payment is due. Families consuming above the baseline and the additional buffer zone will receive a Balance Due notice on their statement, meaning a payment is due. Families conserving under the baseline and the buffer zone will receive a Rebate check or Reward statement* for their conservation efforts.

** The Baseline is an average of gas and electricity for a particular home and like homes. Baselines vary according to installations and neighborhoods. In addition to the Baseline there may be a buffer applied to your baseline. Resident who fall within the buffer will not be responsible for paying the amount above the average, however a resident above the buffer will be held responsible.

* Most communities establish Trigger Points which must be met before a rebate is issued or the balance due is collected. The amount is accrued to the next month until the trigger point is reached. For more information, please contact your Neighborhood Office regarding your Conservation Statements, questions you have or ways you can manage your Family's energy usage.



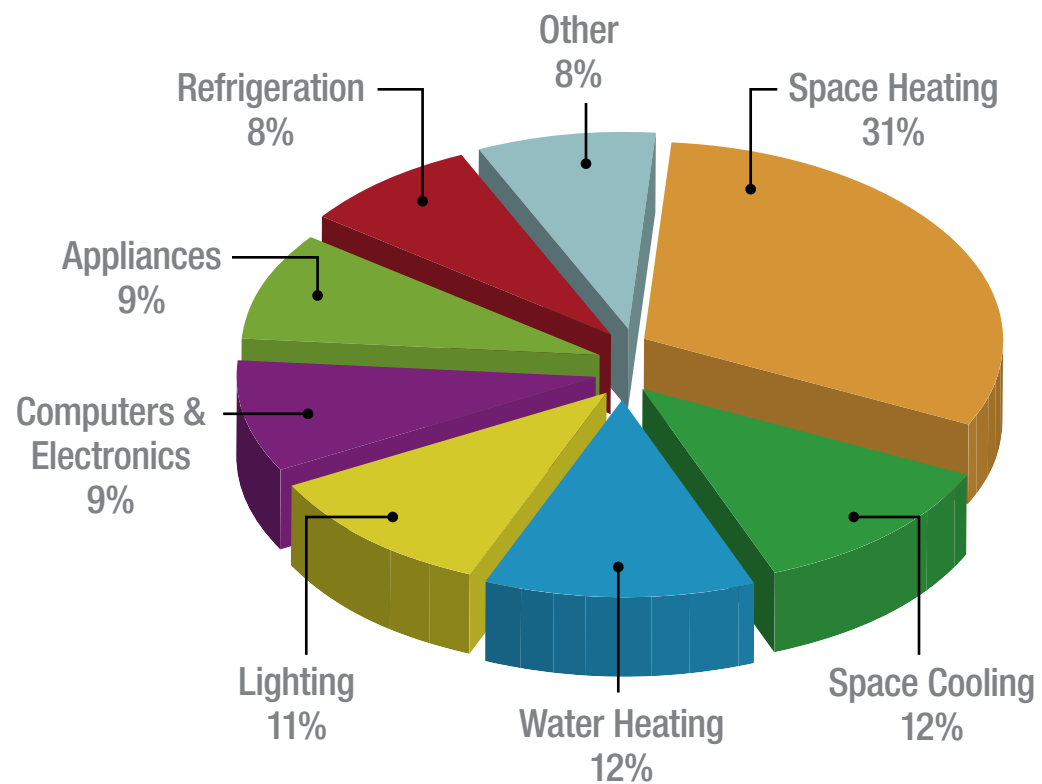
"Our Family takes a lot of pride in recycling and energy conservation. We keep lights out when not in use, run the dishwasher only when full, and unplug items not in use such as the coffee pot and cell phone charger. We are a large Family and think conserving energy and recycling is of the utmost importance and easily attainable. We are consistently below the allotted amount, so it's not hard at all to be environmentally friendly."

Warner Family
Fort Drum, NY



DID YOU KNOW?

Average Energy Usage Breakouts Per Home



LIVE ARMYGREEN TIP

Refill – Not Landfill. The energy wasted in the production of bottled water is enough to power 190,000 homes. But refilling your water bottle from the tap requires no expenditure of energy and zero waste of resources (PBS Point of View 2004)



How We Use Energy in Our Homes

Heating and cooling accounts for the biggest chunk of a typical utility bill.

Source: 2007 Buildings Energy Data Book, Table 4.2.1., 2005 energy cost data.

- Turn off kitchen, bath, and other ventilating fans within 20 minutes after you are done cooking or bathing to retain heated air.
- Many appliances draw small amounts of power when they are switched off. These “phantom” or “vampire” loads occur in most appliances that use electricity, such as DVD players, televisions, stereos, computers, and kitchen appliances. According to the U.S Department of Energy in the average home, 75% of the electricity used to power home electronics is consumed while the products are turned off. This can be avoided by unplugging the appliance or using a power strip and using it to cut all power to the appliance.
- Air dry dishes instead of using your dishwasher’s drying cycle.
- Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes.
- Take short showers instead of baths.



“the RCI utility conservation program works out pretty good ... I think that I've paid a minimal amount only three times and I've lived here for two years!”

Fort Stewart Resident

Fort Stewart, Georgia



Gain Some Perspective

IF YOU...	YOU WILL SAVE ENOUGH ENERGY TO...	IF 1,000 PEOPLE JOINED YOU...
Use the microwave to cook two meals a week	Run air conditioning for one hour	Power a local school for two days
Lower the thermostat on your water heater by one degree	Watch TV for 56 hours	Power a fire station for 39 weeks
Replaced one light bulb with a compact florescent light (CFL) bulb	Surf the web for 214 hours	Power a hospital for three days
Use the cold water cycle for one load of laundry	Recharge your laptop 17 times	Power 1 home for 30 days
Lower the thermostat by one degree in the winter	Watch 646 DVDs	Power 85,220 office computers for one year

Source: Minol USA

LIVE ARMY GREEN TIP

Get a lunch box. Discontinue the use of disposable paper lunch bags.



Want to Find Out More?

For more information on the Army's RCI Utility Policy, please visit:

www.acsim.army.mil/installationservices/ppid.htm

To learn how you can save more energy, conserve our precious national resources and see the impact you are making on the environment and our world, please visit these related websites:

<http://www.energy.gov>

www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind_calculator.html

www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=globalwarming.showPledgeHome

www.planetgreen.discovery.com

www.thegreenguide.com





GO GREEN, BE GREEN

LIVE **ARMY** GREEN
