

May 10, 2022

ENERGY & COMFORT @ WSU

WSU Tenant Engagement Program Newsletter for French Administration, Lighty Student Services, and Smith Center for Undergraduate Education building occupants.

HEADING NORTH FOR THE SUMMER!

As the seasons shift once more, those who flew south for the winter are returning home! The various flying fowl are recognizing the changing climate and are engaging in lifestyle changes to adapt and prepare for a hot, dry summer. Following a busy breeding period, ducks and other migratory waterfowl, shed or molt feathers to accommodate changing needs; their bright plumage is replaced with more subtle colors for camouflage, their dense insulative coats are shed in favor of a lighter option, and their damaged feathers are replaced with a new set for the approaching summer and the year to come!

Our environments are changing too, both inside and outside our building's envelope. Like the migratory birds, it's important to change our daily routines in accordance with the warmer and drier weather. We suggest you consider dressing in lighter colors that absorb less heat from the sun, wearing less layers that are better ventilated to allow the body to release heat, and to allow yourself to be rejuvenated with the increased sunlight! Of course, while taking full advantage of the longer day also remember to apply liberal amounts of sunscreen in the hot Palouse sun!

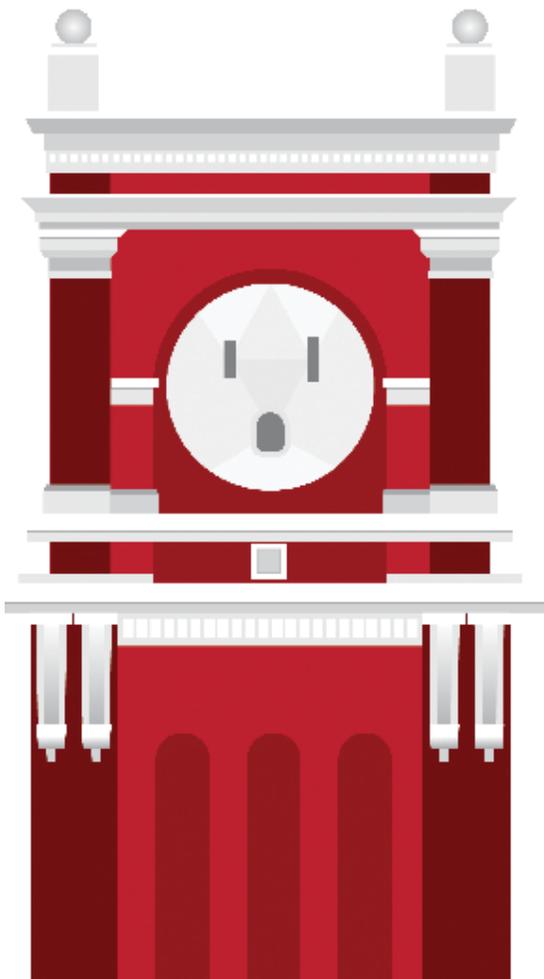
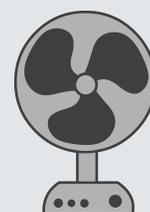
Blinds are a good way to minimize glare in the workplace, but this season is also a good opportunity to use the sunlight to illuminate your office. It is crucial that we find a balance that is comfortable, productive, and energy efficient. Fans are a great way to cool your local space, but don't forget to communicate with your desk mates about their thermal comfort before making changes that impact your neighbors.



WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY!

MAY 11th 2022

Celebrate the day by shedding your winter layers in favor of lightweight summer apparel! Store the space heater away and use a fan (if necessary). **DON'T FORGET SUNSCREEN!**



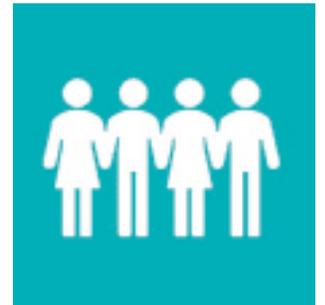
25 SMART STRIPS TO GO!



We want to express our gratitude for everyone that has participated in our study so far! The more the merrier with this energy-saving project; we're so close to achieving our goal of 100 Smart Strips installed in WSU offices. The team at the Integrated Design and Construction Laboratory is making another push to get the last of the **Smart Power Strips (SPS)** installed in WSU offices! We hope to have one SPS in every office of every department within the French, Lighty, and Smith CUE buildings.

Certain devices, such as microwaves, printers, computer monitors, and televisions draw power even when they are not "on". Powering these appliances adds up over time, and results in significant electricity use annually. "Smart" or "advanced" power strips, wall meters, or controlled power surge protectors are technologies that can display, manage, and control electronic devices that draw plug loads/electricity from a building's electrical system beyond the typical the workday that would otherwise be overseen by the utility, through a building electricity meter. Studies have shown that in small offices, plug load controllers such as smart power strips can reduce overall energy consumption by as much as 10%. These solutions allow facilities operations (or utility groups, etc.) to quantify the energy use consumed through plug loads and can help building users better understand the consumption of their everyday equipment, such as their computer, monitors, landline phone, or other desktop items they may have at their workstation.

We are looking for full-time WSU employees to participate in this study who have varying computer setups, schedules, and equipment needs at their workstations. The procedure includes measuring active energy use from the electronics used at your desk and installing a timed smart power strip. Once installed (takes about 30 minutes), the device will stay at the workstation indefinitely, but no further participation is necessary. If you, or someone you know might be interested to learn more, **reach out to Zach.Colligan@wsu.edu to schedule an install.**



BIG THANKS TO:

The Crimson Service Desk, Nathan Tims and Jacqueline Southwick for your support by letting us install 15 Smart Strips in one afternoon!

BIG THANKS TO:

The Office of Research, for being an early and persistent supporter of our study: another smart strip installed is another closer to our goal!

BIG THANKS TO:

Human Resource Services for your never-ending generosity and willingness to participate these past few weeks. We really appreciate you all.

STILL MORE SMART POWER STRIPS TO INSTALL:

We are looking for a few more participants within the office of **Academic Engagement and Student Affairs**, the department of **Student Financial Services**, and the **Office of the Provost**, to fully wrap up this year's campaign! *Every Coug counts* as we work together to reduce our carbon footprint across the Pullman Campus!