

January 17, 2023

# ENERGY & COMFORT @ WSU

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

## A WINTER WELCOME!

### Prep your Smart Power Strip for the new semester:

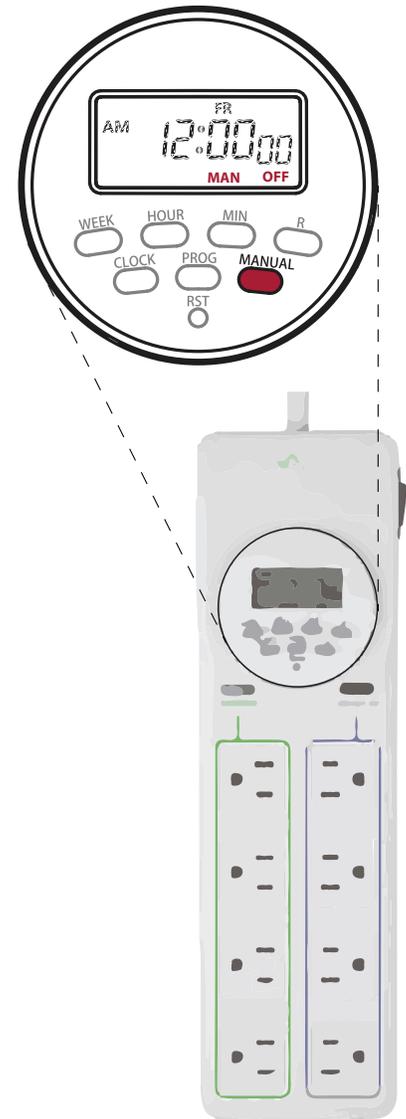
Now that we are back in the office, your SPS will need to return to its scheduled function. This means that your SPS must be switched from “MANUAL OFF” to “**AUTO ON**”. Follow these steps to do so.

1. Press and hold “MANUAL” for 4-5 seconds until the label on the screen switches from “MAN” to “AUTO”.
2. If your screen displays “OFF” next to “AUTO” you will need to briefly press the “MANUAL” button again to switch to “ON”

Following these steps will allow the “switched” side to return to the scheduled hours it was previously programmed for.

*Note: If your schedule has changed please reach out to Zachary Colligan at [zach.colligan@wsu.edu](mailto:zach.colligan@wsu.edu) to plan a time for our team to reprogram the device. This can also be done by following the steps in your user manual.*

If you would like to learn more about our smart strip program please visit our website: <https://idcl.wsu.edu/>



### STILL MORE SMART POWER STRIPS TO INSTALL IN THE COMING ACADEMIC YEAR:

As we move through this most recent milestone we look forward to doubling our quota and expanding our study! This means that **we need a Smart Power Strip in every office of every department of French Administration, Lighty Student Services, the Smith CUE, Todd Hall (and Addition) and Johnson Tower!** We are also pushing to install strips in kitchenettes and other shared workspaces with shared electronic devices. If you already have a strip installed, spread the word! Otherwise, **reach out to Zachary Colligan at [zach.colligan@wsu.edu](mailto:zach.colligan@wsu.edu) to learn more** about our study and to participate in making campus more efficient. With the support of the staff and faculty in our target buildings, we installed 93 strips in two months: a new record!

# UPCOMING EVENTS FOR SPRING 2023!



## NATIONAL PLANT-A-FLOWER DAY

(March 12th, 2023)

Lookout for the ID+CL staff as we come around on the 12th to engage with departments and staff in our target buildings!

## SPRING EQUINOX

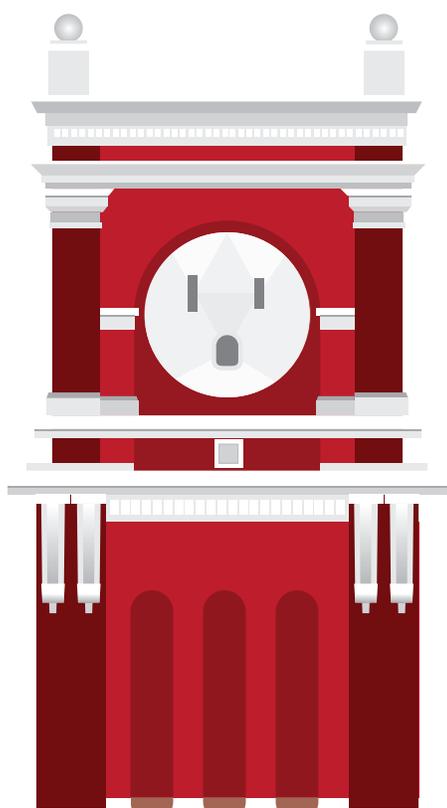
(March 20th, 2023)

Celebrate the day by spending time outside and limiting your energy usage. Try out recyclable and decomposable decorations and surprises!

## EARTH DAY

(April 22nd, 2023)

Explore the beautiful Palouse landscape by making a trip to Kamiak Butte or Palouse Falls! Make sure to thank our earth by cutting back on your energy consumption!



### National Plant-A-Flower Day: March 12th

Look out for the ID+CL staff throughout the week of the 12th as we celebrate this day by engaging departments and staff in our target buildings! Native wildflowers can increase the biodiversity of an area and provide habitats for all sorts of wildlife. We will be giving out wildflower seed packets to spread at home all week!

### Spring Equinox: March 20th

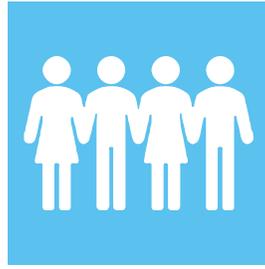
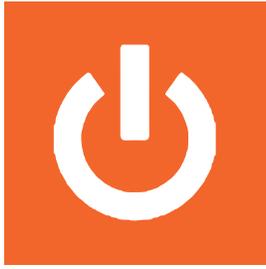
Celebrate the changing of seasons outside this year, limiting your energy usage inside. Enjoy our natural landscape, plant your wildflower seeds, and watch the birds return. Take a moment to be mindful of the nature that surrounds us. Turning off excess lights and heating is a small way to thank our earth for all that it provides us!

### Earth Day: April 22nd

Celebrate the earth by exploring our Palouse landscape and protecting our environment. Enjoy the spring air at Kamiak Butte, Steptoe Butte, or the Palouse Falls, but make sure to follow the campsite rule: *leave it better than you found it!* Take the time to be conscious of your energy usage by dressing in layers to maintain thermal comfort. Turn off lights when they are not in use to take advantage of the natural light. Ride the bus to work. Advocate for energy efficiency to three people in the office and make sure to have a Smart Power Strip installed in your office!

### WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Check out our website, <https://idcl.wsu.edu/> for more tips and tricks to save energy and stay comfortable in your home or office!



**Space Heater Reminders:** Make sure you are using a compliant space heater! Criteria can be found [here](#). Never leave your space heater plugged in unattended, keep paper and other combustibles away from your heater and be wary of any moving air that could blow papers that direction. Have your space heater plugged into a surge protector or one of our Smart Power Strips!

## WINTER WEATHER COMFORT AND ENERGY TIPS:

### Snow and Ice:

- Using your door mats and brushing off snow/rain as much as possible will help reduce accumulated moisture in your buildings and windows. If you notice condensation in areas where it has not been before or in excess, contact your facility manager!

### Too Little Moisture:

- A lack of humidity in the air can cause physical discomfort in building occupants. Humidity levels below 25% can cause dry throats and noses, sinus congestion, and dry skin. Increasing indoor humidity levels by adding steam or humidifiers can be a temporary fix, as can increasing your daily water intake, using nasal sprays, and being conscious about moisturizers.

### Clothing in the Winter:

- An easy way to manage your thermal comfort in the winter is maintaining clothing options in your office or workspace to manage your temperature. While outside activity and heavy coats can quickly increase your warmth, a light sweater that is less bulky kept in your office is an electricity-free solution to being too chilly in the winter. Having options of dry and warm clothing through the year to change into is a great way to manage your comfort and use less energy!

### Winter Sun Angles:

- Bright direct light, reflections from snow, and lower solar angles in the winter can create glare or too much light to be comfortable while working in your building. Utilizing your blinds and physical barriers such as plants or cubicle dividers is a solution that can improve your comfort and increase your work productivity!