

Name of Student: _____ School: _____

Home room teacher: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____



HOME ENERGY ACTIONS

This Home Energy Action (HEA) form gives you a way to support your school AND save energy in your home! **You will need a recent copy of your home electricity bill or Internet access in order to complete this survey.**

Rules: *You can only submit one form per household, but students may get neighbors and friends in the community to submit an HEA to support their school. A household can only support one school. In order to earn a point for your school, you must **submit Part 1** of this form. Keep **Part 2** at home.*

Part 1: Make a Household Pledge

The following pages have 3 categories that are the areas of the highest energy use in a typical home. Review the actions in each category and check the box (“yes”, “no”, or “sometimes”) that currently applies to your house. You must pick at least 1 energy-saving suggestion in each category that you will pledge to do during the competition.

Part 2: Write your Pledge

Fill out this section with the actions you are going to focus on for the competition. Cut out this section and hang it in your house.

Please fill out the information below. We are using this information solely for scoring the ReNew Our Schools energy competition. Your information will not be retained or shared with marketers.

First and Last Name (head of household) _____

Email address (head of household). **[Optional]** _____

Zip Code of household _____

ANSWER **AT LEAST ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. If your household gets a utility bill, how many kilowatt-hours (kWh) and therms did your household use on a recent bill?

kWh Therms

2. If your household receives a utility bill, log in to your account online (<http://www.fcgov.com/utilities/> or <https://myaccount.xcelenergy.com/>). Under “Energy Summary” and “Neighbor Comparison” it shows how your energy use compares to your neighbors. Briefly explain how you compare to your neighbors here:

3. If you do not get a utility bill, go to the Energy Calculator website and fill out your usage. What is your estimated monthly kWh usage? <http://www.cpi.coop/my-account/online-usage-calculator/>

Category 1: ELECTRICITY

A few facts:

- 35-50% of the electricity use in our homes comes from lighting & appliances.
- Traditional light bulbs turn most of the energy they use into heat, not light – wasting energy and money. LED light bulbs reduce this waste by up to 75%.
- "Phantom loads" (the energy an electronic uses when it is turned off or in sleep mode) can be almost 10% of your electricity bills. Eliminate the loads by unplugging your electronics or using a smart strip.



Actions	Yes	No	Some-times	PLEDGE TO DO
Install LED light bulbs				
Turn off the lights when you leave the room				
Use natural light instead of lights when you can- open blinds or curtains				
Unplug chargers and electronics when not in use				
Use a smart strip for your electronics and turn off when not needed				
Shutdown or set computers/laptops to "sleep" mode when not in use				
Other - Fill in your own: _____				

Category 2: HEATING & COOLING

A few facts:

- About 45% of yearly home energy use is for heating and cooling.
- By turning your thermostat back 10° to 15° when you are not at home or asleep, you can save 5% to 15% a year on your heating bill.
- Reheating a house takes less energy than keeping it at the same temperature all day and night.
- Replace the filter(s) on your furnace and A/C units. If your filters get clogged with dust that will decrease the efficiency of your system.



Actions	Yes	No	Some-times	PLEDGE TO DO
Use a programmable thermostat.				
Keep your thermostat at 68°F or lower.				
Keep your windows closed while the heat is on.				
Replace the filter on your furnace at least every 6 weeks.				
Open your curtains & blinds to use natural daylight to heat your home during the day and close them at night to retain heat.				
Other - Fill in your own: _____				

Category 3: HEATING WATER

A few facts:

- Water heating can be 12-25% of household energy use.
- Did you know a leak of one drip per second can cost \$1 each month in energy use? Not only does it waste water, energy, and money, but can lead to mold.
- Old & inefficient showerheads can use as much as 4-6 gallons per minute! High-quality, efficient showerheads can be as low as \$8.
- Water heaters should be set to 120°. If your water heater is set too high, it wastes energy, and can cause burns.
- It is a myth that washing your clothes in cold doesn't get them clean – in fact, they get just as clean and they last longer! Washing in cold water saves energy.



Actions	Yes	No	Some-times	PLEDGE TO DO
Check for and fix all leaks. If renting your home, report leaks to maintenance and ensure they are fixed.				
Install a high-efficiency showerhead.				
Install flow aerators on your faucets of 1.5gpm or less on your kitchen sink and 1.0gpm or less in your bathrooms.				
Set your hot water heater temperature to 120°F.				
Take showers that are 5 min or less. You can use a shower timer or your phone to keep time.				
Wash clothes in cold water.				
Only run the dishwasher when there is a full load.				
Other - Fill in your own: _____				

Part 2: Write your Pledge

Write the 3 pledges (or more!) you chose from each category in the block below. Cut it out and display it in your home as a reminder.

I / WE PLEDGE TO:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____