



# Connected

## SIMPLE WAYS TO SAVE ENERGY WHILE WORKING FROM HOME



Here are a few simple tips to make your home office more energy efficient:

- **Minimize your gadgets.** Electronics continue to draw power even when not in use. Unplug your charger when you have finished charging your phone, laptop or other electronic device. Many chargers continue to use standby or “vampire” energy even when they aren’t connected to a device. Do the same with your printer or other office equipment or install a Smart power strip that will allow you to turn off all your office equipment with one switch.
- **Take advantage of the sun.** To illuminate the room, open blinds and curtains to let in natural sunlight. That will allow you to turn off lamps and overhead lights.

- **Use lighting sources wisely.** Switch to LED light bulbs. LED light bulbs use much less energy and typically last longer than traditional compact fluorescent bulbs.
- **Be energy efficient.** When purchasing new computers, monitors and printers, look for ENERGY STAR® certified equipment. They use less energy, and when not in use, automatically operate in a low-power mode.
- **Carry out standard maintenance.** Replace your HVAC systems’ air filters. Clean filters use less energy than dirty filters and are less taxing on your system.

For more ways to save energy, visit [www.mariettapowerandwater.com](http://www.mariettapowerandwater.com). 💧



## Easy Ways to Conserve and Save

An average residential water utility customer uses 4,000 – 5,000 gallons of water per month. That’s a lot of water! Here are a few simple ways to help conserve water and save money.

### Indoors:

- Check for leaks regularly. Water from dripping faucets and running toilets can add up to gallons of wasted water monthly.
- Turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth, washing your face and shaving.

- Run the dishwasher and washer only when full.
- Replace older toilets and showerheads with low flow fixtures. Visit [www.mariettapowerandwater.com](http://www.mariettapowerandwater.com) to learn more about our Toilet Rebate Program.
- When replacing appliances, always look for ENERGY STAR® labeled products. These products have been tested and verified to save at least 20% more water.

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- Scrape dishes and utensils before placing them in the sink. This helps save water and cuts down on F.O.G. (fats, oils and grease) going down the drain and clogging pipes, causing sewer overflow.

#### Outdoors:

- Sweep, instead of hosing off, steps, sidewalks and driveways.
- Check for leaks regularly. Leaks that go undetected can result in a lot of wasted water and expensive water bills.
- Only water before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m. The 2010 Georgia Water Stewardship Act restricts outdoor water use for landscapes between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily.

- If you have an irrigation system, consider installing a Soil Moisture Sensor. The sensor monitors the amount of moisture in your soil and only triggers the irrigation system to turn on when the soil is dry. This device can save up to 40% of outdoor water use. Also, adjust sprinkler heads so they are only watering your lawn and landscape and not the street, sidewalk or house.
- When possible, plant native plants that are drought tolerant.

To learn more about water conservation or to request your free Water Conservation Kit, visit [www.mariettagov.com](http://www.mariettagov.com). 💧

## Recognize Fire Prevention Week (October 4 - 10) by Creating a Fire Escape Plan

October is the perfect time to create a Fire Escape Plan. Home fire escape planning and drills are an essential part of fire safety.

- Draw a map of each floor in your home, showing all windows and doors.
- Identify two ways out of each room.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case a parent or adult cannot help them.

- Establish a designated meeting place outside of your home where everyone will meet after exiting the home.
- Install and maintain smoke alarms.
- Set time aside to periodically practice your escape plan.

To learn more about fire prevention, play fire safety games, or download activity sheets, visit [www.nfpa.org/fpw](http://www.nfpa.org/fpw). 💧

## Calendar

Event information may have changed due to the coronavirus (COVID-19). Please confirm details with event organizers before attending an event.

### Saturdays Year Round

Marietta Square Farmers Market

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

For more information, visit [www.mariettasquarefarmersmarket.com](http://www.mariettasquarefarmersmarket.com). You can also order from all your favorite vendors online. For more information, visit [www.store.mariettasquarefarmersmarket.com](http://www.store.mariettasquarefarmersmarket.com).

In an effort to assist our local businesses during this difficult time, the City of Marietta has made the following temporary provisions:

### Outdoor Tents for Restaurant Dining

The Marietta City Council has amended the City's Outdoor Café Ordinance to allow the temporary usage of tents with tables for outdoor dining.

### 15-Minute Parking

In an effort to promote downtown, small-businesses, the Marietta City Council voted unanimously to establish seven, 15-minute parking spots around the Square for curbside pickup.

To help assist local businesses, the City of Marietta will be sharing resources and assistance opportunities as they arise. Please visit <https://www.mariettagov.com/1362/Marietta-COVID-19>.

For a complete list of City of Marietta events, please visit [www.mariettagov.com](http://www.mariettagov.com) and click on Calendar of Events.

### Get city news by email

Visit [www.mariettagov.com](http://www.mariettagov.com) to subscribe to the City of Marietta's E-News mailing list to receive the latest news, event, job openings and emergency updates by email.