

**Marietta**



September 2020

# Connected

## SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY WITH SMART POWER STRIPS



The average household may have up to 25 electrical devices plugged in at one time. Many of these devices continue to use electrical power, even when not in use, and that wasted electricity is costing you money. This type of power usage is sometimes referred to as standby power or “vampire” power. You could combat vampire power by continually unplugging your gadgets, but with a smart power strip you won’t have to do that.

Smart power strips work to reduce your power usage by shutting down power to products that go into standby mode. Doing so, depending on the number of devices you have plugged in at any one time, could save you money. Some experts say vampire power consumption can range anywhere from 5 to 10 percent in the average household.

Some smart power strips also include surge protectors, adding additional value to everything

plugged into it. This protects from surges in electricity, which can destroy delicate equipment that does not have its own internal surge protection.

Here are a few examples of common electrical devices that use vampire power:

- Any device with an LED display
- Microwaves
- Coffee Pots
- Toasters
- DVD Players
- Cable Boxes
- Game Consoles
- Televisions
- Printers
- Desktop and Laptop Computers

Installing a smart power strip is a quick and easy way to start saving money and energy. For more energy saving ideas, visit [www.mariettpowerandwater.com](http://www.mariettpowerandwater.com). 💧



## PROTECT YOUR PIPES

Flushing items down the toilet or rinsing them down the drain may seem like an easy way to dispose of something, but it may cause more harm than you realize.

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Disinfecting wipes, baby wipes, and paper towels should NEVER be flushed down the toilet. These items should be disposed of in the trash. These types of cleaning items are more like fabric than paper and do not break down in sewer or septic systems. They can damage your home's internal plumbing as well as local wastewater collection systems. The only item safe to flush is toilet paper.

F.O.G. is another item that should never go down the drain. F.O.G. stands for fats, oils and grease and can stick to the walls of your pipes and sewer system. This build-up over time can eventually block your plumbing and sewer system resulting in sewer overflows. F.O.G. can come from meats, cooking oils, dairy products,

sauces, salad dressings or marinades that go down the kitchen sink or get flushed down the toilet. Garbage disposals do not eliminate F.O.G., it merely chops it up into smaller pieces. All F.O.G. and food scraps should be thrown in the trash. Easy ways you can dispose of F.O.G.:

1- Allow F.O.G. to cool. Pour any liquids into a sealable, disposable container and place in trash.

2- Use a spatula or a similar utensil to scrape any solid F.O.G. and food particles into the trash.

3- Use a paper towel to dry wipe any remaining F.O.G. residue into the trash.

Learn more about keeping our water clean at [www.cleanwatercampaign.org](http://www.cleanwatercampaign.org). 💧



## Check Out Kid's Korner

Many families have joined the fast-growing trend of home schooling and many parents are in search of online learning resources. Did you know there is a great resource on the Marietta Power and Water website called Kid's Korner? Kids can learn the history, types and sources of electricity. The Energy Fun Lab includes exciting experiments including cooking with sunlight or harnessing the wind.

To visit Kid's Korner, simply go to [www.mariettagov.com](http://www.mariettagov.com), click on the Resources button in the top navigation, then click on Kid's Korner and get ready to explore! 💧

## 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.mariettaga.gov/1362/Marietta-COVID-19>.

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

### Get city news by email

Visit [www.mariettaga.gov](http://www.mariettaga.gov) 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.