

Rosine W. Hall

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Subject: long overdue monthly environmental tip
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From It's Easy Being Green; a handbook for earth-friendly living by Crissy Trask:

"Present-day trends include disappearing wilderness and farmland, irresponsible consumerism, the poisoning of our waterways, species decline and an arguably corrupt political system that panders to exploitative special interests. Turning the tide on such destructive and discouraging trends requires all of us to learn to appreciate how our own behaviors contribute to these problems and to recognize opportunities and occasions to act in ways that can reverse these trends or at least diminish their impacts."

Here's a good example of easily-accessible information which can help us all make better decisions:

ENERGY STAR

Energy Star is a program of the U.S. EPA charged with evaluating and determining energy consumed and/or saved by products that either rely on energy to run - such as appliances and home electronics - or can reduce energy use through their application, such as insulation and windows. The Energy Star label means a product meets minimum energy-efficiency standards.

ACCORDING TO THE EPA, IF EVERY CONSUMER, BUSINESS AND ORGANIZATION IN THE U.S. MADE THEIR PRODUCT CHOICES AND BUILDING IMPROVEMENT DECISIONS WITH ENERGY STAR, OVER THE NEXT DECADE THE NATIONAL ANNUAL ENERGY BILL WOULD BE REDUCED BY ABOUT \$200 BILLION!

Look for the Energy Star tag when making energy-consuming or -reducing product choices and buy those with the E.S. designation and with the best rating among those products that meet your needs.

Faithfully,
Freya

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world." **Mahatma Gandhi**