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Green tips are applicable both at work and at home, this month's green tips focuses on what green choices are being implemented at Metro and how you can use that technology at home. All of these are about education – employees have a huge effect on building budget and operations and everyone can contribute to greening the workplace.

1. Commit to Recycling

Metro has implemented a new recycling program through Republic Services and will be rolling out education sessions on recycling in the next few months. In the meantime you can recycle at home by having a separate bin for newspaper, junk mail, plastic and glass that will be recycled at the curb. Go to this [link](#) for more information on what can be recycled.

2. Adjust your thermostat by two degrees

Metro is working on optimizing the mechanical systems as well as replacing older equipment to make the system more efficient. At home, the easiest way to optimize your system is to look at the thermostat. During colder months, turn it back two degrees, especially at night when you are asleep under heavy blankets. In the summer, push it up two degrees and use a fan in the space you are in at your house. Adjusting your thermostat can mean as much as a 10 percent savings on your energy consumption and your energy bill.

3. Change your lightbulbs to CFLs (compact fluorescents)

Lighting retrofits are occurring in multiple areas at the Gateway building to make the facility more efficient. At home, you can purchase CFLs at your local home improvement store. CFL light bulbs are at or near the price of typical incandescent light bulbs, but last four times as long. Changing to CFL bulbs can mean saving as much as 70-80 percent of the lighting cost in your home. This would equate to a savings of 2250 kWh per year at a typical cost of \$0.10 per kWh could be over \$200 savings per year on lighting.

By implementing these green tips into your home you will help in building a more sustainable future and save money every month!

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Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
1 Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, California 90012-2952
Phone: 213-922-6888 Fax: 213-922-7447