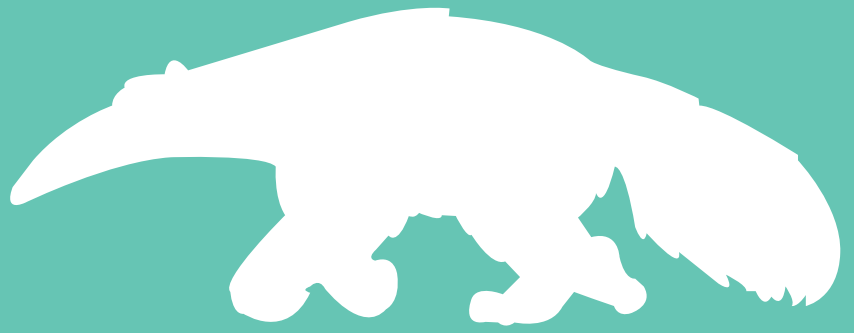


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# The Green Vine

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

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# WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

## ENERGY SAVING TIPS FOR THIS SUMMER

BY JAENNA WESSLING



Summer in Southern California is all about having fun under the sun! But sometimes when the sun gets too hot, it's nice to cool off indoors with the AC and lights on, charging our phones, and watching Netflix on our computers. With this in mind, many people will also be having the same actions and will increase the demand for energy, putting more pressure on the utilities to supply the grid. In order to reduce our energy demands this summer, here are some tips we can use to save energy:

- Turn off your ACs and open up your windows during the day and at night to keep your house or apartment cool
- When it's sunny, use the blinds to shade out the sun
- Try using ceiling fans
- Turn off and unplug unused lights and appliances when leaving a room or your house/apartment
- Wash/dry full loads your laundry with cold water and low heat
- Only wash full loads of dishes in dishwashers, try not to heat dry
- Reduce your usage of appliances that will make your living space hotter such as ovens, grills, computers, curling/flat irons, hairdryers and big lights (don't forget to unplug them if you do use them!)
- Check for cracks or leaks in your windows and doors' sealing

\*\*For more information (source): <http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/spring-and-summer-energy-saving-tips>

# WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

# GREEN ROOMS AT UCI IRVINE

BY JACQUELINE KHA

PowerSave Campus at UCI presents Green Rooms! Lead by Jacqueline and Cindy, this new program, inspired by our fellow PowerSave interns at Cal Poly Pomona, will audit residents living in on-campus residential halls with hopes of refining their living practices. Green Rooms is based on voluntary sign-ups for each room.



Residents will attempt to make their room more sustainable and environmentally friendly.

In order to accomplish that, they will be given an initial set of guidelines to follow. These guidelines will inform residents on what we will be surveying them on so that they can make the appropriate changes before the interns come to audit the room. Residents will also be surveyed on their shower habits to further determine opportunities for energy and water savings. Depending on their room efficiency, residents will earn points that will count towards their green room rating. In addition, residents can earn more points by referring other residents in their hall or community. The points added up from the room assessment and other habits will amount to the rating on their certification.

Once certified, rooms will receive a certification placard which will be placed on their door, rating them at a certain level of sustainability. Each quarter, residents can sign up for re-assessments to receive a higher rating. This new program will lead residents to better efficiency practices for next year's Campus Conservation Nationals.

# WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?



## LAB ENERGY EFFICIENCY

BY BRIJ PATEL

The PowerSave Campus team at the University of California, Irvine, is looking forward to taking on another project dealing with energy efficiency. After consulting with many sustainability groups around the university, the Power-Save team is looking to help UCI

store their lab samples more efficiently. Starting in the summer, the team will audit the Ultra-Low Temperature (ULT) freezers around campus, and verify they are operating at -70 Celcius. As shown in many studies, when the ULT freezers are lowered in temperature, their energy consumption increases exponentially. The PowerSave team is looking to centralize all ULT freezer temperatures to -70 Celcius. This will not only keep the energy consumption uniform, but also save an enormous amount of KWH/year in energy savings.



# WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

## COSTA RICA NIGHT SUSTAINABILITY FAIR

BY JANET ORTEGA

The PowerSave Team was full of smiles during UC Irvine's Costa Rica Night Sustainability Fair. The Costa Rica Program is a program offered to undergraduate students as an opportunity to learn about the country's sustainable lifestyle. PowerSave has been collaborating with the program throughout several outreach events--one of them being



# WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

the Sustainability Fair. Throughout this event, all UC Irvine students had the opportunity to learn more about sustainability organizations on and off campus. The PowerSave team used this opportunity to teach students about energy efficiency and the tools used to conduct energy audits, such as the kilowatt meter, foot candle light meter, and temperature gun. The team had a great time interacting with other students and sustainability organizations, along with some yummy Costa Rican food!



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