



## FOR DEVICES WITH CONSTANT POWER DEMAND

(lamps, computers, computer accessories, TVs, TV accessories, game stations, space heaters without thermostats, heat tape on pipes and gutters, holiday lights, chargers, fans, etc.)

1. Plug the meter into an outlet.
2. Plug your device into the meter. Tip: You may want to use an extension cord to make it easier to see the meter.
3. Press the **"FUNCTION"** button until the **"W"** or **"Watt"** mode appears and record the wattage displayed.
4. Use the following formula to calculate the annual cost to run this device:

$$\text{WATTS} \times 24 \times 365 \div 1,000 \times \$0.16 = \text{\$/YEAR}$$

### DEVICES WITH CONSTANT POWER DEMAND TIP:

Try testing devices both when they're turned on and when they're turned off. This will show you which have a "phantom load" that consumes power all year long. (Note: It cost \$1.40/year for every continuous watt so an HD-DVR with a 30-watt phantom load costs \$42/year – even if it's never turned on.)

### DEVICES THAT CYCLE TIP:

If you want to see your electricity rate, which is the delivery rate plus the supply rate, please visit the following website that provides residential electricity rates in Maine using the standard offer rate for supply:

[www.maine.gov/mpuc/electricity/delivery\\_rates.shtml](http://www.maine.gov/mpuc/electricity/delivery_rates.shtml)



## FOR DEVICES THAT CYCLE

(refrigerators, freezers, humidifiers, dehumidifiers, window air conditioners, fish tank heaters, space heaters with thermostats, clothes washers, sump pumps, etc.)

1. Plug the meter into an outlet.
2. Plug your device into the meter. You may want to use an extension cord to make it easier to see the meter.
3. Let the device cycle for a representative amount of time, the longer the better (such as a day for a fridge or dehumidifier).
4. Press the **"FUNCTION"** button until the **"KWh"** mode icon shows and record the number it displays.
5. Press the **"FUNCTION"** button again until **"clock"** is displayed and record that number. This is the time monitored (MM:SS).
6. Convert the time to hours (for example, 2 hours and 30 minutes = 2.5 hours).
7. Calculate annual cost using this formula:

$$\text{KWH} \div \text{HRS TESTED} \times 24 \times 365 \times \$0.16 = \text{\$/YEAR}$$

Once you've measured the energy used by your devices, how do you save on energy costs?



### Avoid Phantom Loads

1. Unplug items that record phantom loads when not in use.
2. If unplugging devices with phantom loads isn't convenient, consider plugging them into a power strip and switching it off when not in use.
3. If it's not practical to use a regular power strip, try a smart power strip for entertainment centers and computers. It won't avoid the phantom load of the TV or computer, but it'll automatically stop the phantom load from the accessories (DVR, DVD, VCR, printer, display, speaker, etc.).



### Upgrade your lighting

Switch to LEDs, which are more than 70% more efficient than incandescent bulbs and last for many years. Some will pay for themselves in as little as one week.



### Buy ENERGY-STAR®-rated appliances

When it comes time to replace old appliances or add new appliances to your home, consider ENERGY STAR®-rated units. They are designed to save you energy over time.

**For more tips on saving energy, visit**

[www.energycmaine.com/at-home/energy-money-savings-tips](http://www.energycmaine.com/at-home/energy-money-savings-tips)