

Your Valentine's Gift to California: Energy Efficiency

Roses are red, violets are blue, and ensuring you practice better energy habits is up to you. This Valentine's Day show your love for California's natural beauty by breaking up with old energy habits.

It's important to remember the positive impact you can make on the environment through simple energy actions. Energy Upgrade California, the statewide initiative inspiring residents to use energy better to keep California golden, recommends the following:

- Power your home's warmth with loved ones. Throwing a Valentine's party or snuggling up with your significant other? As your guests arrive, the temperature in your home will naturally get warmer. Schedule your programmable thermostat or manually turn it down a couple of degrees before the party starts to save energy.
- Give clean clothes the cold shoulder. Heating water is responsible for up to 25% of home energy use. Instead, wash your date-night outfit in cold water to get it just as clean. For even more energy savings, always wash a full load to maximize your usage.
- Ghost your devices. Pull the plug on all electronic distractions so you can reconnect with loved ones. If you must use your mobile phone, remember not to leave it charging for excessive amounts of time, which wastes energy and can damage the battery.
- Dim your screens, not your spirit. If you do use tech, dim the screens. Lowering the brightness on your computer or TV can use up to 20% less energy.
- Set the mood with efficient lighting. An average home dedicates about 5% of its energy use to lighting. Switch off lights in empty rooms and use energy-efficient lighting such as LEDs to power the lights you do leave on.



These small changes can make a big impact on California's overall environment and energy use. For more ways to show California love, visit www.energyupgradeca.org.

