

# SAMHS INFO BULLETIN



Compiled by Corporate Communication

## SAVING ELECTRICITY

Saving electricity will not only save you money, but will also help with the rising power cuts as the country needs to cut energy by 10% for the current system to cope. It will also give you a warm feeling as you will be doing your bit to conserve natural resources, e.g. coal, and reducing the impact that energy consumption has on the environment, slowing down global warming.

### Hints and Tips in case of Power Outrages

The more electricity South Africans can save by switching off non-essential appliances, or not switching them on, the fewer power outages will occur. Below are hints and tips to assist you in case of power outages:

#### Reduce Consumption and Conserve Electricity

- Turn on lights and air-conditioners in offices and venues when absolutely necessary. Turn off when unoccupied or not in use for extend periods.
- Assess your needs carefully and consciously. Lights do not have to be switched on in offices and areas with adequate natural light.

- Avoid the use of heaters (dress to suit the weather). When purchasing heaters, procure those with a one hour timing device.
- Use natural ventilation where practically possible in preference to fans and air-conditioning.
- Close all doors and windows to keep air-conditioning inside.
- Purchase machinery and equipment that with energy efficiencies.
- Minimise the use of hot water.
- Evaluate your needs carefully when purchasing water heating units. Consider alternatives, e.g. a kettle instead of an urn.
- Report all suspected wastage to the Technical Service Department.
- Activate sleep mode on computers where possible.
- When computer is not in use for more than one hour, turn off the monitor.

### **Think about keeping things cool and heating them up**

- Boil water and keep in thermos flasks for hot drinks.
- Use a thermal cover on tea pots and other pots and pans to keep hot drinks and meals warm.
- Prepare meals beforehand in readiness for periods when there will be power cuts.
- Keep adequate stocks of essential foodstuffs.
- Most medication requiring refrigeration can be kept in a closed fridge for several hours without spoiling.