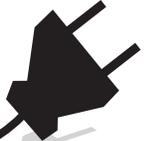


# Reduce Your School's Carbon Footprint with these ENERGY STAR® Activities to Improve Energy Efficiency



## Organize an ENERGY STAR Energy Vampire Event

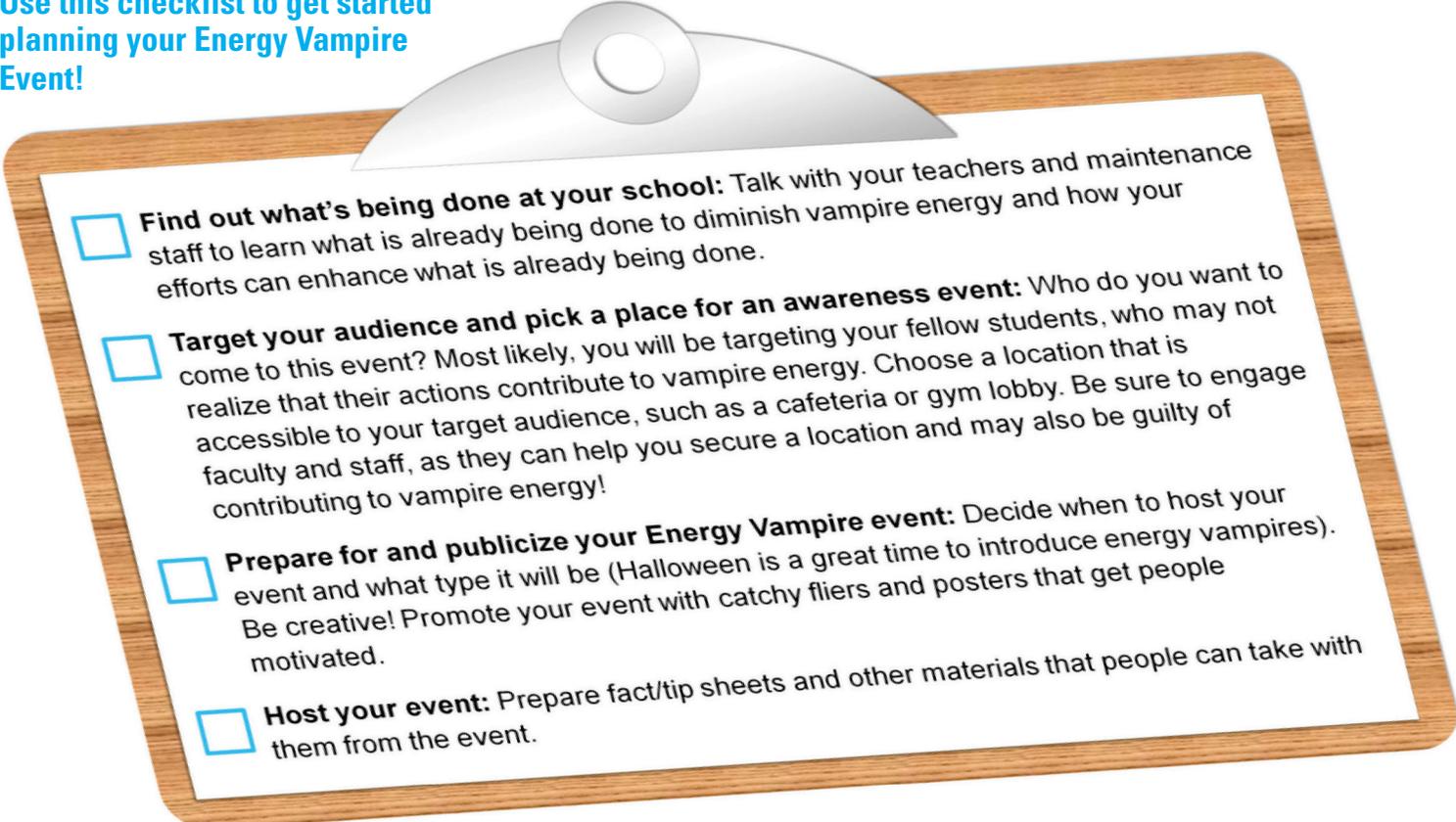


Standby power is the energy used by some products when they are turned off but remain plugged in to a power outlet. While this standby power sometimes provides useful functions such as remote control, clock displays, and timers, in other cases it is simply wasted power as a result of leaving an electronic device or power adapter plugged in. The devices causing this waste are known as energy vampires because these products are slowly sucking energy – vampire energy – without providing any useful function! By hosting an Energy Vampire Event at your school, you can teach fellow students about what vampire energy is, how to minimize vampire energy, and how using less energy can protect the environment.

### Simple ways to reduce energy wasted by energy vampires:

- Unplug power adapters or battery chargers when devices are fully charged or disconnected from the charger.
- Turn off devices when they are not in use.
- Use a power strip that can be switched off when devices are not in use.
- Enable power management on your computer and smart board.
- Look for the ENERGY STAR label when purchasing products.

### Use this checklist to get started planning your Energy Vampire Event!

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- Find out what's being done at your school:** Talk with your teachers and maintenance staff to learn what is already being done to diminish vampire energy and how your efforts can enhance what is already being done.
  - Target your audience and pick a place for an awareness event:** Who do you want to come to this event? Most likely, you will be targeting your fellow students, who may not realize that their actions contribute to vampire energy. Choose a location that is accessible to your target audience, such as a cafeteria or gym lobby. Be sure to engage faculty and staff, as they can help you secure a location and may also be guilty of contributing to vampire energy!
  - Prepare for and publicize your Energy Vampire event:** Decide when to host your event and what type it will be (Halloween is a great time to introduce energy vampires). Be creative! Promote your event with catchy fliers and posters that get people motivated.
  - Host your event:** Prepare fact/tip sheets and other materials that people can take with them from the event.