

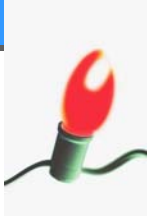


# SACRAMENTO SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

[www.SacramentoSustainableBusiness.org](http://www.SacramentoSustainableBusiness.org)

## Tips on Saving Energy around the Holidays at the Office and at

During the winter, cooking and decorating can eat up a lot of energy and resources. Here are a few tips on making the office and home a little more seasonably sustainable.



### Kitchen Tips

- No peeking in the oven unless you need to make absolutely necessary adjustments to your food. Good timing techniques and knowing your home and office appliances can cut down on the temperature loss by as much as 25 degrees which can increase cooking time and waste energy.
- If you can use a microwave oven for cooking, you use 50% less energy than conventional ovens. Slow cookers and electric skillet also save energy.
- 15% of your energy bill can often be tied up within the refrigerator's energy use. Keep the door closed as much as possible and trying to keep the items inside organized and open will help cold temperature circulate better. It might also not hurt to turn it down by just a couple degrees. May cut down on the thawing time for the vanilla ice cream that will take side stage of the pumpkin and apple pie.
- Washing dishes by hand can save you as much as 37% of water as opposed to a dishwasher. If you use the dishwasher, make sure it is full and worth the water.
- Using cold water instead of hot water saves on energy.

### Lightening on the Holidays

- Wait until 7pm to turn Christmas lights on.
- The large old traditional colored light use 10 watts per bulb while the newer little ones (C7 and C9) use 5 to 7 watts per bulb.
- New mini lights can use 70 percent less energy and last longer.
- There are newer bigger bulbs that use 30% less energy (5 watts per bulb).
- Use automatic timers for your Christmas lights.
- They also have LED Holiday bulbs: shatter proof, shock resistant and safe to touch without burning, no fire hazards and saves up to **80-90** percent on your energy costs. So they will literally pay for themselves by the end of the holiday season and last for years to come.

*I hope these few tips will help keep your homes and businesses a little more sustainable not just for the holidays, but all year long.*

## SSB Certified Lighting Science Group Starts the New Year with Energy Efficient Time Square Ball

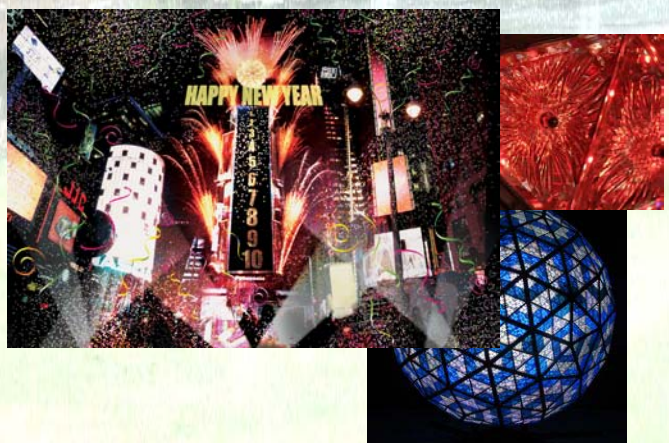
LSGC has designed and produced a LED integrated lighting system for the 2009 Time Square New Year's Eve Ball. Comprised of 672 LED modules, the ball was installed November 26 in Times Square.

The Ball uses 32,256 Philips Luxeon Rebel light-emitting diodes (LEDs), which is more than triple the number of LEDs, four times as bright, double the diameter and 20% more energy efficient than the previous year. Made of four LED colors, red, green, blue and white, it will produce a rich color palette, resulting in 4.3 billion possible color combinations.



The Integrated thermal management system optimizes a balance between brightness and lifetime. Extensive electrical and environmental tests were performed to assure long-term performance through all weather. This is a holiday gift that will certainly last all year long.

### Congratulations Lighting Science Group.



## Congratulations Stantec!!!

Stantec is all about “sustainability “. Their triple bottom line embraces environmental, social and economic success and responsibility. From what they develop to what their employees practice and partake in makes Stantec an SSB favorite.

They develop innovative designs in countless categories like light rail, LEED certified airports, wind farms, rehabilitating brown field sites, and sea water thermal control systems. Their business practices introduce award winning numbers of bicyclers and commuter incentives, green roof headquarters, stormwater runoff management, and that is just to name a few.

We would proudly like to recognize Stantec as a Sacramento Sustainable Business!

## Thumbs up to Give Something Back!!!

“Give Something Back (GSB)” is doing just that. GSB offers green office products at superstore prices while raising funds to support their communities. Donating more than half of their profits, nearing \$4 million to charitable causes, you are really getting more bang for your buck when you shop with GSB.

They offer more than 5,000 green products to choose from. They not only sell office supplies, but they have quite a few programs in place for their customers. Innovative programs that can help customers reuse and recycle, while saving money. Green audits are available through them, and much more.

They offer great products, great programs, great service and great prices, and if that wasn't enough, their Sacramento location has just been certified through SSB. We are more than happy to welcome Give Something Back as a Sacramento Sustainable Business. [www.givesomethingback.com](http://www.givesomethingback.com)

## The Sacramento Sustainable Business Program is Sponsored by...



Earth-friendly solutions  
[www.smud.org](http://www.smud.org)



For further information please contact:  
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## Be Water Smart!

### Be water smart and increase your bottom line

Call your local water utility for a Water Wise Survey of your property to help lower your water bills today:

- ✓ FREE Water Survey of your property for a walk-through by trained water utility staff for specific recommendations on saving water.
- ✓ Learn if there are specific incentives from you water utility, such as rebates up to \$125 per toilet for replacement of higher than 1.6 gallons per flush models

The Regional Water Authority can help you lower expenses, which means higher profits.



To schedule a Water Audit, call:  
(888)WTR-TIPS—(888)987-8477

## Insight on SSB...

The Sacramento Sustainable Business Program promotes businesses, organizations, and governments in the Sacramento River Watershed that adopt environmentally friendly practices and implement measures to:

- Conserve Energy
- Conserve Water
- Reduce Waste & Pollution
- Recycle and Use Recycled Products
- Implement “Green Building” Measures

The SSB is operated by the Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC) and is sponsored by the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District, the Water Forum, the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, and the Regional Water Authority.

## 105 and growing fast!

105 businesses; non-profits and government agencies have been “Certified Sustainable” during the past 21 months, since the start of the Sacramento Sustainable Business program in January 2007. There are currently over 50 applicants in the certification process who are implementing environmentally friendly practices in order to become certified as a Sacramento Sustainable Business. Become the next sustainable leader on your block and visit [www.SacramentoSustainableBusiness.org](http://www.SacramentoSustainableBusiness.org) to see how easy the process really is to reconstruct your bottom line and make a commitment to reducing your businesses impact on the environment. Call (916) 649-0225 for more info.