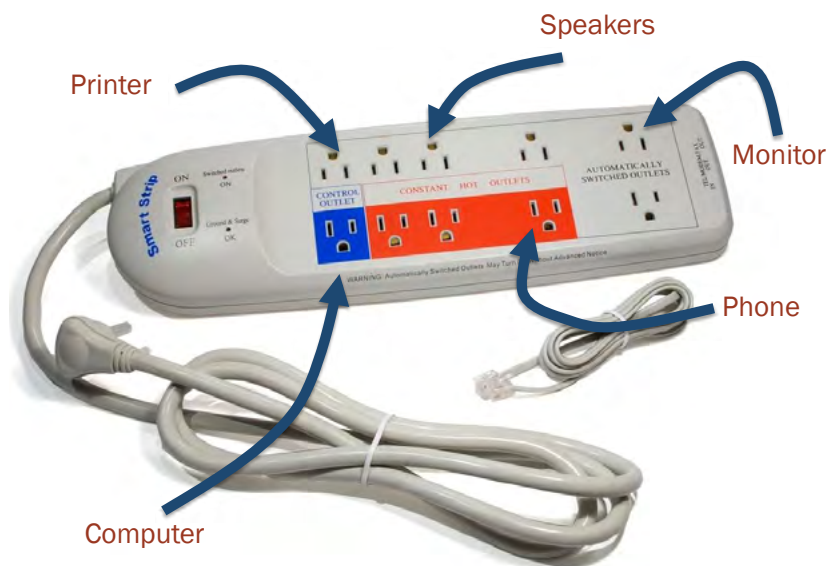# REDUCE YOUR COMPUTER'S ENERGY USAGE

SUSTAINABILITY OPPORTUNITY

Stanford is home to approximately 40,000 computers, which use 15% of campus electricity. Computers and computing equipment not only consume electricity directly, but also indirectly through increased building cooling loads. By reducing the energy computers and IT infrastructure require through simple steps, Stanford's electricity use can be reduced by 2 million kWh/year—a $10 to $20 annual energy cost savings per computer. These savings also sum to large reductions in campus greenhouse gas emissions. In order for Stanford to meet the emissions reduction targets set forth in the Energy & Climate Plan, there is a need for significant energy reductions at the building level. To organize individual action that contributes to this objective, the Building Level Sustainability Program specifically targets Desktop Power Management and SmartStrips as easy and cost-effective solutions to save energy at the user level. Every member of the Stanford community can control the energy use of his or her individual computing equipment.

HERE'S HOW:

1) Utilize a SmartStrip for your computing devices

- Increasingly, our workstations include more than just computers—there are printers, moniters, external hard drives, speakers, and a variety of other electronics associated with our computers, all of which have their own power switches. There is no need to leave your scanner or printer on if your computer is off, but manually turning each device off can be a chore.

- SmartStrips allow you to turn off all computing equipment at once by having a master control outlet for your computer and secondary outlets for computing peripherals. When your computer turns off or goes to sleep, the SmartStrip automatically turns off peripheral computing equipment—and automatically turns it back on when your computer wakes up. The SmartStrip also has some "Constant Hot" outlets for items like desk clocks or phones that should be on all the time.

- Students can purchase SmartStrips through the ASSU Green Store (greenstore. stanford.edu), and Faculty and Staff can purchase them through SmartMart (listed under Sustainable IT favorites).
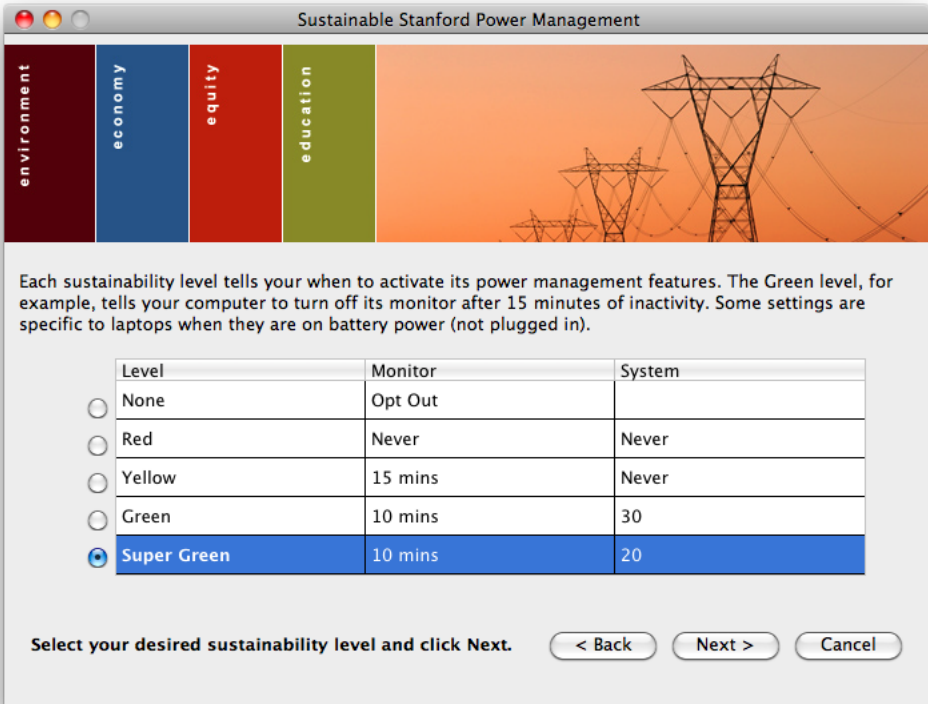
2) Install Stanford's Desktop Management Program

■ BigFix Power Management can be deployed individually on personal computers or across entire departments. BigFix Power Management is a free software program for Windows and Macintosh computers that can be downloaded from the Essential Stanford Software website (ess.stanford.edu). The program collects data on energy savings across the Stanford campus. Every little bit counts!

■ BigFix makes it easy for your computer to save energy when not in use. It configures your power management settings to automatically turn off your monitor after a set period of idle time—10 minutes of inactivity under the "Stanford Green" setting and 15 minutes of inactivity under the "Stanford Yellow" setting. "Stanford Green" and "Stanford Super Green" settings also include idle time thresholds that dictate when your computer should enter standby mode.

■ If you need to change your power management settings for the day to give a presentation or run a simulation you can eaily do so manually under your screen saver settings. BigFix will automatically reinstate the energy saving settings to your default the next day—you don't have to remember!

■ To learn how BigFix Power Management settings might affect the computing operations you typically perform, visit the Q&A section of the School of Earth Sciences power management page.

Sustainable Stanford Power Management

Each sustainability level tells your when to activate its power management features. The Green level, for example, tells your computer to turn off its monitor after 15 minutes of inactivity. Some settings are specific to laptops when they are on battery power (not plugged in).

Level	Monitor	System
None	Opt Out	
Red	Never	Never
Yellow	15 mins	Never
Green	10 mins	30
Super Green	10 mins	20

Select your desired sustainability level and click Next.   < Back   Next >   Cancel

SUSTAINABLE STANFORD