



Energy Pathway - Fast Facts

- Only **10 percent of the energy** used by an **incandescent light bulb** produces light; the rest is given off as heat.
- **Compact fluorescent light bulbs** (CFLs) use only a **quarter** of the energy of incandescent bulbs and last **8-12 times** longer.
- In the United States, about **49 percent of our energy comes from coal, 20 percent from natural gas, and 19 percent from nuclear.**
- Fossil fuels account for **86 percent of annual energy** use in the U.S.
- The amount of energy released by burning a wood match is 1 BTU. The total energy used in the U.S. each year is **99.89 quadrillion BTU.**
- **Thirty percent of the energy** used in buildings is used **inefficiently or unnecessarily.**
- Schools spend **more money on energy** than on computers and textbooks combined.
- If every U.S. household replaced **four incandescent bulbs** with compact fluorescent bulbs, we'd save as much energy as removing **seven million cars** from the road.
- In the next **two decades**, U.S. energy consumption will increase by **almost 40 percent** - an amount equal to today's energy use in California, Texas, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Illinois combined, according to estimates from the Energy Information Administration.
- Many idle electronics - TVs, VCRs, DVD and CD players, cordless phones, microwaves - use energy even when switched off to keep display clocks lit and memory chips and remote controls working. Nationally, these **energy "vampires" use 5 percent of our domestic energy** and cost consumers more than **\$3 billion** annually.
- Over an air conditioner's lifetime, only **one-fourth** of the total cost is for the purchase of the air conditioning unit. The greater cost - **three-fourths** - is for the energy to run the unit.
- **"Sleep" features** that power down electronic devices when they are not in use can save households up to **\$70 annually.**

