Computer Power Management

An average campus computer has an electricity consumption of about 100 watts. For particulars of many common computers you can refer to this table published by the University of Pennsylvania.

A typical computer including a monitor will cost roughly $96 annually to operate.

There are about 10,000 computers operating at Queen’s. Without any power management, it would cost the university roughly $960,000 annually to power office computers. With power management in place and restricting energy consumption to work hours only, it would cost the university $220,000.

Let’s all work to control these costs and help reduce the associated 960 MTCO₂e by:

- Ensuring computers and monitors are turned-off every day before leaving
- Enabling power management settings

How to enable power management setting on your computer

**On a Windows 7 computer**
- Click "Start" at the bottom left of your screen.
- Click "Control Panel".
- Click "Hardware and Sound".
- Under the "Power Options" section click "Change power-saving settings".
- Select the “Power saver” plan. The “Power saver" plan will put your display into sleep mode after 5 minutes of inactivity and put the computer to sleep after 20 minutes of inactivity. These options can be changed via the “Change advanced power settings” link.
- Close the dialogue box using the red X in the top right corner to save the changes.
- Your monitor will go into sleep mode after 5 minutes of inactivity, and your computer will go into sleep mode after 20 minutes of inactivity. To re-activate your computer, press any key or move the mouse.

**On a Mac OS X computer**
- Click on the apple symbol (Apple Menu) in the upper left of your screen.
- Go to "System Preferences"
- Click "Show All" (if necessary)
- Select "Energy Saver" from the "Hardware" row
- Set "Put the computer to sleep when it is inactive for" to 20 minutes using the slider
- Set "Put the Display to Sleep when the computer is inactive for" to 5 minutes using the slider
- Your monitor will go into sleep mode after 5 minutes of inactivity, and your computer will go into sleep mode after 20 minutes of inactivity. To re-activate your computer, press any key or move the mouse.