



Consider giving up your personal mini-fridge.



There may be close to a thousand mini-fridges on campus *in addition to* each building and residence's full-sized refrigerator. Do we need both?

We assume that 17% of faculty & staff and 50% of students on campus have either a small or medium mini-fridge. Added together, the energy cost for all of these fridges over one year could total more than \$45,000.

	kWhs/yr	\$/yr	Est. # on campus
Small Sanyo mini-fridge	245	\$34.33	570
Medium Haier mini-fridge	490	\$68.67	380
Full-sized Gibson fridge	1050	\$147.00	75



Multiplying the number of small and medium fridges by the energy each consumes, the total amount of electricity we give to personal mini-fridges is roughly 280,000 kWhs/yr.

As a point of comparison, that much electricity could power 44 Maine homes for a year.



Each kWh of electricity produces just under a pound of carbon dioxide (CO₂).

That means 280,000 lbs – 125 metric tons – of CO₂ are being released into the atmosphere as a result of having personal mini-fridges on campus.



So how do we make this easy in practice?

- Find several people on your floor to share a fridge. Donate extra mini-fridges to Clean Sweep at the end of the year.
- Keep a marker at your desk to label your lunch.
- Volunteer to clean out the shared refrigerator in your office/dorm once a month.

Did you know? Physical Plant is constantly working to improve energy efficiency on campus.

Last month physical plant installed new combustion air controls on the main steam plant – a technology which is expected to reduce our steam plant's annual fuel consumption by 3-4%.