

*"Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day; teach a man to fish and he will eat for a lifetime."*



# Catch of the Day



Learn To Fish the vast ocean of computer know-how!

## "Green" Computing

by Kathy

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You're probably aware of the recent trend toward going "green" and making lifestyle changes that conserve more natural resources and promote a healthier environment. I have discovered that I probably use a lot more energy at home than necessary, particularly because of all my computer-related devices. Here are some things that have occurred to me to do to preserve resources and save on my electric bill.

- Turn off the computer and other devices overnight or when not in use for long periods. This includes computer monitors (which don't necessarily power off when the computer does). You can check your computer's manual to see whether it supports scheduled automatic startup and shutdown.
- When the computer needs to stay on, I configure it to enter an energy-saving "sleep" mode after a certain period of inactivity.
- When printing something unimportant or temporary (e.g., driving directions), print on the blank side of used paper instead of using a blank sheet.
- Switch to a flat-panel display instead of an old CRT. Flat-panel LCDs use less energy than their bulky CRT ancestors.
- Many cell phone and other chargers draw electricity continuously when plugged in, even after being disconnected from their devices. I've connected all my chargers to a single power strip that I can turn on and off as needed. Another solution is to simply unplug a charger when it's not charging anything.



### Service Spotlight: Digital Photography

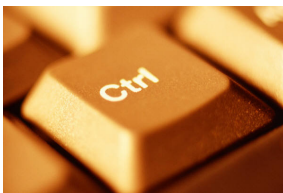


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## Shortcut of the Month (brought to you by the letter ...)



Increase efficiency with keyboard shortcuts!

### NumLock and the Numeric Keypad

If you have to enter a lot of numerical data into a computer (such as in a spreadsheet), remember the numeric keypad on the right side of most full-sized keyboards. When you press the **NumLock** key, you activate the calculator-like keypad that makes it easy to enter numbers with one hand. If you have a laptop, **NumLock** will activate a section of regular keys to make them act like a numeric keypad.

## The Random Resource

*...because your computer isn't just for computing*

You may not be a "geek" yourself, but perhaps there's one in your family or circle of friends. When a special occasion arises that requires a geeky gift, the perfect place to look is [ThinkGeek.com](http://ThinkGeek.com). ThinkGeek's web site has all kinds of creative gift ideas (many even practical) for all ages, especially for the technically inclined. Among the items you can find are an LED faucet light, a tiny remote controlled helicopter, and a titanium spork.