

News

Project "Understanding household energy consumption"
Prof. Suren Erkman

Events

Disconnect! / On débranche!

In partnership with Happy City Lab (Geneva) and with a supplemental grant from CO-GENER, the University of Lausanne's group working on energy consumption designed an event around the theme: Disconnect! or "on Débranche!" in French.

Based on ongoing research that considers the role of social norms in shaping energy-greedy habits, the motive for this event was to get neighbors to turn off all of their electricity for a candle-lit evening, with activities for children (building lanterns), performances (fire dancing and music), and star gazing. The research team piloted the concept with a cooperative of residential buildings in Geneva last October. 80 residents participated in this event.

Results:

- it was an opportunity to have inter-generational discussions around energy consumption, parents talking to children, the elderly sharing memories of the past and
- people enjoyed being disconnected and found the experience to be quite memorable.
- long term impact is not clear - several events/happenings would probably need to be combined to start changing at the level of habits and routines.



Est-ce qu'on arrive tous ensemble à éteindre toutes les lumières et appareils de nos appartements le temps d'une soirée et se «reconnecter» avec nos voisins, tout en faisant chuter la consommation d'électricité pendant quelques heures?

Dès 18h30, on allume des bougies sur son balcon ou le rebord des fenêtres et on éteint tout chez soi:

- ~ Écrans de télévision, ordinateur, tablette et smartphone
- ~ Toutes les lumières dans l'appartement
- ~ Le lave-linge, le lave-vaisselle, etc.
- ~ Bref, tout ce qui consomme de l'électricité.

Puis on prend ses aliments à griller et les accompagnements et on descend faire la fête avec ses voisins!

Animations gratuites
Atelier de fabrication de lanternes (dès 5 ans).
Observation des étoiles avec la société astronomique de Genève
Spectacle de jonglerie de feu

Organisation
HAPPY CITY
Happy City Lab
www.happycitylab.com
en collaboration avec l'Université de Lausanne dans le cadre du Programme national de recherche «Gérer la consommation d'énergie» (PNR71/FNS).

Design: Pablo Luvallay

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