

ENERGY SAVINGS TIPS

Water Conservation Tips

- Use less hot water.
- Install low flow showerheads.
- Make sure leaky faucets are repaired. A drip can waste up to 48 gallons of water per week. If it's a hot water faucet that's leaking, you're probably losing over a tank of hot water per week. That's at least a couple of showers down the drain.
- Economize. A lot of water goes down the drain needlessly. In the past, it has been plentiful and cheap. become conscious of the amount of water you are using and look for ways to use less whenever you can.
- Repair Leaks. A leak of one drop per second wastes 2,400 gallons per year. Most leaks are easy to detect and easy to repair with some basic know-how and a few simple tools.
- Install Water-Saving Devices. There are many devices you can either buy inexpensively or make yourself:
 - Aerators - mixes air with water
 - Flow regulators - Reduces the flow of water
 - Displacement devices – Reduces the amount of water stored in older toilets.
- Reuse Water. Used water is often suitable for other purposes, even with no treatment or filtration. When maximum conservation is called for, make the most of any water before you let it go down the drain.

Heating Tips for Property Owners

- Have your system maintained annually by a qualified technician.
- Control your thermostat setting. The temperature at which you set the thermostat will affect your energy savings.
- Consider installing a programmable thermostat.
- Ensure that your thermostat is located on an inside wall away from drafts and heat sources.
- In the summer, raise your thermostat setting.
- Ensure that your ducts are properly sealed.
- On sunny winter days, open blinds, shades, and curtains, especially if your windows face south, to help keep you warm. At night, close the blinds, shades, and curtains to help keep heat inside. In the summer keep heat out by closing window shades and blinds. It's helpful to keep windows closed to prevent hot air from blowing inside.
- Change the filters in your heating and cooling system regularly.
- Be sure that your fireplace has a tight fitting damper and keep it closed when the fireplace is not in use.
- Upgrade the attic insulation to R-30 and R-19 under the floor.
- Weather-strip doors and caulk windows.
- Ensure that your home has proper ventilation.
- Consider landscaping. The shading produced by properly placed trees and vines can reduce cooling cost.
- Insulate your water heater if it's an older unit and in an unconditioned space.
- Use warm rather than hot setting when drying clothes.

- Wash clothes in cold water.
- Clean dryer filter after each load.
- Cook everything at once and use pots that fit the burners.
- Clean refrigerator coils annually.
- Let food cool before putting it in the refrigerator.
- Try the dollar bill test. To be sure your refrigerator and freezer door seals are airtight. Check the seal on door gaskets by closing the door on a dollar bill. If it pulls out easily, consider a new door gasket.
- If you have an old refrigerator that you operate in the garage consider eliminating its use.
- Run only full loads in the dishwasher and scrape dishes with cold water.
- Microwave when possible.
- Turn lights off when not in room.
- Use fluorescent or energy savings lights.

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Cooling Tips for Property Owners

- Inspect Air Filters Often. Check every month during the cooling season. Wash or replace as needed.
- Don't Overcool. It's expensive and uncomfortable. The temperature difference between indoors and outside should be 15 degrees or less.

- Keep Condenser Clean. It is located outdoors, so check for leaves and debris. Be sure airflow is not obstructed.
- Follow A Service Schedule. Regular lubrication is essential. Check fan belt tension each season. Have a professional check the equipment every other year.
- Place Window Units Carefully. Avoid corners, closets, and obstructions. Install on the shady side of the house if possible.
- Weather-strip Doors And Windows. Caulk cracks in outside walls and foundation.
- “Button Up” when indoor air is cooler than the outdoor temperature. On hot days, close doors and windows from morning to evening.
- Use Storm Doors and Windows during summer months in rooms that are air-conditioned. This reduces heat inflow and cool air loss.
- Plan Your “Warm” Activities. Do laundry, dishwashing and ironing in off peak hours, early morning or late in the evening. You’ll be more comfortable.
- Reduce Indoor Activities that produce extra heat and moisture.
- Turn Off Lights and other appliances that generate heat (TV, stereo, etc.) except when actually in use.
- Use the Freezer and Refrigerator Efficiently. Open these appliances as little as possible and keep their condensing units dust-free.
- Close Off “Hot Spots” when the kitchen, laundry room and water heater are behind closed doors, other rooms stay cooler and drier.
- Use exhaust fans in the kitchen, laundry area and bath to push heat and humidity safely outside.
- Use ceiling fans. House fans can often be used in the evening instead of the air conditioner. The electricity consumption is much less than that of the air-conditioner.

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