

Simple Energy Saving Tips:

There are plenty of places in your home where easy changes mean BIG savings \$\$\$.
Here are a few simple tips to start you off.

- Lower your thermostat to 68°. And turn it down 5° at night.
- Check to see that windows and doors are closed when heating or cooling your home.
- Lower your water heater to 120°. You'll still have plenty of hot water.
- In the winter, make the most of sunlight by opening window coverings on south-facing windows to help warm your home.
- Do more loads of laundry with cold water.
- Air dry clothes when possible.
- Replace your furnace filter regularly. Furnace filters can easily be replaced monthly during heating season.
- Install low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators.
- Weatherize your home by repairing or replacing weather-stripping on doors and sealing windows. Caulk gaps around window & door trim. That's where you're most likely to find holes that leak expensive heated air to the exterior.
- Invest in a programmable thermostat that turns your heat down when you're not home. Make sure to program the thermostat once installed.
- Add more insulation. The attic and basement are the easiest places to begin. Approximately 40% of heat loss goes through the ceiling or attic space of homes. Seal all gaps in the ceiling of attic before adding insulation. This is one job to consider hiring a professional Weatherization company.
- Purchase a high efficiency heating system and water heater.
- Upgrade your furnace or boiler to a new high efficiency model. New technology boasts efficiency of some models to 95% or more. Many older models are less than 80% efficient.
- Upgrade your water heater to a new high efficiency model.
- Install storm windows and doors.
- Lower your heat to 55 when you are going away for several days.
- Keep fireplace dampers closed until you are prepared to use them. Install an inflatable pillow in the flue pipe if not using fireplace to prevent heated air from escaping.
- Have your heating system serviced & cleaned annually.
- Close heating registers in seldom used rooms.
- Only use water when necessary while doing dishes, washing up, brushing teeth or shaving.
- Taking short showers instead of baths.
- Wrap the hot water pipes coming out of your water heater with insulation.
- Load dishwashers, clothes washers and dryers to capacity, without overloading.
- Don't peek in the oven as you cook.
- Plug home electronics, such as TVs and DVD players, into SMART power strips; turn the power strips off when the equipment is not in use—TVs and DVDs in standby mode still use several watts of power.
- Replace your refrigerator with an ENERGY STAR-rated appliance if it is 10 years or older. A newer more efficient model will pay for itself in a few short years.
- Look for the ENERGY STAR® label on light bulbs, home appliances, electronics, and other products. ENERGY STAR products meet strict efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy.

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