

## Energy Saving Tips

### No-cost ways to save energy and money:

- Turn off everything not in use: lights, TVs, computers, chargers, etc.
- Activate "sleep" features on computers and office equipment that power down when not in use for a while.
- Check furnace or AC filter each month, and clean or replace it as needed .
- During hot months, keep window coverings closed on the south, east, and west windows. In winter, let the sun in.
- Glass fireplace doors help stop heat from being lost up the chimney. Also, close the fireplace damper when not in use.
- In summer, use fans whenever possible instead of AC and ventilate at night. Using fans to supplement AC allows you to raise the thermostat temperature, using less energy.
- Save hot water by taking 5 min showers instead of baths, and doing only full loads when using the clothes washer or dishwasher.
- Switch to cold water washing of laundry - detergents formulated for cold water get clothes just as clean.
- Lower the temperature on your water heater. It should be set at "warm," so that a thermometer held under running water reads no more than 130 degrees.
- Use a clothesline or laundry rack instead of a dryer.
- Only heat or cool the rooms needed – close vents and doors of unused rooms.

### Low-cost ways to save energy and money:

- Install compact fluorescent bulbs which use two-thirds less energy and last up to 10x longer.
- Use motion detectors on indoor and outdoor lights.
- Install low-flow showerheads and sink aerators to reduce hot water use.
- Look for the ENERGY STAR® label when purchasing products such as TVs, furnaces, cell phones, refrigerators, air conditioners and more.
- Seal and weatherstrip windows and doors to prevent heat or AC from escaping through leaks to the outdoors.
- Storm windows can reduce heat lost by single-paned windows by 25–50 percent during the winter.
- Use a water tank insulation wrap – it only costs about \$20 and helps hold the heat inside. When it's time to replace your tank, consider a tankless, on-demand system.
- Install a programmable thermostat for each zone to turn the heating or cooling down at night and whenever you leave home.
- Plant deciduous trees (lose their leaves in the fall) to give protection from the summer sun and permit winter sunlight to reach and warm your home. Plant trees on the south, east, and/or west sides of your home.
- Get an energy audit ([www.getenergysmart.org](http://www.getenergysmart.org))

For more information, check out [www.Energyhog.org](http://www.Energyhog.org)