

Residents - Energy Conservation - No & Low Cost Energy Opportunities

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.
- Save hot water by taking 5 min showers instead of baths, and doing only full loads when using the clothes washer or dryer.
- Switch to cold water washing of laundry - detergents formulated for cold water get clothes just as clean.
- Lower the temperature on your water heater 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, 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 on South, East and/or West side of home to give protection from the summer sun and permit winter sunlight to reach and warm your home.
- Get an energy audit (www.getenergysmart.org)