



## Top 10 Energy-Saving Tips

### ELECTRIC

- 1 Switch to CFLs:** Replace any incandescent light bulbs with Compact Fluorescents, which use 75% less energy and last 8 to 10 times longer.
- 2 Night Shift:** Do laundry & dishes during off-peak energy hours. Summer peak is noon to 6 p.m.
- 3 AC TLC:** Keep air conditioner units free from leaves that may clog vents.
- 4 Turn Off:** Just like your parents told you, turn off lights when you leave a room!
- 5 No Spares:** Unplug & recycle any extra refrigerators or freezers.
- 6 Furnace Filters:** Replace or clean furnace filters monthly during high-operating season; at least 4 times a year. Annual furnace inspection, cleaning and adjustments really help.
- 7 Neat Freak:** Keep microwaves and ovens clean and well-maintained to work most efficiently.
- 8 Power Down:** Use "sleep mode" and/or turn off computers, especially over night. Laptops use up to 90% less energy than bigger desktops.
- 9 Pull the Plug:** When not being used, pull the plug on any electronics, battery chargers and such to save these seemingly small items from adding up to take as much power as your refrigerator.
- 10 Ghost Buster:** Minimize the "phantom loads" in your home from appliances that use electricity even when not operating, such as VCRs, TVs, stereos, computers and kitchen appliances. Unplug them until ready to use or put them on a power strip to switch on and off to save on your bill!

### WATER

- 1 Full Loads:** Only run your clothes washer and dishwasher when they are full to save up to 1,000 gallons per month.
- 2 Go Low Flow:** Simple switches to low-flow faucet aerators and showerheads can save up to 75 gallons a month alone!
- 3 Tank Old Toilets:** Upgrade older toilets with water-efficient models to save with each flush.
- 4 Cover Pipes:** Insulate hot water pipes for faster hot water at the faucet. A simple and cheap step!
- 5 Cold Clothes:** Washing dark clothes in cold not only saves on hot water costs but also keeps colors bright. Switch from hot to warm to save on other loads.
- 6 Evaporation Effect:** Water lawns and gardens in early morning or late evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation wasting water.
- 7 Aim Sprinklers:** Don't waste water by drenching the house, sidewalk or street. Adjust sprinkler aim to accurately conserve water.
- 8 Direct Drip:** For shrubs and trees, drip irrigation applies water directly to the roots where it's most effective instead of wasting it on leaves and branches.
- 9 Ice Ice Baby:** Dump extra ice cubes into hanging baskets, planters and flower pots to give plants a cool drink without wasting water from overflow.
- 10 Drop in the Bucket:** Keep a bucket in the shower to catch water while it warms up. Use this water for plants and pets instead of letting it run down the drain.

### NATURAL GAS

- 1 Powerful Program:** Install a programmable thermostat to micro-manage your heat/AC to exactly when you need it and the temperature you like. Save up to \$115 a year from a \$25 product!
- 2 Insulate Attic:** Up the R-value upstairs as the most cost-effective improvement for saving gas from heating losses through your roof.
- 3 Cool Your Jets:** Lower the water heater temperature to 120° instead of 140° to save up to 10%.
- 4 Down Under:** Inspect insulation levels in your home's foundation, crawlspace and rim joist areas to keep your home comfortable.
- 5 Limit Leaks:** Caulk, seal, and weatherstrip all seams, cracks and openings to the outside of your home...doors, windows, pipes, etc.
- 6 Be a Star:** Choose ENERGY STAR® efficient product models when replacing appliances and equipment in your home to instantly save energy costs.
- 7 Turn Down Service:** Turning down the thermostat a few degrees can make a big difference, health permitting. Wear layers to lower your heating bill.
- 8 Fan Fix:** Switch ceiling fans to push rising warm air downward to keep rooms feeling warmer.
- 9 Shut the Door:** Simply closing doors on closets and unused rooms will keep heat contained and costs too.
- 10 New View:** Replace inefficient windows with new high-performance models to keep energy costs from flying right out the window due to losses from leaks.

**Helpful Websites:**  
[www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov)  
[www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)

[www.cfu.net/save\\_energy](http://www.cfu.net/save_energy)  
[www.eere.energy.gov](http://www.eere.energy.gov)  
[www.energy.gov/energysavingtips.htm](http://www.energy.gov/energysavingtips.htm)