

# Energy Efficiency Tips

**Saving money and energy is easier than you think.**

Help reduce emissions in the atmosphere and put a little more money in your pocket. Making these small, inexpensive adjustments can make a big difference!



## Try these quick and easy ways to save:

- Set thermostats between 65° and 70° during the winter, and at 58° when away from the house for more than a few hours. By turning your thermostat back 10°-15° for eight straight hours, you can save about 5%-15% a year on your heating bill—a savings of as much as 1% for each degree.
- Turn down thermostats automatically without sacrificing comfort by installing a programmable thermostat.
- Change or clean furnace air filters once a month during the heating season. Furnaces consume less energy if they “breathe” more easily. Use the arrival of your natural gas bill as your reminder to change the filter.
- Warm air rises, so use registers to direct warm airflow across the floor.
- Close vents and doors in unused rooms. Close dampers on unused fireplaces.
- Set your water heater to 120° or the medium temperature setting. Drain a quart of water from the bottom of your water heating tank every three months to remove sediment that can hamper the efficiency of your unit. Water heating is a typical family’s third-largest energy expense, accounting for about 14% of utility bills.
- Insulate water heaters with insulation blankets in accordance with manufacturer’s guidelines.
- Install water-flow restrictors in showerheads and faucets
- If radiators are located near cold walls, place a sheet of aluminum foil between the radiator and the wall to reflect heat back into the room.
- Run washing machines and clothes dryers with a full load.
- On sunny days, open curtains and blinds on windows that receive direct sunlight. Close them at night or on cloudy days to insulate against the cold air outside.

## Keep the cold out and the costs down.

Air leaks contribute to significant energy loss. See estimates below. Reduce air leaks and cut as much as 10% from your monthly bill by using caulk or weather-stripping to seal leaks around:

- Floors, walls, ceilings (31% of energy loss)
- Ducts (15% of energy loss)
- Fireplace (14% of energy loss)
- Plumbing (13% of energy loss)
- Doors (11% of energy loss)
- Windows (10% of energy loss)
- Fans and vents (4% of energy loss)
- Electric outlets (2% of energy loss)

**Income and usage eligible customers may qualify for weatherization.  
For more information call us at 1-800-365-3234**

