



## Energy Saving Tips

- ◆ Turn your thermostat down 5 degrees.

Each degree saves about 2% on your heating costs. Five degrees would save around \$100.

- ◆ **Make sure heat can get into the room.** Keep furniture and drapes from blocking heat registers and return vents.
- ◆ **Never use the stove to heat your home.** It's expensive and extremely dangerous.
- ◆ **Have your furnace inspected regularly.** This will ensure your unit is functioning efficiently and can save approximately 10% on your heating costs.
- ◆ **Install a programmable thermostat.** Use it to automatically control the heat when you are not at home and overnight when you are sleeping.
- ◆ **Check to see if cold air is getting into your home.** If your house is drafty, you may need to seal air leaks and install additional insulation. Repair cracks in windows, and caulk and weather-strip leaky frames. Be sure to check outside vents as well.
- ◆ **Use drapes.** Where windows face the sun, keep drapes open during the day to naturally heat your home.

## Energy Assistance Program

The Energy Assistance Program provides qualifying households with a one-time utility benefit during the colder winter months to help defray the increased cost of heating their homes. If funding is available, a summer benefit is provided to assist with keeping the home cool during the summer. The following information is required at the time of application:

- ◆ Social Security cards for all household members
- ◆ Photo ID
- ◆ Income documentation for all adults in the household
- ◆ Landlord Affidavit if renting with utility included
- ◆ Electric bill
- ◆ Heating bill



525 N. 4th Street Vincennes, IN 47591  
(812)882-7927, ext. 2

[www.pacecaa.org](http://www.pacecaa.org)

It is the policy of Pace Community Action Agency to comply with all State and Federal Regulations prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, age, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin, ancestry, family status, or status as a veteran.

Energy Education



# Energy Conservation Tips

**PACE**

*Community Action Agency, Inc.*

*We Educate, Empower & Improve*



## Lighting

- \* **Turn off lights when you're not using them.** Open your curtains to let daylight in to light your home.
- \* **Switch to Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs (CFLs).** CFLs last up to 10 times longer than standard bulbs, saving about \$30 over the lifetime of the bulb. They produce about 75% less heat, which can cut home cooling costs as well.
- \* **Keep bulbs clean.** Dust can cut light output by as much as 25%.



## Summer

- \* **Install a programmable thermostat.** Make sure it's programmed to automatically turn back the cooling when you are not home and when you are sleeping.
- \* **Set the thermostat at 78 degrees or higher if you use ceiling fans.** You can save 3% to 5% on your utility costs for each degree you raise your thermostat.
- \* **Keep filters clean** to ensure your unit is working efficiently.
- \* **Close windows and shades during the day.** At night, open windows opposite one another for cross-ventilation.

## Water Saving Tips



- \* Check all faucets, pipes and toilets for leaks.
- \* Install water saving showerheads and ultra-low-flush toilets.
- \* Take shorter showers. Use a shower timer to keep it under 5 minutes.
- \* Turn off the water while brushing your teeth or shaving.
- \* Review your bill each month - if you have a drastic increase in consumption, there may be a hidden leak.



## Energy Star Label

- \* **Look for the Energy Star label** when purchasing new appliances, ceiling fans, and electronics. Energy Star products use less energy which helps to lower your utility bill. Approximate savings are \$110 per year on utility costs.
- \* **Check for Energy Star Windows and doors.** Approximately \$377 can be saved a year in utility costs when switching to an Energy Star single-paned window. (\$78 per year for double-paned windows).

## Laundry



- \* **Wash clothes in cold water.** 90% of the energy used by washing machines is for hot water.
- \* **Wash only full loads.** Many machines use the same amount of water whether you wash a full load or just a few items.
- \* **Use the moisture sensor feature on your dryer** if available. This way, you won't over dry your clothes.
- \* **Clean the dryer lint filter after every load** as clogged filters drive up drying costs. Also check your outside dryer exhaust vent to make sure outside air is not getting in to your house through the dryer.
- \* **Dry clothes outside in good weather**—sunlight is free!

## Cooking



- \* **Use toaster ovens, crockpots and microwaves.** They use less energy than the stove or oven.
- \* **Use the smallest pans possible.** It takes less energy to heat them.
- \* **Use lids.** They help to cook the food quicker by keeping the steam in the pot or pan.