



## 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



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Energy Education



# Energy Conservation Tips

**PACE**

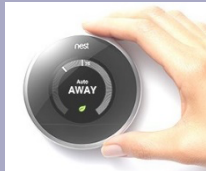
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## Lighting

- \* **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.