

ENERGY SAVING TIPS



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- Turn computers and monitors off when not in use.
- Turn large-screen TVs off completely when not in use.
- Turn off ceiling fans when leaving the room. Fans cool people, not rooms.
- Unplug battery chargers when not needed.
- Cook outdoors – grilling is a great way to save energy and eliminate unwanted heat from cooking indoors.
- Use a slow-cooker instead of simmering foods on the stove.
- When cooking on the oven range, use pot lids to help food cook faster.
- If you are heating water on the stove, use hot tap water instead of cold.
- Use microwave for cooking when possible.
- Use dishwasher's air-dry cycle instead of the heat-dry cycle to dry dishes.
- Check for energy saving settings on flat-panel TVs like automatic brightness control and a power saving sleep mode.
- Close shades and drapes during the day to help keep heat out.
- Replace any light bulb, especially ones that are on more than one hour per day, with a light-emitting diode (LED) bulb.
- Always use cold-water rinse.
- Enable auto power down feature on gaming consoles.
- Dry consecutive loads to harvest heat remaining in dryer from last load.
- If you don't unplug them, use energy-saving modes or automatic sleep functions on electronics.
- Change HVAC air filters monthly.
- Check that the dryer vent hose is tightly connected to dryer.

- Clean dryer's lint trap before each load.
- Avoid running the dryer during the heat of the day.
- Run ceiling paddle fans on medium, blowing down in summer and paddle fans on low, blowing up in winter.
- Set the refrigerator temperature to 34 – 37 degrees Fahrenheit and freezer temperature to 0 – 5 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Set water heater temperature no higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Switch your refrigerator's power-saver feature to "ON," if available.
- Clean refrigerator coils annually.
- Consider using a "solar-powered" clothes dryer: an old fashioned clothes line.
- Ensure attic access door closes tightly and is insulated.
- Minimize clothes drying time by using an auto moisture sensor, if available.
- Only do full laundry loads.
- Only run dishwasher when fully loaded.
- Ensure refrigerator door seals are tight.
- Ensure windows and doors are properly weather-stripped
- Ensure your outdoor heat pump/air conditioning unit is kept clean and free of debris.
- Have your HVAC system serviced once per year by a NATE-certified technician.
- If you must do smaller wash loads, adjust the water level in the washing machine to match the load size, especially when using hot water.
- Use outdoor security lights with a photocell and/or a motion sensor.
- Verify dryer vent hose is tightly connected to the inside wall fitting.
- Verify livestock water tank heaters are off when not needed.
- Wash clothes in cold water. Use hot water only for very dirty loads.
- Install a programmable thermostat to save even more.
- If you have a garage door – try to keep it up or cracked in summer months and down in winter months to save energy.

- Make sure dryer vent hose is not kinked or clogged.
- Make sure insulation in your attic does not block soffit vents.
- Make sure the dryer's outdoor exhaust door is not blocked or clogged.
- Monitor your home's relative humidity in the summer. If it consistently stays in the 60 percent range or higher, ask your HVAC technician about lowering your central air conditioning unit's indoor fan speed.
- Outside your home, caulk around all penetrations including telephone, electrical, cable, gas, water spigots, dryer vents, etc.
- Plant trees and shrubs to provide shade on the east, south and west sides of your home. Evergreen trees and shrubs can provide a windbreak on the north side.
- Plug electronic devices such as cable boxes, printers and TVs into power strips to turn off during vacations or long periods without use.
- Replace outdoor lighting with its equivalent outdoor-rated LED bulb.
- Request an ENERGY STAR® set-top box from cable or satellite provider.
- Use fixtures with electronic ballasts and T-8, 32 Watt fluorescent lamps.
- When buying a new computer, select an ENERGY STAR® model. Consider buying a laptop as it uses less energy than a comparable desktop.
- When purchasing new appliances, seek out electronics and lights are ENERGY STAR® labeled.