



BE RESOURCEFUL.
DO IT YOURSELF.

MORE DIY TIPS

Furnace: Schedule a furnace check to keep your furnace running efficiently and safely for many years to come. Replace furnace filters with pleated versions. They cost about \$10 more, but they make a large difference in energy savings.

Window Film: Rather than buy all new windows, which can be rather expensive, apply window films to reduce the amount of heat transferred into your home.

Water Heater: When it is time to replace your water heater, opt to go with a tank-less version. These water heaters do not waste energy keeping a large tank of water hot. Instead, they supply hot water on demand, only when it is needed.

A whole house approach to energy efficiency

- Turn off ALL electrical appliances when not in use.
- Dress according to the weather instead of adjusting the thermostat.
- Keep lights and heat sources away from thermostats.
- Keep all lights and lamp fixtures free of dust.
- Do NOT close doors to unused rooms. Your heating system is designed to work best in a specific sized area; that includes those rooms.
- Never cover vents in floors or walls without a deflector to move the air.
- Do not block radiators.
- Keep furniture and curtains away from baseboard heaters.
- In the winter, open curtains and blinds during the day while closing them at night.
- Use area rugs on hardwood and tile floors to keep them warmer.
- Insulate all outside electrical outlets.
- Install dimmers on light switches.
- Close fireplace damper when not in use.
- Open windows on mild weather days.
- Teach your children the importance of saving energy.
- Insulate the outside of your water heater and the pipes leaving it.
- Turn the temperature on your water heater down to 120 degrees.

Bathroom

- Place a half gallon water jug in the toilet tank to reduce water use.
- Use a five minute egg timer for showers.
- Hang towels to dry and use at least twice before washing.
- Always unplug bathroom appliances when not in use.

Kitchen

- Cook smaller meals with a small convection or microwave oven.
- Cook meals during the cool part of the day
- When cooking in an oven, turn it off a few minutes before the food is done. The residual heat will finish your cooking.
- Avoid opening the oven door when in use.
- Hand-stir small batches of food instead of using a mixer.
- Use a crock pot to cook in the summer.
- Only run the dishwasher when it is full.
- Never leave the water faucet running.

Laundry Room

- Only wash and dry full loads of clothes.
- Clean the lint trap and dryer vent on every wash clothes in cold water as much as possible.
- Hang dry clothes when weather permits.
- If you have the room, install an indoor clothes line.
- Hang clothes immediately when removed from dryer to prevent wrinkling.

