



# Energy-saving tips to help lower your bills

## Heating and Cooling

- Set your thermostat to the highest comfortable setting in the summer and the lowest comfortable setting in the winter. The smaller the difference between the inside and outside temperatures, the lower your energy usage and bill will be.
- Using a ceiling fan allows you to set your thermostat 3-4 degrees higher for cooling or lower for heating. Set the fan's switch to run clockwise in the winter and counterclockwise in the summer.
- Replace HVAC filters each month and have your system serviced regularly to help avoid operational issues that can cause higher energy bills.
- Central AC? Keep the fan switch in the "auto" position. Leaving the switch set to "on" could add up to an extra \$25 a month to your electric bill.
- Use caulk and weatherstripping to seal leaks and add insulation where needed.
- Add door sweeps to prevent air from escaping through the gap under your doors.

## Appliances

- Replacing appliances? Check Energy Guide ratings to find the most efficient models before you buy.
- A worn refrigerator door seal lets energy escape. If the door can't hold a dollar bill, replace the seal.

## Lighting

- Replace incandescent bulbs with energy-saving LEDs. They use up to 90% less energy and can last up to 25 times longer.

## Water Heating

- Install faucet aerators on your kitchen and bathroom faucets to help reduce water flow.
- Install low-flow showerheads to help save electricity and water.
- Use foam pipe insulation on the first 6 feet of water heater pipe for maximum savings.
- Repair leaky pipes promptly.
- Save energy by setting the water temperature for a dishwasher with a preheater at 120°F and without a preheater at 145°F.
- Wash your clothes in cold water to help save up to 50 cents a load.

## Windows

- Replace old windows with new, energy-efficient windows to help save on energy bills.
- Look for the National Fenestration Rating Council label that indicates high performance and energy savings to help maximize return on investment.
- Seal all window leaks.
- Keep your blinds, drapes and curtains closed in the summer to help prevent the sun's rays from heating your house. On sunny winter days, leave drapes or blinds open to allow the sun to warm the house. Close them at night to help insulate your home.



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