

**NO-COST,
LOW-COST**



**ENERGY
SAVING TIPS**

TOP TEN WAYS TO SAVE WITHOUT SPENDING A DIME

- 1** The biggest energy consumption in your home – typically 55% – is from your heating and cooling equipment. To help save on your utility bill, set your thermostat at 78° during summer and 68° during winter.
- 2** Saving energy in the bathroom can be easy. Instead of filling the tub to take a bath, take a shower. Plus, if you reduce your shower time, you use less hot water – helping save even more.
- 3** Water heating is the second biggest energy consumption in your home. The typical water heater can cost up to \$8 per person, per month to operate. To help save energy, set the temperature of your water heater at 120°.
- 4** Another helpful tip to save energy is in the kitchen. Run the dishwasher only when you have a full load and let the dishes air dry when finished. This helps save hot water and electricity.
- 5** When the outside temperature is mild, turn off your air conditioning. Open windows and use ceiling fans to help circulate air. You can enjoy fresh air and save energy at the same time.
- 6** Household lighting can add up your utility bill. Turn off any lights that are not in use and make sure light bulbs are free of dust. Also, use task lighting instead of brightly lighting an entire room. You'll see how easy it is to save energy.
- 7** In the kitchen, consider using the microwave instead of the oven to cook meals. If the weather is nice, fire up the grill. Not using the oven keeps the kitchen from heating up and your energy use down.
- 8** Keep the filters in your home clean. Your furnace filters should be checked and cleaned monthly. The dryer filter should be cleaned before each use. A clean filter means better airflow, which keeps the unit running properly.
- 9** Beware the phantom! Chargers used for cell phones, iPods, laptops and other electronic equipment use energy even when they are not connected to the device. Unplug them when not in use.
- 10** Dress for savings! Wearing light clothing during the summer and warm layered clothing during the winter may help you keep that thermostat at more efficient temperatures.

more tips

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TOP TEN WAYS TO SAVE SPENDING A FEW DIMES

- 1** To keep your furnace running efficiently, change out air filters monthly. The cost is minimal and will help extend the life of your unit.
- 2** Replace your existing thermostat(s) with a programmable thermostat. Installation is easy and it's a great way to control your heating and cooling temperatures. You can simply set it and leave it!
- 3** For the best savings, make sure your home is insulated well. Insulating your attic, outside walls, between floors and around heating ducts or pipes exposed to outside air can help cut your utility costs.
- 4** Touch the outside of your water heater. If it is hot or warm, cover it in an approved insulation blanket. These are fairly inexpensive and can save on your water heating costs.
- 5** Valuable heated or cooled air can escape to the outside through areas around your windows and doors. Close up holes, caulk and add/replace any torn, worn out weatherstripping where necessary.
- 6** Fix any leaky, dripping faucets or toilets. A faucet dripping two drops per second can waste up to 200 gallons of water a month.
- 7** As your old light bulbs burn out, replace them with energy saving compact fluorescent bulbs. They use one-fourth the energy of an incandescent bulb while giving off the same amount of light.
- 8** If you are in the market for new appliances, read the energy efficient label and choose models that are more efficient. Most newer models can save up to half the amount of energy used.
- 9** For maximum efficiency and safety, have your heating and cooling unit checked every year by a licensed contractor. It's a small price to pay for energy savings on your utility bill.
- 10** Older showerheads tend to have higher flow rates, so consider replacing them with newer, aerating low flow models. This will help reduce the amount of water used during showers.

