

Every day Tips

Use these water + energy saving habits to lower your utility bill!

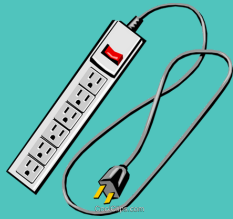
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Use a power strip

Save up to
\$100/yr



Avoid "Phantom Loads" by plugging frequently used electronics like TVs, computers, DVDs, and game consoles into a power strip that you can hit the switch to turn off every time not in use.

Fill the dishwasher



Only run the dishwasher when the load is full. Or if hand-washing, turn **off** the water except when rinsing.

Turn off the lights



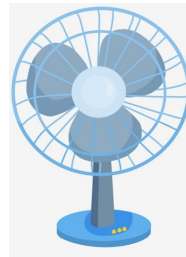
When not in use, keep the lights off. Same goes for any electronics!

Shorten it



Try setting a timer and challenge yourself to keep your shower under 10 minutes and turn the water off while brushing your teeth.

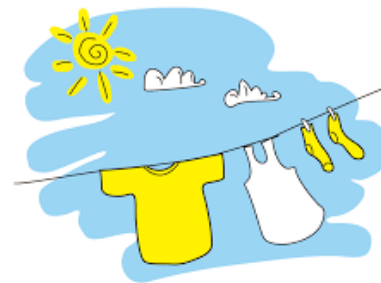
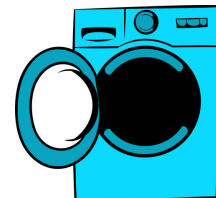
Fan yourself



Use fans for comfort instead of AC when you can, but only keep it on when someone is in the room. Set ceiling fan blades to blow down in the summer and up in the winter.

Wash with cold

80% of energy used in washing clothes and dishes is spent heating the water.



Line dry clothes

Dry your clothes using the sun instead of your wallet. If a clothesline or drying rack is not an option, remember to run only full dryer loads only on a low-heat setting, and check the vent pipe for lint build up, which may cause it to run longer, *and* be a fire hazard!

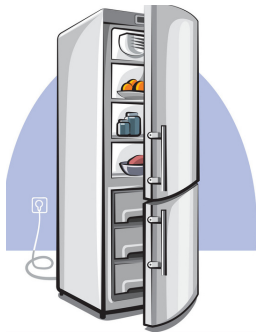
Download the full energy-saving guide: <https://energy.gov/energysaver/downloads/energy-saver-guide>

Sources: energy.gov

<https://water.usgs.gov/edu/activity-drip.html>

<http://codb.us/DocumentCenter/View/891>

Additional Tips



Refrigerator

- Keep freezer and refrigerator full to help hold the cold inside, but make sure not to overfill as this restricts air flow.
- Make sure your freezer temperature is between 0-5°F and your refrigerator between 36-40°F. Keeping temperatures within these ranges help ensure food safety and efficiency.
- Try to clean/vacuum condenser coils and wipe down fridge/freezer door gaskets twice a year.
- Wait for hot food to cool down to room temperature before placing them in the fridge. This makes the fridge work harder and longer to keep cool, which costs you!

Fix plumbing leaks

- Identify water leaks by turning off all faucets, and then watching the water meter to see if still moves.
- Get those leaks fixed! A moderate toilet leak can add up to 72,000 gallons per year and a sink leak of one drip per second wastes 2,082 gallons of water annually.



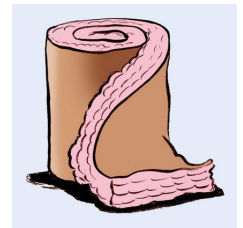
Heating and Cooling

- In the summer, set the AC to 78°F or higher, and set the heat to 68°F or lower in winter. If you have a programmable thermostat, use it to set the temperatures for when you are not home.
- Check your filter monthly and change it when it looks dirty.
- Make sure there are no items emitting heat near the thermostat.

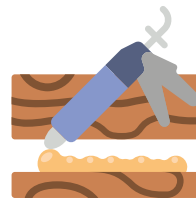


Insulate attic hatch/scuttle

- Insulating your attic hatch helps the rest of your attic insulation work as it should. It also helps prevent drafts in the attic that cause loose-fill insulation to shift and degrade its value.



Seal air gaps



Caulk windows and weather strip doors that leak air. Don't forget to seal around pipes and plumbing fixtures too! **This can save you 10-20%** on your heating and cooling costs.

Downsize garbage cart



Depending on your municipality, you may be able to switch to a smaller garbage cart size to **save hundreds of dollars a year!** Reduce the need for a larger size by recycling as much as possible and composting food waste where possible.

Which tip(s) will you commit to today to help you save?

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