

National Energy Awareness Month 2011

SAVE ENERGY NOW!



Save Energy Today

Set your thermostats a little lower. If you usually heat your rooms to 70°F in winter, lower your thermostats to 68°F. If you've been keeping your home at 68°F, lower the thermostat a few more degrees and put on a sweater.

Do an energy-wasters "walk-around" checking your home for cracks, air leaks, drafty doors, faulty windows, leaking faucets—all the "little" things in your home that can add up to a big waste of energy. Make a "To Do" jobs list.

Turn off your computer and monitor when not in use.

Air dry your dinner dishes tonight instead of letting the dishwasher do it.

Lower the thermostat on your hot water heater to 120°F.

Save Energy This Month

Complete the jobs on your energy-wasters walk-around jobs list.

Clean or replace furnace filters, clean air ducts, air registers, baseboard

heaters and radiators. Make sure heat emitters aren't blocked by drapes or furniture.

Plug TV's DVD players and other home electronics into a power strip, then shut off the whole power strip when you're not watching TV. These electronic devices use a surprising amount of power when "off," but in stand-by mode.

Do wash only when you have a full load.

Take shorter showers.

Save Energy Long Term

Have a home energy audit conducted by a professional to identify all the ways you can save energy.

Put your home heating/cooling system on a "tune and clean" schedule of preventive maintenance. Call a professional to do the job right.

Install a programmable thermostat. Set it for comfort and energy saving winter and summer.

Replace conventional light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs or LED's.

Look for the **Energy Star** label on appliances, heaters, light bulbs and other household items, then make smart energy use part of your buying decision.

Insulate your home throughout. If you don't have attic insulation add it. Caulk or insulate around electrical outlets, windows, doors, etc. —everywhere warm air gets out and cold air seeps in.

Wrap your water heater with an insulating blanket.

Add a boiler outdoor reset control. This device automatically adjusts the output of your boiler to changes in the outside temperature to make your boiler operate as efficiently as possible. You can save substantial energy and improve the comfort of your home. This is a job for a professional, so contact a reliable plumbing & heating contractor in your area.

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