

# 10 Tips for Saving Energy

## No Cost



**1. Bring on the cold: Wash clothes in cold water.**

Unless your clothes are really dirty — choose cold water. It is the most energy efficient and economical choice!



**2. Set low standards: Set your thermostat to 68 degrees Fahrenheit in winter.**

For every one degree Fahrenheit you turn your thermostat down, you will use 1% less energy.



**3. Let the sunshine in: Open or close your blinds depending on the season.**

Open curtains and blinds in cooler months to allow the sunlight to warm your home. Close them in warmer months to keep rooms cooler.



**4. Save energy and avoid scalding burns: Set water heater temperature to 120 degrees Fahrenheit.**

The default temperature setting on water heaters is around 140 degrees. Turning the temperature down to 120 degrees is safer and will save 4% to 22% energy annually.



**5. Close the fireplace damper when not in use.**

Keep the damper in your fireplace closed unless a fire is burning. Otherwise your heated or cooled air can escape through the chimney.



**6. Change direction with the seasons.**

In the winter, set ceiling fans to a clockwise rotation to circulate warm air. In summer, set fans to counter-clockwise to circulate cool air.

## Low Cost



**7. Keep the lights on longer: Replace incandescent and CFL lighting with LEDs.**

ENERGY STAR® residential LEDs use less energy and last longer than incandescent and CFL lighting.



**8. Avoid energy vampires: Plug your TV, cable box and video games into a smart power strip.**

Idle electronics suck energy and can contribute to up to 10% of a household's monthly electric usage. Plugging equipment into a smart power strip reduces energy waste and saves money on your electric bill.



**9. Keep it clean: Check and change furnace filters regularly.**

Clogged or dirty air filters cause your furnace to work hard and waste energy. Clean filters increase efficiency, extend the life expectancy of your furnace and help cut energy costs.



**10. Take better showers: Install high-pressure/low-flow showerheads.**

Aerators and high-pressure/low-flow showerheads not only save water, they save on the cost of heating water. Less water used is less water to heat.

