



Winter Efficiency Tips

- Set your heating system thermostat to 68°F (or even lower if you can bear it) and to 56 - 60°F when you leave for an extended period of time.
- Setting the thermostat lower will keep your heating unit from working as hard.
- Keeping your home cool at night - and bundling up with blankets, socks and warm pajamas - can help keep your bill a little lower each month.
- Take advantage of solar energy! Open curtains on your south-facing windows during winter days to allow free heat into your home. Close window coverings after the sun goes down to avoid losing that heat!
- Make sure your ceiling fans are rotating in a clockwise direction. Setting the fan to clockwise for the winter will push warm air down and “trap” it where you want it! Set the rotation speed to a low level.
- Keep your fireplace damper closed unless a fire is burning. Keeping the damper open is like keeping a window wide open during the winter.
- Use a humidifier to add moisture to the air. The air inside your home can become very dry. Moist air feels warmer and holds heat better, so a humidifier can help you feel comfortable when your thermostat is set at a lower temperature.



General Efficiency Tips

- Caulk and weatherstrip around windows and doors to stop air leaks.
- Make sure you have at least 10” of blown attic insulation over all heated and cooled areas. (Approximately R38)
- Seal gaps in floors and walls around pipes and wiring.
- Service your HVAC unit ANNUALLY and change air filters MONTHLY. Inspect ductwork and repair any gaps.
- Keep your outside air unit clean and clear of debris.
- Keep all windows and doors near your thermostat closed tightly.
- Keep heat sources such as lamps and appliances away from your thermostat.
- Replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescents or LEDs – they use 75% less energy.
- Use low-watt bulbs where lighting is not critical.
- Turn off lights, televisions and other appliances when not in use.
- Install aerating, low-flow faucets and shower heads.
- Fix any leaky faucets – one drop per second can add up to 165 gallons a month.
- Wrap your water heater with insulation or install an insulating blanket.
- Reduce hot water use by taking shorter showers and using cold water for the rinse cycle in your washer.

Summer Efficiency Tips

- Set your air conditioner thermostat to 78°F (or even higher if you can bear it) and bump it up to 85°F when you leave for an extended period of time.
- Operate your dryer and dishwasher at night on hot days and let your dishes air dry.
- Avoid heat-generating incandescent lighting and use a microwave, toaster or outdoor grill instead of the oven when possible.
- It’s best to avoid the use of major appliances between 2 and 8 p.m. Why? Appliances generate additional heat - which your cooling unit must overcome.
- Close blinds during the day and open them at night.
- Set your ceiling fans to rotate in a counter-clockwise direction. This will create a “wind chill” effect that make the room temperature feel cooler.



Improve your home’s energy efficiency!

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