

Fall/Winter Energy Saving Tips

- Install adequate insulation in your attic, walls, basement, crawl spaces and floors. Insulate and weather-strip the accesses to your attic, and caulk around windows and doors to seal cracks.
- Wrap insulation around ductwork and water pipes that run through basements, garages or crawl spaces. Place foam gaskets behind light switches and outlet covers to prevent air coming in from the wall space.
- Close off unoccupied rooms and shut off heat vents in those rooms.
- Clean air registers and intake vents regularly. Make sure they are not blocked by furniture, carpeting or drapes.
- Close fireplace damper tightly when not in use and make sure it fits properly.
- Open drapes, blinds or shades during the day on windows that receive direct sunlight. Close them at dark or during unoccupied periods to retain heat.
- Set your ceiling fan so the blades turn clockwise to push air up toward the ceiling. The fan will drive the warm air back down around the edges of the room, for more even heat distribution.
- Clean or replace furnace filters monthly. Have your heating systems inspected and, if necessary, adjusted annually.
- If your furnace or appliances are more than 15 years old, consider replacing them with ENERGY STAR^{*} qualified models. If you use electricity to heat your home, consider installing an energy-efficient heat pump.
- Install a programmable thermostat to automatically adjust your home's temperature when you are away or sleeping.
- Use energy saving settings on all electric appliances.
- Wash only full loads of clothes and clean the dryer's lint screen after each use.
- Preheat the oven for the least amount of time possible. Cook several dishes in the oven at the same time.

* [ENERGY STAR](#) is an international standard for energy efficient consumer products originated in the United States. Devices carrying the Energy Star service mark generally use 20%-30% less energy than required by federal standards.