



SAVE ENERGY AT HOME

An energy efficient home reduces utility costs, prevents energy waste and reduces the environmental impact of a household. See the Energy Efficiency (E) and Energy Conservation (C) tips below to learn how to reduce your energy usage and utility costs.

COOLING:

- (E) Install an Energy Star cooling system = up to 10%
- (E) Insulate attics, walls, and floors = 7% electricity savings
- (C) (With central AC) Set thermostat higher at night/when away from home = 3%
- (C) Set your thermostat higher = 1-3 % for each degree above 72
- (C) Clean central AC unit and provide shade for the unit if possible
- (C) Close shades/blinds/curtains during day to prevent heat gain from solar radiation

ELECTRONICS:

- (E) When replacing home electronics, consider purchasing Energy Star rated versions which use up to 50% less energy.
- (C) Use a power strip for electronics – turn them off at the power strip when not in use as many modern electronics use power even when turned off.

HEATING:

- (E) Insulate attics, walls, and floors = 18% gas savings
- (E) Weather strip windows & doors, install plastic film on windows = 3%
- (E) install an Energy Star programmable thermostat = 1-3%
- (C) Set thermostat 8 degrees lower at night & when away = 5-10%
- (C) Set thermostat lower and dress warmer. Each degree above 68 = 3% increase in heat bill
- (C) Minimize the use of space heaters
- (C) Open shades during the day to take advantage of the warming effects of the sun
- (C) Change furnace filters as recommended to keep furnace running efficiently

HOW ENERGY IS LOST IN HOMES:

- Lack of insulation in attics, walls, and floors
- Inefficient windows & doors
- Old or inefficient heating and air conditioning units
- Non-programmable thermostats
- Incandescent/inefficient lighting
- Improperly set water heaters, refrigerators & freezers

LIGHTING:

- (E) Install 85% CFL or LED light bulbs = 4%
- (C) Turn off lights when you leave a room/when not in use = 2%



APPLIANCES:

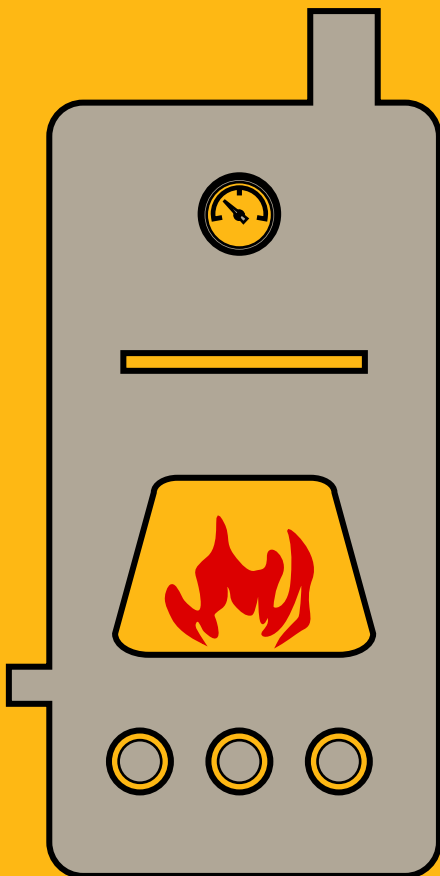
- (E) When replacing home appliances, consider purchasing Energy Star rated versions which use up to 30% less energy.
- (E) Lower water heater temperature = 1-2% for each 10 degree reduction (120 degrees)
- (C) Wash clothes on warm wash/cold rinse instead of hot wash/warm rinse = 2-3%
- (C) Turn up refrigerator thermostat from 33 to 38 degrees and freezer from -5 to 0 degrees = 1%
- (C) Clean refrigerator coils with vacuum or brush to maximize energy efficiency (make sure to unplug first)

CONTACT US:

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FURNACE & BOILER MAINTENANCE TIPS



FURNACE MAINTENANCE

- Inspect furnace filters at least once per month and clean or replace them as recommended by the manufacturer. Clogged filters cut heat flow and make furnaces run longer.
- Have your furnace inspected every 2 years by a qualified heating contractor.
- Keep the area around your furnace clear and accessible.
- Keep radiators, air registers and baseboard heaters clean and be sure they aren't blocked by furniture or drapes so warm air can flow freely.
- Keep snow away from the furnace exhaust vent and fresh air intake.
- Vacuum out floor vents, dirt and debris can block air flow and reduce efficiency.
- Have a professional check and properly adjust the blower motor drive belt – a loose belt can slow the blower, compromising efficiency.
- Inspect the exhaust flue for any holes, which can leak carbon monoxide, particularly where the pipe meets the furnace. Small holes can be patched with foil tape, but corroded flues must be replaced.

BOILER MAINTENANCE

- Bleed radiator 2x per year
- Have your boiler inspected every 2 years by a qualified heating contractor

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