



We would like to share with you some easy ways to save money on home heating and to help you maintain your furnace to prevent furnace breakdowns.

1. Inspect furnace filters a least every month and clean or replace them as needed. Clogged filters cut heat flow and make furnaces run longer.



2. Have your furnace inspected by a qualified heating contractor annually or semi-annually.
3. Set your thermostat a degree or two lower. Every degree above 68 degrees F adds about 3 percent to your heating bill.

4. 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. Place material that reflect, like aluminum foil, behind radiators with the shiny side toward the room, to send heat back into the room. To work best, there should be a gap between the wall and the material. Bleed radiators as necessary. It will keep the heating system working more efficiently.
5. Install plastic deflectors on warm air registers that are located near windows. This will help direct warm air into the room.
6. Use duct sealant or foil duct tape to seal air leaks in heating ducts that run through unheated areas of your home.
7. Keep snow piles away from exhaust vent and fresh air intake.



8. Install pipe insulation on any water pipes to prevent freezing pipes.
9. Be sure fireplace dampers are closed and in good working order when fireplace is not in use.
10. Check storm windows to be sure that they are completely closed during the heating season.
11. Open your drapes or blinds to bring the sun's warmth into your home in the winter.

Minnesota Valley Action Council  
Weatherization Program  
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