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EASY WAYS TO SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY

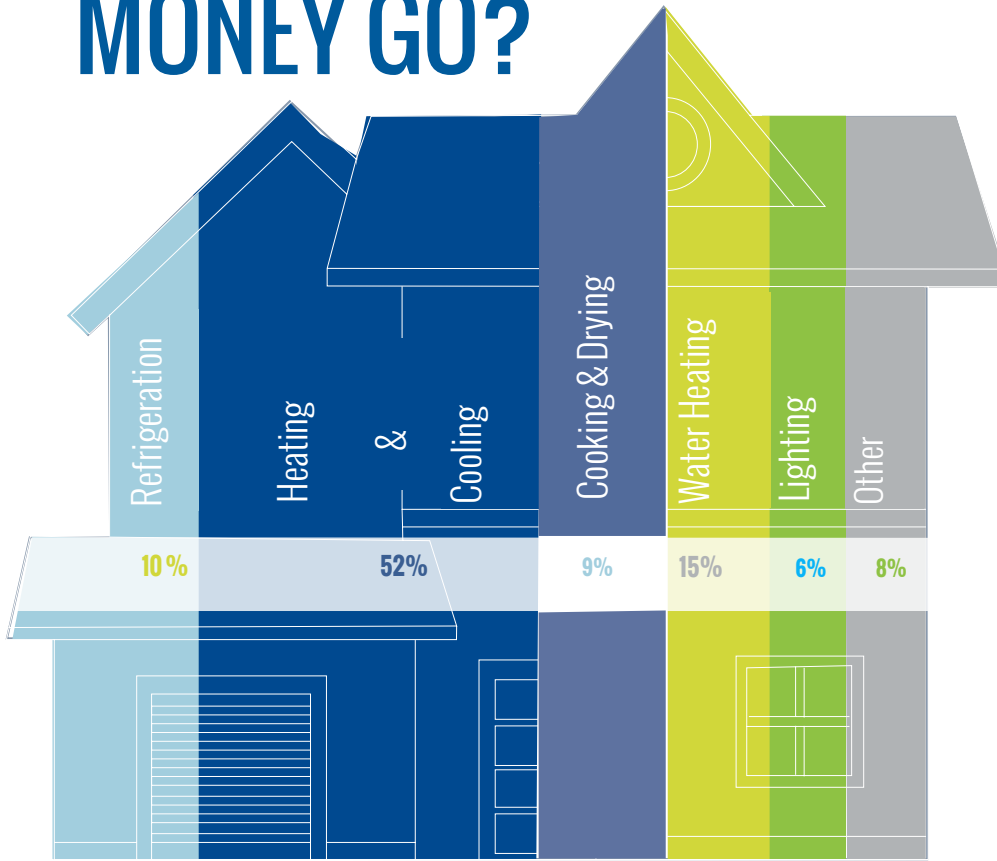


LCEC
PEOPLE. POWER. POSSIBILITIES.

Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives



WHERE DOES MY MONEY GO?



Other includes: telephone and external power adapters, consumer electronics (computer, TVs and DVD player), home office equipment, and small appliances

Annual energy bill usage percentages for a typical single family home

TOP TEN

Here are ten tips that any good energy saver should not live without.

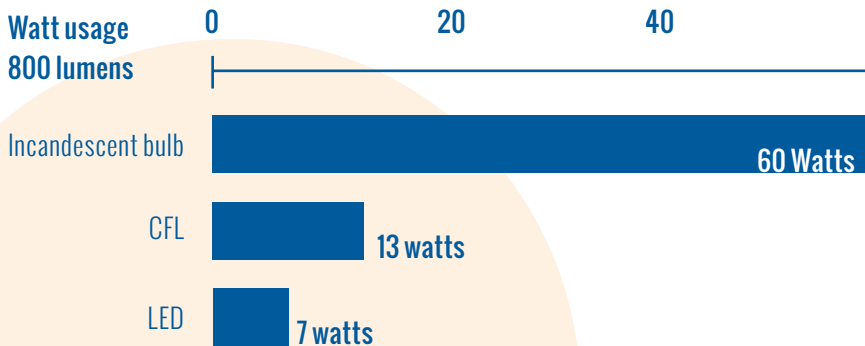
1. Replace incandescent light bulbs, especially ones that burn more than one hour per day, with a light-emitting diode (LED) bulb.
2. Seal from the inside. Air sealing is an inexpensive way to lower energy costs and improve comfort. Seal gaps and holes in walls, floors, and ceilings with caulk or foam sealant. Look for cracks around windows and where wires and pipes pass through.
3. Consider adding smart devices, which allow greater control of energy use. Plug electronic devices such as cable boxes, printers and TVs into power strips to turn off during vacations or long periods without use. Smart power strips make saving money easy.
4. Close shades and blinds during the day to help keep your home cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter.
5. Change central HVAC system filter monthly or according to the manufacturers recommendations. Dirty filters can impact home comfort and increase the electricity bill.
6. A one degree increase in heating setpoint or reduction in cooling setpoint can increase energy use by 8-12%.
7. Have duct work checked for leaks. Leaks at the return, air handler and supply can be a major source of high bills. In mobile homes check at the grill, cross over duct and down flow air handler, for leaks.
8. Set both the upper and lower water heater thermostats no higher than 120 F.
9. An electric space heater can cost more than \$100 per month to operate. Minimize their use, except for limited or temporary spot heating. Turn space heaters off when leaving the room.
10. Ensure refrigerator door seals are tight. Test the refrigerator door gasket with a crisp dollar bill. A good gasket will hold the bill in place.

LIGHTING

Replace standard light bulbs with LED (light emitting diode), light bulbs or LED's which use 85% less energy with a life expectancy of 30,000 to 50,000 hours of run time.

11. Replace outdoor lighting with its equivalent outdoor-rated LED bulb.
12. Use fixtures with electronic ballasts and T-8, 32-watt fluorescent lamps.
13. Use outdoor security lights with a photocell and/or a motion sensor.
14. Turn off unnecessary lighting.

A lumen is a unit used for the measurement of visible light. A traditional 60-watt light bulb produces 800 lumens. See the chart below to see how many watts other bulbs use to produce the same amount of light.



PLUG LOADS

Plug loads can add up to your monthly usage!

15. Turn computers and monitors off when not in use.
16. When buying a new computer, consider buying a laptop. It uses less energy than a comparable desktop.
17. Turn large-screen TVs off completely when not in use.
18. Check for energy saving settings on flat-panel TVs like automatic brightness control and a power saving sleep mode.
19. Request an ENERGY STAR® set-top box from cable or satellite provider.
20. Turn off stereos and radios when not in use.
21. Enable auto power down feature on gaming consoles.
22. If you don't unplug them, use energy-saving modes or automatic sleep function on electronics.
23. Remember to turn off hair curling irons and hot rollers.
24. Make sure electric blankets are turned off in the morning.
25. Ensure all new appliances, electronics and lights are ENERGY STAR® labeled.
26. Turn off pool pumps and heaters when not needed.
27. Unplug battery chargers when not needed.

DO A LITTLE.
SAVE A LOT.



**EVERYTHING YOU DO – FROM FLIPPING A SWITCH TO
UPGRADING YOUR LIGHTING – CAN ADD UP TO BIG
SAVINGS FOR YOU AND YOUR NEIGHBORS.**

SO TAKE YOUR PICK, AND SAVE YOUR MONEY.



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KITCHEN

The kitchen can amount to 14% of your monthly energy use, which includes appliance use and refrigeration.

28. Turn off coffee makers when not in use.
29. Switch your refrigerator's power-saver to "ON," if available.
30. Clean refrigerator coils annually.
31. Regularly defrost refrigerator or freezer to avoid ice buildup.
32. Refrigerators should be maintained at 36 to 38 degrees Fahrenheit, while freezers should be maintained from 0 to 4 degrees Fahrenheit.
33. Unplug unused refrigerators or freezers. Recycle them if you do not need them. Do not locate refrigerators/freezers in a garage or other non-air conditioned space.
34. Full freezers use less power. Use plastic soda bottles filled with water, or bags of ice, if necessary. Keep refrigerators full when leaving your home vacant for a long period of time.
35. Use microwave for cooking when possible.
36. When cooking on the oven range, use pot lids to help food cook faster.
37. If you are heating water on the stove, use hot tap water instead of cold.
38. Remember to use the kitchen exhaust fan when cooking. Turn it off after cooking.
39. Use a slow-cooker instead of simmering foods on the stove.
40. If rinsing dirty dishes before putting them into the dishwasher, use cold water. Only run dishwasher when fully loaded.
41. Use cold water for garbage disposal.

WATER HEATING

Water Heating can amount to 15% of your monthly energy use.

- 42. Reduce water heating costs by installing a low-flow shower head, setting the water heater temperature to 120 degrees Fahrenheit.
- 43. Install water heater wrap, also known as water heater blanket, per manufacturer's instructions.
- 44. Drain 1-2 gallons from bottom of water heater each year to reduce sediment build up.
- 45. Install heat traps on hot and cold water lines when it's time to replace your water heater.
- 46. Insulate exposed hot water lines.
- 47. Limit shower length to 5-7 minutes.
- 48. Fix dripping faucets.
- 49. Don't let water run while you are shaving or brushing your teeth.
- 50. Adding a heat pump water heater is another great option for saving energy as this transfers heat from the surrounding air to the water.

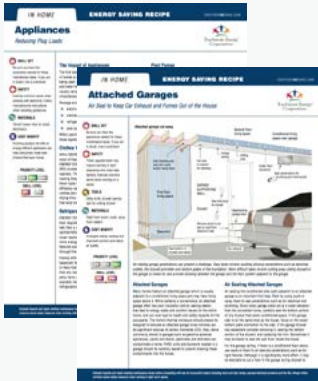
LAUNDRY

Laundry can amount to 5-9% of your monthly energy use.

- 51. Wash clothes in cold water. Use hot water only for very dirty loads.
- 52. Only do full laundry loads.
- 53. If you must do smaller loads, adjust the water level in the washing machine to match the load size, especially when using hot water.
- 54. Always use cold-water rinse.
- 55. Use bath towels at least twice before washing them.
- 56. Clean your dryer's lint trap before each load.
- 58. Make sure the dryer's outdoor exhaust door is not blocked or clogged.
- 58. Verify dryer vent hose is tightly connected to inside wall fitting.
- 59. Check that the dryer vent hose is tightly connected to dryer.
- 60. Minimize clothes drying time; use an auto moisture sensor on dryer if available.
- 61. Dry consecutive loads to harvest heat remaining in dryer from last load.
- 62. Avoid running the dryer during the heat of the day.
- 63. Consider using a "solar-powered" clothes dryer: an old fashioned clothes line.

WEEKEND WARRIOR.

DIY PROJECTS FOR YOUR HOME



**BECOME THE ULTIMATE WEEKEND WARRIOR
OR WORK WITH A CONTRACTOR TO TAKE YOUR
SAVINGS TO THE NEXT LEVEL.**

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HEATING / AC

Heating & Air Conditioning are usually the largest loads in a home and responsible for 50-60% of your monthly energy cost.

64. When cooling your home, set the thermostat at 78 degrees Fahrenheit. Each degree below adds 8 to 12 % to the cooling costs.
65. Install a smart thermostat that will automatically raise and lower the temperature at certain times of the day.
66. Run ceiling paddle fans on medium, blowing down in summer and paddle fans on low, blowing up in winter.
67. Turn fans off when the room is not occupied. Each continuously running fan costs approximately \$7 per month on your electric bill.
68. When heating your home, set the thermostat at 68 degrees Fahrenheit. Since heating costs three times more than cooling, consider using a space heater or electric blanket.
69. While away from home for more than two hours, set the thermostat at 83 degrees Fahrenheit. If there is a pet in the home, leave thermostat at 82 degrees Fahrenheit.
70. Be sure your thermostat fan switch is set on the “auto” setting. This is more economical for temperature and humidity control.
71. When installing new air filters, make sure they are facing in the correct direction (look for arrow on side of filter).
72. Keep windows and exterior doors closed when running your air conditioner or heater. Also, use caulk and weather strip around windows and doors.
73. Insulate electric wall outlets and wall switches with foam pads.
74. Caulk along baseboards with a clear sealant.

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75. Caulk around plumbing penetrations that come through walls beneath bathroom and kitchen sinks.
 76. Caulk electrical wire penetrations at the top of the interior walls in the attic.
 77. Close shades and blinds at night to keep heat in during the winter.
 78. Make sure blinds and shades are open during the day to let warmth in during winter.
 79. Ensure attic access door closes tightly and is insulated.
 80. Make sure insulation in your attic does not block soffit vents.
 81. Do not close A/C vents or interior doors when A/C is running.
 82. Check to ensure return air grilles are not blocked by furniture or bookcases.
 83. Ensure windows and doors are properly weather-stripped and use door sweeps.
 84. Do not use roof-top power ventilators for attic exhaust as they may draw conditioned air from your home.
 85. Service your air conditioning system annually.
 86. Monitor your home's relative humidity in the summer. If it consistently stays in the 60 % range or higher, ask your HVAC technician about lowering your central air conditioning unit's indoor fan speed.
 87. Ensure window A/C units are weather-stripped.
 88. Remove and clean window A/C filter monthly.
 89. Keep "fresh-air" vents on window A/C units closed.

90. Repair duct leaks using metal foil tape reinforced with mastic adhesive.
 91. Install reflective window tint/film that will reflect 65% or better on windows facing east, west or south. LCEC also recommends installing awnings, storm shutters and planting shade trees.
 92. Use a minimum of R-30 insulation in the ceiling/attic floor to save on heating and air conditioning costs.
 93. Minimize use of electric space heaters, except for limited or temporary spot heating. Turn space heaters off when leaving.
 94. Ensure your outdoor heat pump/air conditioning unit is kept clean and free of debris.
 95. Verify ducts are tightly connected to HVAC equipment. Well sealed and insulated ducts can save up to 10%.
 96. Turn off bathroom and kitchen exhaust fans 15 minutes after the job is complete or install 15-minute timers on bathroom ventilator fans.
 97. Plant trees and shrubs to provide shade on the east, south and west sides of your home. Evergreen trees and shrubs can provide a windbreak on the north side.
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