

Holding on to Comfort

While Saving Energy Dollars



Quick Tips:

1. Close the damper on any fireplace not in use.
2. Turn off kitchen and bath exhaust fans immediately after use.
3. Wear warm clothing indoors, lowering the winter thermostat setting.
4. Wear cool clothing and raise the thermostat in summer.
5. Open the sun-shades on south-facing windows in winter.
6. Close the shades on sunny windows in summer.
7. Keep interior doors cracked for avoiding pressure imbalances and air leakage.
8. Replace the disposable filter on your central heating/cooling system or clean a permanent filter at least once a month.
9. Lower the water heater temperature setting.
10. Use the cold water cycle on your clothes washer.
11. Clean the lint filter with each dryer load.
12. Check the dryer vent on the outside to make sure it is not blocked by lint.
13. Turn off lights when not in use.
14. Use small appliances and microwave ovens for most efficient cooking.
15. Check the well pump to see that it does not operate continuously.
16. Make sure that the airflow returning to your heating/cooling system is not being pulled from the attic or crawl space.
17. Check crawl spaces to see if animals have pulled ducting loose as they seek warm air in winter.
18. Check for signs of a hot water pipe leak under the house or around the slab edge.
19. For households without a central heating/cooling system, keep one room more comfortable and keep it closed off from the rest of the house.



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Energy Saving Projects:

1. Replace your old heating system with a 15 SEER or higher heat pump or a geothermal system.
2. Seal leaky ducts with mastic to save the most energy. (Most ducts leak 20 percent or more.)
3. Install a programmable thermostat and use it according to directions.
4. Install R-38 or higher insulation in the attic and R-19 under floors over a crawl space.
5. Seal leaky windows with low-cost interior storm window kits. Use rigid plastic for child safety.
6. Weather-strip and caulk leaky windows and doors.
7. Caulk or use foam sealant on openings where pipes go through walls.
8. Shade sunny windows in summer. Outside shading works best.
9. Pull back shades and awnings on south-facing windows in winter.
10. Replace standard light bulbs with compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs).
11. Install motion sensors to control outdoor lighting.
12. Wrap your water heater with an insulation blanket.
13. Install timers on pool pumps and water heaters.
14. Consider eliminating additional aging refrigerators and freezers in the garage.



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