

Winter energy saving tips



Woodstove

- If you cover the damper when you aren't using the woodstove, you'll avoid air leaks and heat loss.
- If you have a fireplace or woodstove, when you need more heat you may want to throw a log on the fire instead of plugging in a space heater. Space heaters use a lot of energy and can be expensive.



Furnace

- To reduce furnace energy use and improve air quality, you'll want to replace furnace filters at least every three months.
- Check that your heating vents aren't covered up by furniture, appliances or other objects that can block airflow of warm air from your furnace.



Crawlspace

- Check out your crawlspace – turn on the heater and water heat trace systems just high enough to keep from freezing.
- Check out the vents and make sure they are sealed for the winter to keep the heat in and animals out.



Vehicle

- If you use a block heater timer when you plug in your car or truck, you can set it so that it turns on 2-3 hours before you leave home instead of keeping your vehicle battery warm all night. This will save you money.



Seal air leaks

- To stop cold air from coming into your house and warm air from getting out, you may want to weather strip the bottom of your doors or use a "door snake" to stop door drafts.
- Windows can be leaky – to stop heat loss, you may wish to caulk them.



Reverse rotation

- In colder months, setting ceiling fan blades to run clockwise will push warm air downward.



Cooking

- Microwaves, slow cookers and toaster ovens use up to half the energy of a conventional oven!
- If you turn off your oven 10-15 minutes before you are done cooking, your food will continue to cook and you'll save money.



Thermostat

- You may want to install a programmable or smart thermostat to help you reduce heating costs.



Washing clothes

- If you wash with cold water, you'll save energy, and money.
- Keep your dryer lint trap cleaned after every use, and make sure the outside dryer vent isn't clogged.



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