

NO-COST ENERGY SAVING TIPS

Turn down your thermostat to 68 degrees or lower during the day and evening (health permitting) and to 55 degrees or off at night or when away from home. Wear layers of loose-fitting clothes to trap body heat, such as thermal underwear, sweaters, sweatshirts, sweatpants, and socks.

Set your water heater to the “normal” setting or 120°, unless your dishwasher requires a higher setting.

Open drapes to let the sun heat your home during the day and close them at night to help insulate.

Close off unused rooms and the vents that heat those rooms.

Keep warm-air registers, baseboard heaters, and radiators clean and make sure they're not blocked by furniture, carpeting, or drapes.

Move furniture around so you are sitting near interior walls instead of exterior walls and windows.

Close your fireplace damper tightly when not in use.

Take shorter showers.

Wash only full loads in your dishwasher and clothes washer.

Use cold water when washing clothes.

LOW-COST ENERGY SAVING TIPS

Clean or replace furnace filters once a month.

Install weather-stripping or caulk to leaky doors and windows.

Install gaskets behind outlet covers.

Add plastic sheeting to your windows or purchase plastic window covering kits or interior storm window kits.

Install a programmable thermostat.

Install low flow showerheads and faucets.

Wrap your hot water tank with jacket insulation. Be sure to leave the air intake vent uncovered when insulating a gas water heater.

Insulate the water pipes leading from your hot water heater.



HEALTH & SAFETY TIPS

Adequate home heating is a necessity of life. The inability to heat your home adequately can put household members at risk. Health and safety risks include hypothermia and carbon monoxide poisoning and the increased possibility of fire.

You can prevent the loss of life and property by identifying potential hazards and following these safety tips:

Install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in your home.

Provide proper venting systems for all heating equipment.

Never use your range or oven to heat your home or use a BBQ in your home or garage.

Place space heaters on level, hard and nonflammable surfaces, not on rugs or carpets.

Keep space heaters at least three feet from bedding, drapes, furniture, and other flammable materials.

Never leave a space heater on when you go to sleep or leave the area.

Watch children and pets closely in rooms with heating equipment.

Always use generators outdoors and away from doors, windows, and vents..