



Winter

ENERGY SAVING TIPS

- * **INSULATE:** Insulating attics and walls, as well as weatherizing doors and windows, is key to preventing conditioned air from escaping your home.
- * **CAULKING & WEATHERSTRIPPING:** Feel cold drafts around windows and doors? Be sure to apply caulk or weatherstripping to prevent conditioned air from escaping and cold air from coming in.
- * **HEATING:** For every one degree you turn your thermostat back you can save three to five percent on your energy bill. Keep your thermostat at 70 degrees or lower and put a sweater on if it gets chilly.
- * **PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTATS:** Installing a programmable thermostat helps you save money and keeps your home comfortable by automatically adjusting your temperature settings while you're asleep or away.
- * **FURNACE:** Replace an old inefficient furnace with a high efficient (92% AFUE) furnace. No matter what kind of furnace you have, be sure to replace furnace filters every two to four months.
- * **LIGHTS:** Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), which emit less heat and cut your lighting costs in half. CFLs also last seven to ten times longer than an incandescent bulb.
- * **WATER HEATING:** On average, 14 percent of your energy bill goes to heating water. Take short showers and run dishwashers and washing machines only when they are fully loaded. Don't forget to wrap your water heater with an insulation blanket and keep temperatures set at or below 120 degrees.
- * **WINDOW COVERINGS:** Open window coverings on sunny days to let in the sun's warmth. Close them at night or on cloudy days to keep the cold air out. Use curtains, blinds or shutters on all windows to slow the loss of heat through glass.
- * **FIREPLACE:** Curb fireplace costs by having a professional chimney sweep perform an annual fireplace inspection.
- * **SPACE HEATING:** Using space heaters is not recommended due to the risks involved. However, if using one is a must, make sure your space heater carries the mark of an independent test laboratory (US, CSA or ETL) and that it has an automatic shut-off feature that activates if tipped over. Never leave a space heater on unattended and keep it at least three feet away from anything that can burn, including furniture, clothing, curtains, bedding and people.

