

Did you know...?

In the average home, **75%** of the electricity used to power electronics is drawn while products are turned off. Prevent these “vampires” by plugging electronics into power strips and turning them off when not in use!



Switching out old light bulbs to Compact Florescent Lightbulbs (CFLs) can save you roughly **\$60 a year**. That’s because CFLs last about 10 times longer and use about 75 percent less energy!



With proper use of pre-programmed settings, a programmable thermostat can save you up to **\$150 a year** on your energy costs!



It can cost almost **\$1 each time** you use the clothes dryer. Imagine how much you could save if you air dried on a clothes line or drying rack instead!

Information is from the Natural Resources Defense Council and the U.S. Department of Energy

The City of Naperville’s **Weatherization Assistance Program** helps income-qualifying residents improve the energy efficiency of their home with grants of up to \$5,000. Many of the tips listed here qualify to be paid for through the Weatherization Assistance Program.

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Naperville

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MONEY SAVING TIPS



Ways to save money in your home by reducing energy consumption

FREE

- In the winter, keep the thermostat at **68** degrees or lower and at **78** degrees or more in the summer.
- Set the water heater at **120** degrees; usually, this is all that is necessary for normal home use.
- Open **drapes** to let the sun heat your home naturally and close them at night to help insulate.
- Close off vents and doors in **unused rooms**.
- Clean **warm-air registers, baseboard heaters** and **radiators** regularly and make sure they aren't blocked by furniture, carpeting or drapes.
- Arrange **furniture** so that you are sitting near interior walls instead of exterior walls and windows.
- Make sure your **fireplace damper** is closed tightly when not in use.
- Only run the **dishwasher** and **washing machine** with full loads, and try to run them at night so the AC doesn't have to work as hard.
- Use the air dry cycle on your dishwasher, or open the door to let **dishes** air dry.
- Use **cold water** when washing clothes.
- Remove the **lint** from the dryer after each use.
- Dry your clothes on a **clothesline**.*
- Plug electronics such as a TV, VCR, DVD player or computer into a **power strip**; turn it off when not in use.
- Take short **showers** instead of baths.
- When not in use, turn off the **lights**.

INEXPENSIVE

- Replace light bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (**CFLs**).
- Install a **programmable thermostat** (as low-priced as \$30).
- Clean or replace your **furnace filters** once a month.
- Install low flow **showerheads** and **faucets**.
- **Landscaping** that shades AC units without blocking the airflow helps to use less electricity.
- Wrap your **hot water tank** with jacket insulation.
- Insulate the **water pipes** leading from your hot water heater.
- Caulk and weather-strip around **doors** and **windows**.
- At night, turn off the AC in your home and open the **windows**.
- If you don't have AC, use **fans** to stay cool, but turn them off when you're not in the room.
- Plant **trees** or **shrubs** outside the home to block out direct sun rays.
- Have a **home energy analysis** performed by an energy professional.

Most homeowners see up to **33%** savings in their energy bill by implementing these tips!

LONG-TERM

- Check or replace attic, wall, ceiling, floor and crawl space **insulation**.
- Insulate **heating and AC ducts**; convert flexible ducts to smooth rigid type.
- Replace old windows with energy-efficient **windows**.
- When purchasing new home appliances look for energy-efficient products with an **ENERGY STAR** rating.



*Check with your Homeowners Association to make sure clotheslines are allowed. If not, use a drying rack indoors.