

It Takes Less Energy to Save Big Money.

You can save money by changing your energy habits.

In the 1880s, Edison made electric power available to the public, and it changed our lives. Today, most things we use are run by electricity, but have we become over-dependent? What are the alternatives? Here are some tips to revise your energy habits that can pay big dividends, month after month.

Replacing old, drafty and unsightly aluminum-framed windows with dual-pane windows will reduce energy consumption in the summer and winter and make your home quieter.



Compact fluorescent lights are the least expensive way to light your home and save the environment.



Adding a ceiling fan in a kitchen can help reduce heat, ventilate the area and add aesthetic drama. And don't forget the bedrooms, with variable speed and light control, they can do double duty and reduce your energy bill.



energy saving tips

Doing the Small Things

Did you know that 75% of the power used by home electronics is consumed while they are off? You can prevent this by plugging them into power strips and flicking the off switch to cut power to the appliance. Unplug battery chargers when batteries are fully charged or aren't in use. Install white window shades, drapes or blinds to reflect summer heat from your house. A well-positioned tree can save up to 25% on cooling costs by shading windows.

Old Appliances Are Energy Hogs

Older appliances may still do the job, but they were not designed with today's energy efficiency. At an unexpected time, a refrigerator or other appliance may need costly repair or replacement. By upgrading to ENERGY STAR® appliances, you can save money with lower utility bills and applicable rebates. Look for the ENERGY STAR symbol on refrigerators, dishwashers, air conditioners, laundry machines, water heaters, TVs and even computers.



Light Up Your Life for Less.

It is said that it took Edison 10,000 tries to invent the light bulb, but it can take you only a few minutes to switch to light bulbs that will save you money. ENERGY STAR qualified bulbs use about 75% less energy than incandescent bulbs and last up to 10 times longer. They are available in different sizes and shapes—and can save about \$30 or more in electricity costs over each bulb's lifetime.¹ An environmentally-friendly way to increase natural light in your home and reduce power consumption is the use of skylights.

Don't Air It Out

Air leaks can rob your home of precious warm or cool air. Check doors for weather stripping, air ducts and windows for leaks, and attics and floors for loose seams. Good investments that protect your home and reduce operating costs are wall insulation and energy efficient, insulated windows. Less expensive alternatives are shades, shutters and drapes. To keep your HVAC system from working overtime, clean filters regularly.

Manual vs. Electric

Modern conveniences are nice but not always necessary. Manually operated versions of the following work fine and cost nothing to operate: can opener, pencil sharpener, electric knife, and many others. For battery operated products, consider rechargeable batteries to save money as well as the environment.

Installing shutters in place of fabric window coverings adds drama and provides great insulation.



¹ www.energystar.gov Energy Star is a registered trademark of the Environmental Protection Agency

Reinvest

Your Energy Savings

ENERGY STAR Qualified Products Save Up to 15–20% on Your Energy Bills.

Efficient appliances you buy today use less energy and don't just save you money; they're good for the environment. Many of the most energy-efficient appliances cost more initially, but they'll save you money in the long run. Expect to keep most major appliances between 10 and 20 years. A more efficient appliance soon pays for itself; lower monthly utility bills over the lifetime of the appliance will more than offset a higher purchase price allowing you to purchase other energy saving appliances and to conserve even more energy and money.

Refrigerator—Save 15%

Refrigerators that meet today's new standards use 15% less energy with better insulation, efficient compressors, and temperature control. Refrigerators with freezers on top use 10–15% less energy than a side-by-side model of equivalent size.

Heating/Cooling—Save 30%

ENERGY STAR qualified units save 30% a year (\$200–\$400) on heating/cooling bills.

Washer/Dryer—Save 50%

ENERGY STAR model washers use 50% less energy than standard models and use an average of 15–22 gallons of water per load. When possible, try to purchase a gas dryer instead of electric to minimize energy use.

Dishwasher—Save 25%

New energy dishwashers not only clean better, but are 25% more energy efficient, saving a minimum of \$25 a year on utility costs.

Compact Fluorescent Lamp—Save 75%

ENERGY STAR CFLs use 75% less energy than standard light bulbs and last up to 10 times longer. Expect to save \$30 or more on electricity over each bulb's lifetime.

Water Heater—50% More Efficient

Water heaters generally account for the third largest energy expense on your list of bills, around an average of 14%. Many older heaters will operate for years at low levels of efficiency. A new gas heater will operate up to 50% more efficiently and cost less to operate.

6 Largest Energy Consumers

1. Refrigerator
2. Washer/Dryer
3. AC/Heater
4. Water Heater
5. Dishwasher
6. Stove/Oven

Helpful websites:

ENERGY STAR
www.energystar.gov
Guides to saving energy and a full list of approved appliances

AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR AN ENERGY-EFFICIENT ECONOMY
www.aceee.org
Provides details for energy usage by model

ENERGY SAVERS
www.energysavers.gov
U.S. Government site with energy-saving tips, ideas and solutions

CLIMATE CRISIS
www.climatecrisis.org
Information to help prevent global warming

When you purchase an ENERGY STAR appliance, you can reinvest your savings to save even more. Find out yourself by filling out this example.

Average your last 6 months' energy bills prior to purchase

(1) \$ _____ (4) \$ _____
 (2) \$ _____ (5) \$ _____ Total # ÷ 6 = \$ _____
 (3) \$ _____ (6) \$ _____ (Avg)

Average your 6 months' energy bills after purchase

(1) \$ _____ (4) \$ _____
 (2) \$ _____ (5) \$ _____ Total # ÷ 6 = \$ _____
 (3) \$ _____ (6) \$ _____ (Avg)

Subtract the average after purchase from the prior to purchase average to figure out your monthly savings

= \$ _____ / mo. savings to reinvest in other energy-saving products

