



Energy-efficiency Tips

Here are some simple facts and tips that you and your family can use at home!



1. One of the biggest wastes of energy is stand-by power, like when you leave your cellphone charger plugged into the wall *after* you disconnect your phone. Avoid this slow drain of electricity by unplugging the actual charger!

2. A one-minute shower uses about five gallons of water. Using simple math, that means taking a four-minute shower compared to a 30-minute shower can save up to 130 gallons of water! That's enough water to fill a small pool like this one.



3. Replacing a dirty, clogged air conditioning filter with a clean one can lower your air conditioner's energy consumption by five to 15 percent.



4. The average washing machine uses 40 gallons of water per load (as low as 15 gallons for certain energy-efficient models). And, a natural gas dryer saves around \$30 dollars a year in energy costs compared to electric dryers. You could buy a video game with those savings!

5. Leave the water off when you brush your teeth. Up to four gallons of water is wasted when the faucet runs while you brush. That's like 40 cans of soda!

6. Your parents are right! Putting on a warm sweater instead of turning up the heat can save up to five percent on your heating bill. Dropping the thermostat a few degrees during winter could save your family money.

7. Don't peek in the oven while you're baking! Every time you take a peek the temperature drops around 25 degrees, making your oven use *more* energy to bring the temperature back up.

8. Using a microwave, air-fryer or toaster oven rather than your stove-top oven can save a lot of energy!

9. Cap it! Make sure you put leftovers into containers with lids. *Uncovered* food releases moisture which, in turn, causes your refrigerator to work harder.



10. Heating water accounts for 90 percent of the energy needed to run a washer machine ... so, use the cold water setting to save energy.