

Ten (Easy) Tips for Home Energy Savings

1. Consider New Light Bulbs

Switching your light bulbs to compact fluorescents (CFLs) is one of the easiest ways to save energy. CFLs use about 75 percent less energy than conventional incandescent bulbs! Also consider installing dimmer switches or motion sensors. Why have the lights on if no one is around?

2. Recycle

Simple as that.

3. Unplug electronics

Did you know that new large flat screen TVs can use twice as much energy as an average refrigerator, even when it is off?! Don't let energy vampires suck your budget dry. Make sure to unplug appliances, chargers, computers etc. when they are not in use—particularly if you are going out of town.

4. Take Advantage of the Sun

In the winter, open window blinds to allow the sun to come in and warm the house. In the summer, close your blinds to keep the sun out.

5. Monitor your Water Heater

Turn the water heater down to 120° F. Insulate your water heater with a water heater blanket. If no one is home during cold months, set the temperature to a lower setting. Turn the water heater off in the summer if it isn't in use.

6. Go Low-Flow

Install low-flow faucets, showerheads, and toilets to reduce unnecessary water use. Water is far too valuable of a resource to waste, especially in the West.

7. Program your Thermostat

Turning the thermostat down at night or when you are not at home is a great energy saving habit. You can save five to fifteen percent off your heating bill if you adjust your thermostat by 10 degrees for at least 8 hours a day. Programmable thermostats are an *easy* way to accomplish this—they automatically adjust for day- and night-time temperatures.

8. Purchase Energy Star Appliances

One of the easiest ways to save energy and money is by purchasing highly efficient appliances. For example, an Energy Star certified clothes washer, compared to a conventional washer, will save you up to \$550 in operating costs—not to mention tons of air-polluting emissions—over its lifetime!

9. Insulate

Make sure your house is well-insulated—it just makes *cents*! You wouldn't go out into the cold night air without your coat, would you? So why would you let your house do it? Without proper insulation, you could be wasting thousands of dollars per year on unnecessary heating costs. Until the end of 2009, CORE and the Governor's Energy Office will rebate 20 percent of insulation work performed on your house, up to \$300.

10. Think Renewable

Install renewable energy systems to be on the cutting edge of the new clean energy economy and generate your own heat and power. Look into solar water heating, photovoltaic, ground-source heat exchange, and micro hydro systems. With all the federal and state tax incentives, you will likely get a great deal!

Help keep the Roaring Fork Valley beautiful!



For more information, call CORE at 544-9808 or visit our website at www.aspcore.org