

# Energy Saving Tips and Information for Residential Consumers

## You Don't Have to Sacrifice to Save

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### TOWN OF SEYMOUR



### ENERGY COMMITTEE

#### Energy-Efficiency Tips

We encourage you to use energy wisely year-round. Here are just a few energy-efficiency tips:

#### Insulation and Weatherization

- ✓ Reduce air leakage/air infiltration - install insulation throughout your home Check your attic, ceilings, exterior and basement walls, floors and crawl spaces for recommended levels (R-values) of insulation
- ✓ Weather-strip and caulk around cracks or holes around doors and windows
- ✓ Install storm doors, and replace broken windows glass, worn weather stripping and improperly fitting doors

#### Heating and Cooling

- ✓ Lower your home's thermostat in winter to 68 degrees and raise it in summer to 78 degrees. Or install a

programmable thermostat to make the adjustment for you automatically. You could save 10 to 15 percent on heating and cooling costs.

- ✓ Reduce heating and air conditioning during unoccupied hours
- ✓ Clean or replace filters on furnaces and air conditioners once a month or as needed
- ✓ Vacuum the dust from radiators, heat and air-conditioning vents, dust reduces efficiency
- ✓ Insulate your ducts and check for air leaks
- ✓ Service your heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems regularly making adjustments as necessary
- ✓ Don't block radiators or heating vents with furniture or draperies
- ✓ Close closet doors and doors to rooms not often used
- ✓ Close the fireplace damper when not in use to prevent heat loss
- ✓ Cover window style air conditioners to keep cold air from leaking into your home

#### Water Heating

- ✓ Wash clothes in cold water whenever possible
- ✓ Repair leaky faucets promptly as they waste gallons of water within a short period
- ✓ Replace old water heaters with new energy efficiency units
- ✓ Lower the thermostat/water temperature on your water heater
- ✓ Install nonaerating, low-flow faucets and showerheads

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- ✓ Fill the sink half-way instead of letting the water run while shaving or washing
- ✓ Don't run water when using the sink or faucet and turn it off between tasks such as brushing teeth or shaving

### Windows

- ✓ Close curtains at night to cut down on heat loss
- ✓ Install storm windows over single-pane windows or replace them with double-pane windows
- ✓ Install tight-fitting, insulating window shades on windows that feel drafty after weatherizing
- ✓ Install awnings on south and west facing windows
- ✓ Install white window shades, drapes or blinds to reflect heat away from the house

### Appliances

- ✓ Turn off lights, appliances, TVs, stereos, computers, etc. when not in use
- ✓ Unplug chargers, laptops, appliances with remote control or 'instant on'
- ✓ Clean your dryer filter, clean and straighten exhaust hose/duct, vent outside
- ✓ Run your dishwasher only when full
- ✓ Perform regular maintenance/cleaning on appliances and equipment

### Lighting

- ✓ Turn off lights when not needed
- ✓ Remove unneeded light bulbs
- ✓ Replace with lower wattage or energy efficiency bulbs such as Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFLs) which are more efficient and give off less excess heat
- ✓ Use dimmers, motion sensors, or occupancy sensors to automatically turn on or off lighting as needed and prevent energy waste
- ✓ Use outdoor lights with a photocell unit or a motion sensor so they will turn on only at night or when someone is present
- ✓ Consider three-way lamps; they make it easier to keep lighting levels low when brighter light is not necessary

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The primary way to control the cost of utility power is to change how you use it. Reducing the load or the amount of energy used on a daily basis is not only the key to saving money, but also reduces the need to build more power plants

### **Learn about programs that can make a difference for you and your family**

For more information regarding energy efficiency tips and energy conservation programs visit :

[www.ct-energyinfo.com](http://www.ct-energyinfo.com)

[www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov)

[www.energy.gov/energysavingtips.htm](http://www.energy.gov/energysavingtips.htm)