

# Energy Efficiency

## and Wise Energy Behaviors



### Low Flow

Using less water also saves the energy used to clean, transport and heat the water.

- Install energy-efficient shower heads and faucet aerators.
- Repair leaks and look for ways to use less water.

### Light It Right

Saving electricity is easy with simple lighting choices.

- Install LED bulbs. They use up to 90 percent less energy and last about 25 times longer than incandescent bulbs.
- Use natural light by opening window coverings.

### Keep It Clean

Dirty filters and appliances use more energy to force air through their systems. A little care goes a long way to keep appliances running well and using less energy.

- Filters: Change or clean the furnace filter monthly. Use a filter alarm to remind you! Clean your clothes dryer filter after every use.
- Service: Have a licensed professional clean and tune your furnace and air conditioner once a year.

### Turn It Off

Save energy by using it only when needed.

- Turn off lights, computers and other devices.
- Chargers and devices with remote controls or clocks use power even when turned off or not in full use. Unplug them or use an advanced power strip to cut off unneeded energy supply.

### Seal It Up

Keep your surroundings comfortable with less energy by slowing the transfer of heat.

- Windows: Buy efficient models and keep them closed when either the furnace or air conditioner is on.
- Insulation: Use it in the attic, exterior walls and on pipes.
- Caulking and weather-stripping: Use it to seal gaps around windows and doors.

### Wash It Well

Combine wise behaviors with the efficient appliances in your home to save energy and water.

- Clothes: Use cold water with a full load. Air-dry laundry when possible.
- Dishes: Run full loads and let the dishes air-dry.

### Get Set

Make sure your appliances provide comfort and wise energy use by using recommended settings.

- Thermostat: Set it at 68 F to 70 F in the winter and as high as is comfortable in the summer.
- Water heater: Set it to 120 F.
- Refrigerator: Set it between 35 and 38 F. Freezers should be at 0 F.

### Be Smart

The smart home is the future of efficient energy use.

- Smart meters communicate current information between the consumer and the electric utility so both can better manage and understand energy use.
- Smart thermostats learn to make adjustments that save energy and keep you comfortable. They can turn down the air-conditioning during summer vacation, adjust temperature based on the weather forecast and more.
- Smart appliances such as dishwashers, clothes washers and dryers and refrigerators can communicate with your utility to run at times when electricity is not in demand.

It is also smart to purchase energy-efficient appliances and fuel-efficient vehicles.

