



Empowering People, Enriching Communities

Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation

Weatherization Program

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20 LOW COST ENERGY SAVING TIPS

- 1) Seal around doors and windows with weather-strip and caulk.
- 2) Seal around electric wiring penetrations, plumbing pipes, ducting and light fixtures that go through the ceiling, floor or walls.
- 3) Keep draperies and shades closed at night to reduce the coolness you may feel from the cold windows and in warm weather to prevent solar heat gain from the window. Open draperies and shades on your south facing windows during the day to allow the warmth of the sunlight to enter your home.
- 4) Replace your furnace filter monthly (or every 90 days if you use a 90 day filter). Have your furnace serviced before each heating season to ensure it is operating safely and efficiently.
- 5) Keep your thermostat at 68 degrees or lower in the winter. For every degree lower you may save 3 to 5 percent monthly on your heating bill.
- 6) Keep your thermostat at 78 degrees or higher in the summer. For every degree higher you may save 3 to 5 percent monthly on your cooling bill.
- 7) Use kitchen, bath and other ventilating fans wisely; in just one hour, these fans can pull out a houseful of warmed or cooled air. Turn fans off as soon as they have done the job.
- 8) Keep your fireplace damper closed tightly when not in use.
- 9) Install water saving showerheads and faucet aerators.
- 10) Wash laundry in cold water when possible. This can save between 20 and 40 cents per load. Line dry laundry to keep from using energy for the dryer and increasing the temperature in the home during the cooling season.
- 11) Set the water temperature on water heater to 120 degrees.
- 12) Insulate your water heater (Check manufactures specifications) particularly when it is in an unheated area.
- 13) Repair all holes in ceiling, walls and floor and make them air tight.
- 14) Turn off the lights in any room you're not using.
- 15) Install compact fluorescent bulbs in place of existing incandescent bulbs.
- 16) Repair leaky faucets and toilets promptly; a leaky faucet or toilet wastes gallons of water in a short period of time.
- 17) Vacuum your refrigerator's condenser coils at least once a year.
- 18) Keep your refrigerator temperature between 37 to 40 degrees, and freezer at 0 degrees.
- 19) Turn off televisions, stereos and computers when not in use.
- 20) When replacing appliances, look for the Energy Star label.