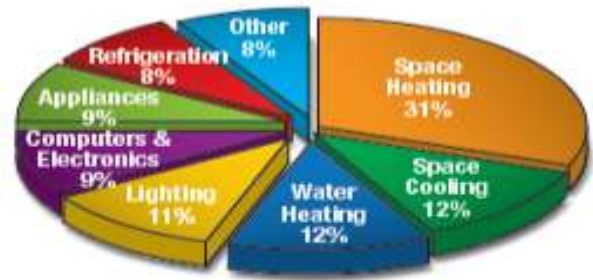


Take These Easy Steps Today – Start Saving on Your Energy Bills Tomorrow



How We Use Energy in Our Homes
Heating accounts for the biggest chunk of a typical utility bill.

Source: 2007 Buildings Energy Data Book, Table 4.2.1., 2005 energy cost data.

What's the Best Investment in Energy Efficiency?

Caulking, Sealing and Weatherstripping

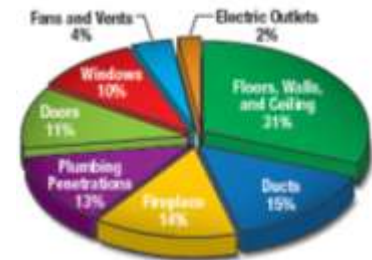
Where do you start?

- To locate air leaks, all you need is an incense stick or smoke pen and a windy day
- Hold the stick or pen near locations where there is a possible path to the outside
- If the smoke streams horizontally – there's a leak

Insulate common problem areas:

- Insert foam gaskets behind electrical outlets and switch plate covers
- Ensure that the dryer, stove and bathroom vents have an exterior flap that closes tightly when not in use
- Close the fireplace damper; seal chimney with an inflatable chimney pillow or foam plug when not in use
- Weather strip all exterior doors, including attic hatch, bulkhead door, cellar door
- Caulk and weather strip drafty window frames, seal leaky windows with plastic in winter months
- Plug and caulk cracks and holes in the foundation and penetrations to siding for wiring and pipes

Weather stripping and caulking can reduce heating and cooling bills by 10%



Areas of air leakage

Want to Learn More? Check Out:

Do It Yourself Guide to Sealing and Insulating with Energy Star – www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=diy.diy_index

Energy Savers for Homeowners (US Dept. of Energy) – www.energysavers.gov/

Energy Saver\$ Tips on Saving Energy & Money at Home (US Dept. of Energy) – www1.eere.energy.gov/consumer/tips/

How to Insulate Pipes video, step by step instructions - www.diynetwork.com/how-to/how-to-insulate-pipes/index.html

This guide is brought to you by the Devens Eco-Efficiency Center. To learn about our efforts to promote sustainable practices that provide economic and ecological efficiencies, visit www.ecostardevens.com.



Easy Ways to \$ave Energy

Kitchen:

Dishwasher

- Scrape off food, don't rinse
- Only run with a full load
- Let dishes air dry

Fridge and Freezer

- Set fridge to 37-40°, freezer to 5°
- Pack empty freezer area with ice bags to avoid chilling empty space
- Clean the cooling coils twice a year

Cooking

- Match pot or pan with the burner size to avoid unnecessary heat loss
- Don't waste time, energy pre-heating the oven
- Avoid peeking in the oven – it lowers the temperature by 25°-75°
- **The microwave uses 80% less energy than the oven**



Phantom Energy Loads:

- **Phantom energy draw by devices that consume energy even when not in use can account for as much as 10% of the household energy usage**
Culprits include appliances with clocks and devices that can be turned on/off with a remote control
- Unplug devices that are rarely used
- Activate the computer's sleep or hibernation mode to decrease its energy draw when not in use
- Plug devices that are commonly used together (eg, computer and printer, TV and DVD player) into a power bar that can be easily clicked off after use to prevent unnecessary energy consumption



Shower:

- Showers account for more than one-third of the household's hot water usage
- **Install a low-flow or aerated shower head and save up to \$120/year with reduced water consumption and water heating needs**



Lighting:

- Be conscientious of turning off lights when they're not needed
- Replace outdoor lights with a motion-detector equipped bulb or fixture
- Ensure low-use incandescent bulbs are 75 watts or lower
- **Replace high-use incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent lights – save \$30 over each CFL's lifetime**



Washer/Dryer:

- Only run the wash machine with a full load
- Wash clothes in cold or warm water
- Hang laundry outside to dry when possible
- **Clean the lint trap after each use – improve efficiency and safety and save up to \$25 per year**

Heating and Cooling:

- Use ceiling fans to circulate air and ease heating and cooling needs
- Insulate ducts and pipes in unheated spaces with insulation of R-Value of 6 or better
- Inspect ductwork for air leaks, indicated by dirt streaks, that should be sealed with duct mastic tape
- Clean air conditioner and furnace filters regularly – save up to 15% on heating/cooling costs
- **Turn the thermostat back 10-15% for 8 hours/day and save as much as 10% a year on heating and cooling**

Water Heater:

- Set the water heater to 120° (If the hot water becomes too hot to hold your hand under after a few minutes, the thermostat on the hot water heater can be lowered)
- If tank is warm to the touch wrap it in an insulating blanket
- Insulate hot water pipes closest to the tank and raise the temp of running water by 2-4°
- **Insulating the hot water tank and pipes can reduce water heating costs by 7-10%**

