

Tips to Help Make Your Home More ENERGY EFFICIENT

HOME
MAINTENANCE



WINTER TIPS



SUMMER TIPS



ENERGY USE
CHART



1234 Market St., 17th Fl.
Philadelphia, PA 19107
phdchousing.org

PHDC wants to help you save money by giving you a few tips to help weatherize your home.

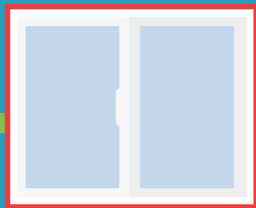
Now it is easier than ever to weatherize your own home. Follow these suggestions and tips, and you will be saving energy and enjoying lower utility bills in no time!

HOME MAINTENANCE



Maintain Windows and Doors

- Tighten window locks, screws and door hinges
- Adjust thresholds and sweeps if needed



Roof

- Have leaks repaired as soon as possible
- Keep gutters and downspouts clean
- Invest in a white or silver roof to save on cooling costs and extend the life of your roof



Basement

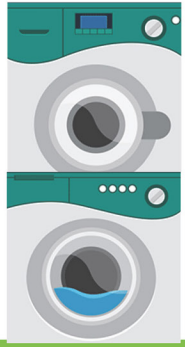
- If unfinished or not heated keep door closed
- Cover any window wells



Appliances:

Laundry

- Do only full loads of laundry
- Use cooler or cold water to wash clothes
- Keep lint screen clean on dryer
- Use outside clothes line to dry clothes



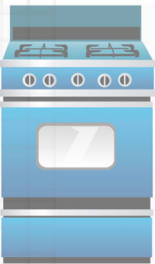
Refrigerator

- Keep door closed – staring into fridge deciding what you want is costing you
 - Set temp – fridge at 38-40 degrees, freezer at 0 to 5 degrees
 - Leave room in fridge for air to circulate but keep freezer full
 - Defrost frozen foods in fridge
 - Keep coils behind or under fridge clean
 - Defrost freezer
 - Test seal



Dishwasher

- Only do full loads
- Use energy saving cycle
- Air dry dishes



Oven

- Microwave small dishes
- Don't open oven door unnecessarily – loss of heat is costing you

Lighting

- Replace old bulbs with CFLs or LED lights
- Turn off lights when you leave a room
- Put outside lights on timers



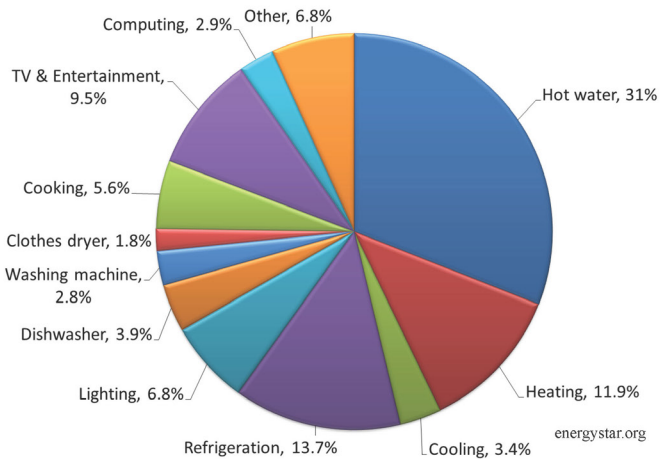
WINTER TIPS



Why Are Energy Bills Higher in Winter Than in Summer?

- Your furnace is on during cold months burning gas or oil and using electricity to power the fan that operates it.
- A water heater in an unheated space works harder when the air around it is cold, consuming more energy.
- You tend to be home more in the winter.
- Shorter days cause you to use more electricity for lights.

Average annual electricity consumption



Electric Water Heater

Set electric water heater to 120 degrees.

- First turn off the water heater at the breaker. Remove one or both cover plates and push the insulation behind to one side.
- Remove plastic cover plate if there is no access hole. Using a flat blade screwdriver turn until the pointer is at your chosen setting.

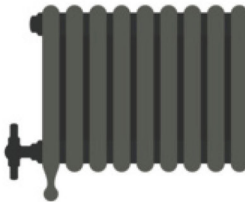


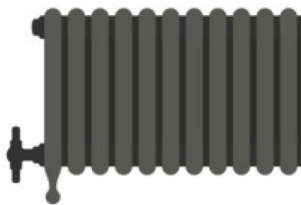
Gas Water Heater

Monitor gas water heater by turning the dial located on the front of the gas control valve.

- Warm = 90 to 110
- Hot = 140 to 150

Remember with Gas or Electric Heat:

- Turn thermostat down
 - Use a programmable thermostat, if possible
 - Keep all storm windows and doors closed
 - Keep doors closed to unoccupied rooms
 - Turn heat off to unused rooms such as bedrooms
 - Change furnace filter as recommended by manufacturer
 - Dress warmly
 - Use kitchen and bath fans to pull out moisture
 - Close shades/blinds/curtains at night to keep out cold
 - Move furniture away from heating vents and radiators
 - Do not use the oven to heat your home
- 
- A dark gray radiator with vertical fins and two valves on the left side.



There are so many ways you can save money!

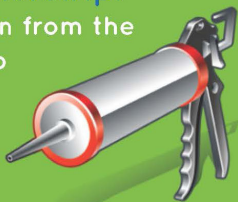


WINTER TIPS (continued)

Caulking drafty areas helps prevent energy from leaving your home.

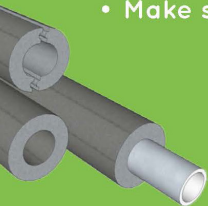
Where to Caulk and Weatherstrip:

- Fill any holes that allow air in from the outside with caulking to stop air leaks
- Seal small cracks, holes and gaps as soon as you see them
- Place weatherstrips around windows for extra protection from the elements
- Check caulking every few months to see if it shrinks or cracks
- Re-seal if caulking shrinks or cracks
- Make sure weatherstripping stays in place
- Check every few months to see if it is loose and replace if it is.



Wrapping Pipes

- Wrap hot and cold water pipes
- Wrap water heater
- Make sure wrapping stays in place



Insulation

Insulation should be installed by a professional, but here are some tips to lower your bills and keep your home protected:

- Keep insulation dry
- Keep attic vents to outside open
- Check attic for leaks or frost inside
- Repair roof if you find leaks or frost inside
- Keep attic hatch closed to seal out moisture from cooking and bathing
- Protect insulation – do not store items on it, walk on it or move it



SUMMER TIPS



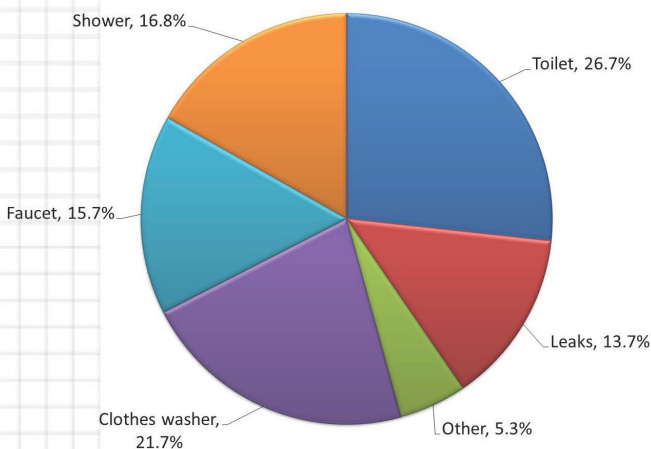
How to Save in the Warmer Months:

- Use fan setting on air conditioner whenever possible
- Use fans
- Set thermostat as high as possible
- Use programmable thermostat
- Close shades/blinds/drapes on south facing windows



- Have the air conditioner in the shade
- Do not use fans with windows closed

Residential water use



American Water Works Association Research Foundation. (epa.gov)

Use of Water/Water Heating

- Turn down thermostat on water heater
- Take short showers instead of bath
- Use low-flow shower head
- Don't run water when you're brushing teeth, washing dishes or shaving
- Fix leaky faucets - wastes water and may use gas to heat water that's dripping
- Turn off all faucets tightly



ENERGY USE CHART



USE THIS HELPFUL CHART TO
NOTE HOW MUCH ENERGY THESE
DEVICES USE.

Electric	Estimated Cost	
Computer with monitor and printer	88.2¢	1 week
Lighting (75-watt incandescent bulb)	7.0¢	10 hours
Lighting (18-watt compact fluorescent bulb)	1.6¢	10 hours
Lighting (40-watt 4-foot fluorescent)	3.8¢	10 hours
Radio	12.5¢	10 hours
Satellite dish and receiver	\$6.09	1 month
Color television	26.0¢	10 hours
DVD player/VCR	2.6¢	1 hour
Clothes dryer	47¢	1 load
Clothes washer (cold wash, cold rinse)	2.8¢	1 load
Clothes washer (warm wash, cold rinse)	12.8¢	1 load
Clothes washer (hot wash, warm rinse)	34.2¢	1 load
Dehumidifier (20 pint capacity)	\$14.99	1 month
Portable space heater (1500 watt)	14.0¢	1 hour
Ceiling fan (lights off)	9.2¢	10 hours
Convection oven	9.2¢	1 hour
Dishwasher	22.8¢	1 load
Freezer (manual defrost, 15 cubic foot capacity, older model)	\$5.55	1 month
Freezer (manual defrost, 15 cubic foot capacity, newer model)	\$2.75	1 month
Microwave oven	14.3¢	1 hour
Range (oven)	12.8¢	1 hour
Refrigerator (frost-free, 21.5 cubic foot capacity, older model)	\$13.86	1 month
Refrigerator (frost-free, 21.5 cubic foot capacity, newer model)	\$3.55	1 month
Central air/window units (In the warmest days of summer)	\$12-\$20	1 day
Gas	Estimated Cost	
Clothes Dryer	75 ¢	1 hour
Water heater	57 ¢	1 hour
Range - 4 burner	15 ¢	1 hour
Heat (In the coldest days of winter)	\$15-\$22	1 day

Information from www.choosingvoluntarysimplicity.com and Philadelphia Electric Company rate of 0.15 ¢ per kWh.